

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Heritage Projects Receive a Boost: Nearly Half a Million Dollars Awarded

Heritage Legacy Fund supports BC's heritage sector amid growing pressures

November 26, 2025 – Heritage BC is pleased to announce that \$494,475 in grant funding has been awarded to support 30 heritage projects across the province through the Heritage Legacy Fund (HLF). These funds will be distributed to heritage and community organizations to protect and conserve important places, and deliver important programs that shape and honour our province's identity.

British Columbia's heritage sector faces growing pressures. Heritage buildings and designated sites that fuel local economic development, strengthen local tourism opportunities, and serve as vital community gathering spaces are struggling. Aging buildings, rising construction costs, climate impacts, development pressures, and years of deferred maintenance are stretching organizations beyond their capacity. While the Heritage Legacy Fund helps alleviate some of these challenges, demand for funding continues to far exceed available resources. In 2025 alone, Heritage BC received requests totalling more than \$1.8 million.

"We are proud to support this year's projects, yet it is clear that the need is far greater than the funding available," said Keri Briggs, Chair of the Heritage BC Board of Directors. "We truly wish more projects could have been supported. We will continue to advocate for the resources required to preserve the heritage that enriches our communities and strengthens our province." She adds, "I would also like to thank the many heritage professionals who served as jurors for this year's assessment of applications. Your input is invaluable to HBC's ability to ensure the program remains fair, transparent and responsive to the needs of communities across the province."

"This year, the Board made the decision to reinvest \$72,561 that was returned from projects unable to proceed over the past six years," said Kirstin Clausen, Executive Director of Heritage BC. "This redirection provides an important boost, but long-term stability and investment in the heritage sector remain essential. We look forward to watching these projects progress and sharing their stories of success and impact."

The Heritage Legacy Fund is unique as it is the only Province-wide heritage focused program in British Columbia, providing vital financial support to heritage organizations and community projects across the province. A complete list of HLF-funded projects is enclosed below.

About the Heritage Legacy Fund

The Heritage Legacy Fund (HLF) was established in 2003 through an endowment from the Province of British Columbia. Held by the Vancouver Foundation and administered annually by Heritage BC, the fund's annual disbursement supports both Heritage BC's operations and the HLF program. The HLF provides essential support for heritage conservation, awareness, planning, and Indigenous partnership projects across British Columbia.

About Heritage BC

Heritage BC champions built, cultural, and living heritage across the province. Established in 1981, Heritage BC is a charitable not-for-profit society made up of stewards and advocates representing BC's heritage sector.

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