

Revelstoke
Sustainability Action Plan
2013

Appendix 6
Vibrant Culture

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Purpose

This Appendix compiles the updated community information that was used to prepare the *State of Sustainability Report*, information in the *Action Plan* and all of the ideas for actions that were collected during the ICSP project.

It has been created to provide background for the ICSP reports and to support future ICSP and community planning.

Sustainability Framework Linkages

Vibrant Culture

Strengthen Revelstoke's position as a cultural community for both residents and visitors by enriching and celebrating our unique, authentic arts and heritage.

Goals

- **Heritage Conservation:** Showcase and celebrate our rich community heritage.
- **Arts:** Maintain a rich array of artistic activities and establish adequate facilities to present the community's artistic offerings to residents and visitors.

Spheres of Influence



The City leads the development of community-wide cultural strategies with guidance from cultural groups. Some cultural organizations have strategic plans.














Cultural activities are offered through paid staff and volunteer organizations, with heavy reliance on volunteers. The City funds the Arts Council to provide some programming.



The Arts Council engenders cooperation amongst community groups and with the City.

Relationship to Sustainability Priorities

	Climate Resilience and Healthy Ecosystems Mountain ecosystems and the natural environment are significant features of the community culture. Showcasing them in art and heritage endeavors heightens awareness and engenders interest in their condition and sustainability.
	Carbon Neutral Energy and Emissions None
	Minimal Waste None
	Responsible Water Use None
	Affordable, Accessible Housing Affordability allows individuals time to engage in cultural activities and funds to support cultural events.
	Caring, Engaged Community Cultural activities and events are ideal ways to engage a broad spectrum of community members, promoting the sharing of viewpoints and ideas,
	Strong, Vibrant, Creative Identity A vibrant culture, grounded in our heritage and the arts, is one of the foundations of our strong community identity.
	Healthy, Active, Safe Citizens Leisure activities are an important component of healthy lifestyles, with the arts and heritage pursuits often filling leisure time.
	Locally Diverse Economy A vibrant cultural sector can attract more heritage enterprises and artists, growing the local economy. Cultural activities and events can draw in visitors, or convince them to stay a day or two longer, bringing accommodation, food and other revenues to the community. Permanent residents can also be drawn to the community because of its vibrant cultural scene, thus growing the local population and economy.
	Global Connections A vibrant culture makes a community more intriguing and inviting, prompting people from other cultures and from around the globe to want to connect with community members.
	Adequate, Skilled Workforce Skilled workers are often attracted to communities with a vibrant culture, as they seek a high quality of life generally. Cultural activities can also be venues for developing workforce skills in communications, graphic design and other areas.

Note: Abbreviations in the remainder of this Appendix are listed on the back page.

6.1 Heritage Conservation

Integrating Goal: Showcase and celebrate our rich community heritage.

What We Know About our Community

- Heritage is a valued element of the community, reflected in the turn-of-the-century theme of the downtown revitalization program, restoration of homes and business buildings, numerous public and private sector museums and several public art installations that highlight local history.
- The City began a \$2.8 million Downtown Revitalization Project in the mid 1980s to strengthen existing heritage and promote tourism. The first phase of Grizzly Plaza was established at this time along MacKenzie Ave. between Victoria Rd. and First St. The revitalization project helped establish Revelstoke as a cultural and heritage tourist destination. An extension of Grizzly Plaza took place in 2009 that included street improvements from First St. to Third St. along MacKenzie Ave.
- The community’s heritage is showcased at a number of locations in the community:
 - The Community Museum, which is overseen by the Revelstoke Museum and Archives Association. The museum houses artifacts, mounts displays of local history and provides programming for adults and children.
 - The Revelstoke Railway Museum is owned and operated by a non-profit society, with displays tracing the history of railroading in the area.
 - A small museum at the City Fire Hall displays antique fire fighting equipment.

The BC Interior Forestry Museum/Discovery Centre, initiated in 1999, is owned and operated by a non-profit society and traces the history of forestry in Revelstoke and the southern interior. A recent strategy recommends revising the museum by moving to a 30-acre forested location by the Columbia River, changing the name to the “Columbia Forest Centre”, including interpretive trails, a campsite and restaurant, and focusing on activity-centered programming as well as holding artifacts.

 - The Nickelodeon Museum showcasing mechanical musical equipment is privately operated.
- The Revelstoke Museum & Archives has hosted highly successful events celebrating Revelstoke’s history & culture (1912 Roger’s Pass Commemoration, Land of Thundering Snow Exposition). The Museum and Archives have also published several photographic books highlighting Revelstoke’s history, heritage and culture, and are available for sale throughout the community.
- There are concerns that without heritage conservation requirements, heritage buildings are at risk of demolition to make way for new developments.

Initiatives and Supportive Actions to Continue	
<p>Strategic plans and collaborative action</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • City Heritage Commission provides advice to City Council regarding protection and enhancement of existing heritage buildings, residences and historical sites, maintains a Heritage Registry for information purposes and makes annual heritage conservation awards. • The Museums & Gallery Collective brings together the administrators of the museums and the Visual Arts Centre to implement joint marketing, expand joint programming and enhance sharing of resources and expertise. • The City has <i>Bringing the Past into the Future Revelstoke Heritage Strategy (1995)</i>. • The Enhancement Committee was re-established in 2010 to advise City Council and staff on development proposals within the City’s core and along highway corridors.
<p>Specific tools or programs</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Heritage Conservation Area in residential portion of downtown.

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Heritage Building Registry • Community and Railway Museums and the Interior BC Forest Museum/Discovery Centre directed by a volunteer Boards with staff. • Small City Fire Hall museum. • Nickelodeon, a private mechanical music museum. • The City runs a Sign and Façade Design Program. The program pays for a Heritage Consultant to develop a coloured rendering of renovations to buildings within the Heritage Conservation Area.
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Moving Forward on Sustainability [Highest Priority Actions]				
Priority Actions	Short term	Mid term	Long term	Leader
1. Explore heritage conservation area designation for appropriate portions of the community including the downtown commercial core	High			City Plan
2. Incorporate heritage into arts and culture events and programs.	Med-high	x	x	MGC RAC
3. Update the City's <i>Heritage Strategy</i>	Med-high			City Plan
4. Update heritage building maintenance standards bylaw	Med-high			City Plan
5. Create a Smartphone app for the heritage walking tour	Med-high	x		MGC
6. Develop and implement a management strategy to address protection of any First Nations cultural sites identified north of Shelter Bay in the Arrow Lakes Reservoir.	Med-high	x	x	BC Hydro FN

Heritage Conservation [All Actions]				
Plan Year Page	All Actions	Priority	Lead	Cost/ Funding
Objective: Support preservation and restoration of heritage buildings.				
CDAP/2007/ p. 63	1. Explore heritage conservation area designation for appropriate portions of the community including the downtown commercial core	AP – High	City Plan	Low
RAP/ p. 47	2. Update the heritage strategy	AP – Med-high	City Plan	
	3. Update heritage building maintenance standards bylaw	AP – Med-high	City	

Objective: Continue the joint efforts of the Museums and Gallery Collective.				
	4. Incorporate heritage into arts and culture events and programs	AP – Med-high	MGC RAC	
	5. Create a Smartphone app for the heritage walking tour	AP – Med-high	MGC	
	6. Hire a professional community archivist			
Objective: Preserve First Nations heritage.				
CRPWU P/ p. 20	7. Develop and implement a management strategy to address protection of any First Nations cultural sites identified in the Arrow Lakes Reservoir.	AP – Med-high	City/FN/ BC Hydro	
Objective: Encourage and incorporate heritage components and elements into arts and culture events and programs, and provide avenues for growth and excellence in heritage endeavours.				
RCS 2011 Rec11	8. Partner with arts and culture organizations to cross-promote heritage.	Med- & Long-term	MGC PRCAC	
RCS 2011 Rec11	9. Set up action plan to add to the Community Heritage Register.	Med- & Long-term	MGC RAC	
RCS 2011 Rec11	10. Support activities of Museums & Gallery Collective.	Short-term	MGC City PRC	
Objective: Develop the Forestry Museum as funds and capacity allow.				
CDAP/2 007/ p. 63	11. Rebrand and refocus on interpretation for broader appeal		Forestry Museum	Low
CDAP/2 007/ p. 63	12. Acquire capital development funds to build infrastructure		Forestry Museum	High

6.2 Arts

Integrating Goal: Maintain a rich array of artistic activities and establish adequate facilities to present the community's artistic offerings to residents and visitors.

What We Know About our Community

- Volunteer groups host theatre, music, visual arts and speaker events throughout the year in a number of different venues. In summer, the evening music and Saturday morning Farmers' Markets in Grizzly Plaza are popular gatherings. Early winter craft fairs offer local and regional products.

