



COMMITTEE REPORT TO COUNCIL

1100 Patricia Blvd. | Prince George, BC, Canada V2L 3V9 | www.princegeorge.ca

DATE: February 13, 2020

TO: MAYOR AND COUNCIL

NAME AND TITLE: Alisha Rubadeau, Chair, Prince George Heritage Commission

SUBJECT: Prince George Heritage Commission 2019 Annual Report

ATTACHMENT(S): 2020 Work Plan
City of Prince George Heritage Commission Bylaw No. 8133, 2008
Heritage Commission 2019 Presentation

RECOMMENDATIONS:

That Council:

1. APPROVES the Heritage Commission 2020 Work Plan and Budget attached to the report dated February 13, 2020 from the Chair of the Heritage Commission; and,
2. RECEIVES FOR INFORMATION the report dated February 13, 2020 from the Chair of the Heritage Commission titled "Prince George Heritage Commission 2019 Annual Report."

PURPOSE:

To present the following information related to the Prince George Heritage Commission:

- Achievements over the past year;
- Goals and work plan for the coming year;
- Establishing bylaw, including terms of reference and rationale for the Commission's work;
- Financial and policy implications of the Commission's work plan (budgetary requirements);
- Alignment of the Commission's work plan to Council Focus Areas and Key Corporate Strategies.

ACHIEVEMENTS OVER THE PAST YEAR:

Heritage Buildings / Heritage Register:

- Added two new properties to the Heritage Register:
 - Nielsen House (2280 McBride)
 - Buchan House (2755 Hammond Avenue)

View Statements of Significance for these properties at <https://www.princegeorge.ca/heritageregister>

Heritage Recognition Awards:

- Presented the following awards as part of our heritage recognition program:
 - 2019 Heritage Places Award, presented at Celebrating Success to:
 - Howieson Residence (2688 Inlander Street)
 - 2019 Creative Spirit Award, presented during the annual Prince George Regional Heritage Fair for schoolchildren.
 - Presented Heritage Register Certificates to the Property Owners/Representatives at Celebrate Success (February 2019)

Heritage Interpretive Signs:

- Reprinted, cleaned and/or refurbished 22 Heritage Interpretive Signs.
- Worked with the City's GIS Department to develop an Online Heritage Walking Tour and Interactive Map of over 50 Heritage signs.
- In partnership with the Prince George Public Library, continued to promote the Downtown Walking Tour through brochures available at City Hall, the Public Library and Tourism PG.

Community Outreach and Education:

- Coordinated a tour of downtown (and adjacent) areas at the request of Tourism BC and Tourism Prince George for a Destination BC event to be held in Prince George. The Chair conducted the tour in May 2019.
- Coordinated Prince George's second annual Heritage Expo in partnership with UNBC and the Prince George Public Library (PGPL), to celebrate and share local history with the community (February 2019). This one-day event held at the PGPL featured 16 exhibiting organizations/authors and drew approximately 200 attendees.
- Acted as a judge at the Regional Heritage Fair and presented the Creative Spirit Award on behalf of the Heritage Commission.
- Coordinated a heritage display at the Northern BC Home Show (April 2019).
- Staffed a heritage booth at BCNE Seniors' Day; Displayed the new Artifact Box featuring early Prince George schoolhouses (August 2019).
 - Partnered with the Public Library to present the annual Heritage Speaker Series. 2019 topics included:
 - Meet Your Prince George Heritage Commission (February)
 - Retired Teachers Association (September)
- Provided Heritage Commission advertisements in the Active Living Guide (spring and fall issues) that celebrated 40 years of the Heritage Commission.
- Partnered with the Retired Teachers Association to create the theme for the artifact box, 'School Days - 40 Years Ago'.
- Continued to distribute Heritage Commission promotional materials, including tote bags, stickers and journals, to increase awareness and visibility in the community.

GOALS AND WORKPLAN FOR THE COMING YEAR:

The Commission's 2020 work plan is attached. Key priorities include:

- Add new sites to the Heritage Register;
- Propose inaugural 'Heritage Recognition Area' to the Heritage Register;
- Work with Downtown Prince George to add downtown heritage properties to the Heritage Register (using their Business Facade Grant);
- Engage younger audiences via heritage colouring sheets, Regional Heritage Fair Creative Spirit Award and the artifact box;
- Seek opportunities to build heritage capacity within the community by attending community events;

- Invited to present at the 2020 Heritage BC Conference - 'The Importance of Documenting Our Built Environment'.

TERMS OF REFERENCE:

Please see attached.

BUDGETARY IMPLICATIONS:

The Commission receives an annual budget from the Community Partnerships Division of the Community Services Department. The Commission is very grateful for this budget, which makes all our community outreach initiatives possible and helps fund skill-development of Commission members.

STRATEGIC PRIORITIES:

The Heritage Commission's work helps support the following City of Prince George Corporate Goals and Council Focus Areas:

Corporate Goals:

- **Clear identity and pride:** Knowledge of local heritage helps build this identity and pride.
- **Cultural Richness:** Heritage events, activities and education contribute to a rich cultural mosaic.
- **Supportive and Engaged Community:** Commission presents opportunities for community engagement through membership, events, Heritage Register participation, etc.
- **Market downtown for development and growth opportunities:** Awareness/celebration of and pride in downtown heritage buildings leads to revitalization and future growth opportunities.

Council Focus Areas:

- **Reconnect to create an inclusive and proud community:** Commission initiatives and activities promote reconnection to and pride in our City's roots.
- **Celebrate success of our citizens and our community partners in order to foster civic pride:** Commission's Heritage Recognition Program recognizes and celebrates heritage-themed activities and achievements by community members.
- **Continue initiatives related to youth engagement and education:** New Commission initiatives speak directly to youth (e.g. colouring sheet; artifact box re: school history).

SUMMARY AND CONCLUSION:

The Commission would like to thank the following City staff for their support and expertise in 2019:

- Cheryl Livingstone-Leman, Community Partnerships – Commission Staff Liaison
- Tristin Deveau, Planning and Development – Planning Department Liaison
- Leslie Jackson, Legislative Services – Commission Legislative Assistant

We also appreciate the support of Your Worship and Council for approving our work plan, asking hard questions when needed, and showing enthusiasm for our work in the community.

As Commission Chair, I am honoured to represent this enthusiastic and dedicated group of volunteers, each of whom sees local heritage as a treasure worth protecting, celebrating and sharing – locally, provincially and beyond.

RESPECTFULLY SUBMITTED:

Alisha Rubadeau, Chair, Prince George Heritage Commission

APPROVED:

Kathleen Soltis, City Manager

Meeting Date: 2020/03/09