

Heritage BC Quarterly



VERNON MUSIC SCHOOL PHOTO: JUDY MORI

THE FIRST FIVE YEARS

Heritage Legacy Fund

On June 29, 2005, the board of directors of the Heritage Legacy Fund of B.C. Society sat down to consider the first batch of applications to their new grant program. Launched just three months earlier, the program offered matching grants – up to \$25,000 for Heritage Conservation and \$10,000 for Heritage Awareness.

The response to the program launch had been immediate and a little overwhelming. The British Columbia Heritage Trust had shut down two years earlier, when the Heritage Legacy Fund was just getting started. In the meantime, there had been no program in the province dedicated to supporting community-based heritage conservation, so there was quite a backlog of projects looking for assistance.

Grant number one, for \$25,000, went to the District of Lillooet for conservation and up-grading of the historic Miyazaki House. That first day the board also approved funding for 11 other conservation projects. It was a pretty exciting experience. At a second meeting a month later, five awareness projects were awarded funding. Altogether in that first year, the HLF provided just over a quarter of a million dollars in financial support.

There have been 15 more application reviews in the five years since. As of the latest meeting in May 2010, 97 grants have been approved, for a total of \$1.35 million, an average of just under \$14,000 per grant. This funding has been spread over 59 communities throughout B.C.

In 2008-09 another \$851,000 in grants was made available to 58 projects under the BCI50-Heritage Legacy Fund program.

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summer 2010

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HERITAGE Legacy Fund

OF BRITISH COLUMBIA

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and you can help!**
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www.heritagebc.ca



THE BARN AT FINTRY PROVINCIAL PARK
PHOTO: DENISE COOK

“Every park is a testament to the culture of conservation which unites the values of heritage and environmental protection.”



STRATHCONA DISCOVERY PARTY 1910
IMAGE 10138 COURTESY THE MUSEUM AT
CAMPBELL RIVER

HERITAGE WEEK : FEBRUARY 21-27 2011

A Century of Conservation Parks and Cultural Landscapes

The 2011 Heritage Week theme has been selected to honour the centennial of B.C. Parks. British Columbia is known around the world as a place of great natural beauty and unspoiled wilderness. It makes sense that we would have one of the greatest park systems in the world.

While parks are a centuries-old idea, in ages past they were often private reserves for the privileged few. It is only relatively recently that we have set aside and protected special places for the public good.

Today parks are a responsibility of all levels of governments. We have parks systems at the local, regional and national levels, as well as the provincial.

And our parks are not just places of natural beauty and wilderness. Some have great cultural significance, or are noted for their historic landmarks and structures. Many city parks are a conscious blend of nature and planned landscape.

Whatever its size, makeup or purpose, every park is a testament to the culture of conservation which unites the values of heritage and environmental protection.

HOW IS YOUR COMMUNITY OR GROUP PLANNING TO CELEBRATE HERITAGE WEEK 2011?

» www.heritagebc.ca/events

BC PARKS 100

Expedition Marks Centennial

Throughout 2011, BC will celebrate the 100th anniversary of its world-renowned parks system.

Historically, it is the ascent of Crown Mountain in central Vancouver Island a century ago by the Strathcona Discovery Expedition that can be pin-pointed as the moment it all began. On Friday, July 29th, 1910, the expedition, led by British Columbia's Chief Commissioner of Lands, the Honourable Price Ellison, reached the summit of Crown Mountain. Their objective was to explore the surrounding region for the purposes of establishing a park. On the advice of Ellison, legislation was enacted in March, 1911, to create British Columbia's first Provincial Park, Strathcona.

This summer the Strathcona Centennial Expedition followed in the footsteps of the original party, re-enacting Ellison's journey to kick off celebrations of the 100th anniversary of the creation of Strathcona and all of B.C.'s Provincial Parks.

The Centennial Expedition kept to the route of the original 1910 party as closely as possible. Beginning in Campbell River they hiked to McIvor Lake where they took canoes up the Campbell Lake chain to the old Elk River Timber Co. trestle bridge on Upper Campbell Lake. An overland party travelled through rugged, mountainous country to Crown Mountain for an ascent on July 29, 2010, one hundred years exactly from Ellison's own climb. The expedition continued by canoe and on foot, arriving the first week of August in Port Alberni for a community event at the Alberni Valley museum. They then travelled by road and railway back to Victoria.

STRATHCONA DISCOVERY EXPEDITION

» www.wildisle.ca

FOR MORE INFO ABOUT BC PARKS 100

» www.env.gov.bc.ca/bcparks/BCParks100

A Call to Renew British Columbia's Heritage Program

Last December, Heritage BC contacted every member of the provincial legislature to tell them B.C.'s heritage program had reached a state of crisis. This summer we are following up, sending a new 12-page document, A Call to Renew British Columbia's Heritage Program, to the Premier, heritage minister Kevin Krueger, and all other MLAs. The document lays out the history of the B.C. approach to heritage conservation, stressing the central role of the provincial government. It summarizes again the current state of affairs and proposes several steps that we believe must be taken immediately. The document is also being sent to Heritage BC members, urging them to add their voices to the "call to renew".

Executive Summary

Heritage BC is calling on the provincial government to renew British Columbia's heritage program before it is too late. At one time regarded as one of Canada's best, the program has been in decline for years, and the latest cuts have brought the situation to the tipping point. Only a determined and timely commitment to renewal can protect the future of heritage in British Columbia. Heritage BC is calling on the provincial government to take several steps:

Adopt the Provincial Heritage Strategy

Adopt the draft British Columbia Heritage Strategy to reaffirm commitment to conservation and renew confidence in the future.

Restore the Heritage Branch Budget

The Heritage Branch is the provincial agency that implements government heritage policies and administers essential programs, but drastic cuts have seriously undermined its capacity to deliver on these responsibilities. The Heritage Branch budget must be restored.

Resolve the Heritage Properties Question

The series of historic sites known as the Heritage Properties has become a chronic problem and a drain on energy and resources. The government must resolve the Heritage Properties question so that it can address other urgent issues in the heritage file.

Restore Community Support

The "B.C. approach" to heritage conservation devolves substantial responsibilities to the local level. A restored heritage program budget must restore services, funding and encouragement to local government and community heritage organizations.

Invest in the Heritage Legacy Fund

The Heritage Legacy Fund now plays a central role in the provincial heritage program. To meet new and growing responsibilities the Fund must have a substantial increment to its endowment.

A CALL TO RENEW BRITISH COLUMBIA'S HERITAGE PROGRAM
CONTACT US FOR A PRINT COPY OR DOWNLOAD THE PDF
» www.heritagebc.ca



“For years, British Columbia's heritage program has been suffering from neglect, and has now reached the tipping point.

Only a strong commitment to restoration can bring it back. It is time for the Government of British Columbia to take decisive action.

A revitalized heritage program will be a sound investment, a boon to B.C.'s diverse and growing tourism industry, and a commitment to a sustainable future.

Most importantly, it will fulfill the pact with the people of British Columbia to protect, conserve and honour our irreplaceable heritage.”



'THE HUDSON', VICTORIA.

The following has been added to the HPA Regulations list of exemptions:

“In the case of a designated heritage building that is being converted from commercial to residential use, any component of the designated building that has heritage value and does not conform with the B.C. Building Code.”

HOMEOWNER PROTECTION ACT

Persistence Pays Off!

After four years of advocacy, the provincial Homeowner Protection Act (HPA) has been amended to exempt officially recognized heritage property.

The 1998 HPA was brought in following the leaky condo scandal. The purpose of the Act is to provide protection to buyers of new homes. Under the Act each new home in B.C. is covered by warranty insurance against defects.

Heritage got caught up with the HPA when it turned out that an old building converted into new residences was also covered by the Act. The result was that heritage buildings were being forced to conform to code requirements that were not a good fit. To satisfy the warranty provider, windows and doors were being replaced, not restored and repaired, and in some cases entire wall assemblies were being rebuilt as new. The result was a significant loss of heritage fabric.

Heritage houses converted to condos were also under the gun as the HPA again applied since the condos were considered new homes. The results were predictable: more loss of heritage character.

Heritage BC wrote to the Homeowner Protection Office in 2006 to raise our concerns about the impacts of the HPA on heritage buildings. A meeting took place that fall, with the Office and a number of warranty companies on one side, and heritage representatives on the other, the latter including representatives of business and local government as well as HBC.

While there seemed to be little disagreement that the destruction of heritage fabric was not one of the intents of the HPA, there was no clear path forward to correct the situation.

More meetings followed. A group of interested parties came together to represent the heritage camp. In 2008 a report, “Some Negative Effects of the Homeowner Protection Act on the Character of British Columbia’s Built Environment”, was submitted to the Homeowner Protection Office by the provincial Heritage Branch, the City of Victoria and HBC.

With still no action, the heritage group decided in February of 2009 to take the political route. It was agreed that municipal councils would be asked by staff to submit a resolution to the Union of BC Municipalities to seek a heritage exemption under the HPA. Heritage BC drafted a background statement and three municipalities submitted requests. A resolution made it to the agenda of the UBCM 2009 convention, but was not considered.

Finally, in December of 2009, Heritage BC wrote to Rich Coleman, the minister responsible for the HPA, seeking an exemption. Encouraged by the Heritage Branch, heritage minister Kevin Krueger simultaneously wrote to Mr. Coleman, also proposing an exemption, along the lines of a recent amendment to the Energy Efficiency Standards Regulation. In March of this year Mr. Coleman wrote to Heritage BC that his ministry would draft such an exemption, and on June 24, it became law.

See the sidebar for the addition to The HPA Regulations list of exemptions. For the purpose of the Act, “designated” means legally designated (protected) or included on a heritage register.

The Act has also been clarified with regard to “substantial reconstruction” of a home: unless 75 per cent or more of a residence is reconstructed, it is not considered a new home and the HPA therefore does not apply.

It has been a long road, but this looks like the right result.

HISTORIC LIGHTHOUSES

DFO Declares All Lighthouses Surplus

Just days after the new federal Heritage Lighthouse Protection Act (HPLA) came into effect on May 29, the Department of Fisheries and Oceans declared surplus all of its active and inactive lighthouses – almost 1,000 in total. According to the Heritage Canada Foundation, the move leaves the door open to the abandonment of these lighthouses and demolition by neglect, precisely what the HPLA was intended to prevent.

After a decade of determined effort by several groups and individuals across the country, the HPLA was passed into law in 2008, to be brought into effect two years later. The move by DFO brought this response from Heritage Canada:

...the HPLA recognizes that lighthouses form “an integral part of Canada’s identity, culture and history” and that measures are needed to protect them for posterity. The Act establishes a process to: select and designate federally-owned heritage lighthouses; prevent their unauthorized alteration and disposal; require their maintenance by the federal government; and facilitate sales or transfers in order to ensure their continuing public purpose.

However the Act excludes lighthouses that are declared surplus from being designated unless a community group or private owner commits to acquire them and protect their heritage character. The impact of DFO now declaring all its lighthouses surplus effectively emasculates the HPLA and shifts the responsibility for their protection entirely onto local communities.

Lighthouse divestiture was a component of the Act, but never the principle intent.

The Heritage Canada Foundation is calling on communities across Canada to petition for the heritage designation of lighthouses regardless of their “surplus” status, and urges the Minister of the Environment to ensure the full intent of the Act is adhered to.

FOR MORE ARTICLES SEE THE HERITAGE BC QUARTERLY, WINTER 2010
» www.heritagebc.ca/news

Signs Exempt from Tobacco Law

Concluding a protracted controversy concerning a Victoria shop, the provincial government has relented and agreed to exempt recognized heritage buildings from sign restrictions under the Tobacco Consumption Act.

The Old Morris Tobacconist shop on Government Street, built in 1892, has been at the centre of the debate. Owner Rick Arora found himself caught between the law against advertising tobacco products, and the City’s heritage building regulations. His store has prominent signs promoting tobacco products painted onto the large display windows. The provincial government said they were against the law. The City said the signs were historic fabric and removing them required a Heritage Alteration Permit, which was refused. While the owner had removed all tobacco products from the window display, the Vancouver Island Health Authority repeatedly ordered Arora to remove or cover the historic window signs advertising “quality pipes and requisites” and “house blend tobaccos and Havana cigars.”

The City stuck to its guns and refused to issue the necessary permit, but also wrote to the province requesting an exemption. Meanwhile, VIHA agreed to postpone any further action until there was a reply to the City’s petition.

Now with the exemption granted, Mr. Arora is relieved to have the dispute behind him. “Something has been here for 120 years — how can you just cover it? You’d have to cover the building.”



BALLENAS ISLAND

“The impact of DFO now declaring all its lighthouses surplus effectively emasculates the HPLA and shifts the responsibility for their protection entirely onto local communities.”



HERITAGE Legacy Fund

OF BRITISH COLUMBIA

THE LATEST GRANTS

Kimberley District
Heritage Society
Old Maryville School House
Exterior Preservation (\$3,090)

Bella Coola Valley Museum
Removal of Fungus and Mold
(\$2,555)

Townsite Heritage Society
of Powell River
Re-roof Henderson House (\$15,000)

Nelson & District
Chamber of Commerce
Re-roof CPR Station (\$25,000)

St. Stephen's United Church, Delta
Roof replacement (10,000)

Central Okanagan Heritage Society
Re-roof McDougall House (\$6,321)

Ama Liisaos Heritage Trust Society
Exterior conservation of the
Church of the Holy Cross
(\$22,000)

Salt Spring Island Community Services
Society: Conservation of original
Lady Minto Hospital
(\$10,000)

Emmanuel Pentecostal Church,
New Westminster
New roof (\$15,000)

Island Corridor Foundation
Nanaimo Railway Station
Window restoration (\$20,000)

City of Campbell River
Restoration of Sybil Andrews Cottage
(\$25,000)

THE FIRST FIVE YEARS

Heritage Legacy Fund

What Is It?

The Heritage Legacy Fund (HLF) was established in 2003 by an agreement between Heritage BC, The Land Conservancy, and the provincial government. With the termination of the B.C. Heritage Trust at that time, HLF was intended to take over the community support function, specifically to provide grants. The province endowed the project with an initial gift of \$5 million, held by the Vancouver Foundation. A new organization, the Heritage Legacy Fund of B.C. Society, was set up to run the program. Heritage BC and TLC would appoint the board, with one director representing the provincial government. Two years later in March of 2005, the availability of funding through grant programs was announced.



MIYAZAKI HOUSE, LILLOOET

Who Benefits?

The HLF is the only funding organization in B.C. dedicated exclusively to heritage conservation. Of the nearly 100 grants provided to date, about 80 per cent have been for the conservation of historic buildings and other structures. Projects supported range from one-room buildings to civic landmarks such as Victoria's City Hall or the former municipal building in Nelson. A lot of funding applications are for basic repair and maintenance work – roof replacement is the most common request. There have been a few very unusual applications as well, like the project to retain the famous Hollow Tree in Vancouver's Stanley Park.

Applications come from many sources. There are the community museums and heritage societies who look after historic properties. There are also those who simply own and care for historic buildings that are community treasures. Local governments and First Nations have also successfully applied to the Heritage Legacy Fund.

Beyond the applicants themselves, it is the community and the local economy that benefit from the financial support of the Heritage Legacy Fund. The HLF society wants not only to conserve heritage resources, but to help communities, to encourage understanding and appreciation of our heritage, to bolster tourism and economic well being, and foster a more sustainable future.

The Future

We have learned a lot in our first five years. The most important lesson has been that this was definitely the right thing to do. The HLF is clearly meeting a need, and that need is growing. So the future means continuing with the grant programs.

The biggest challenge will be finding the necessary resources. The endowment fund suffered during the recession, as expected, but recovery is underway. The need for support is growing, and in the last year the Heritage Legacy Fund has stepped in to replace the financial support to Heritage BC cut by the provincial government in 2009.

In the longer term, the Heritage Legacy Fund must build its endowment. There is so much more that can be done if the resources are available

CONTACT HERITAGE BC FOR A FREE PUBLICATION 'HERITAGE LEGACY FUND: THE FIRST 5 YEARS'



2010 HERITAGE BC AWARDS

Recognizing Achievement

A number of large-scale rehabilitation projects stole the show at the 2010 Heritage BC Awards Ceremony in Victoria on June 4.

Heritage BC awards honour achievement for heritage advocacy and conservation projects. The awards were presented in a ceremony during the society's annual conference at Victoria's Marriott Hotel.

Most of the large-scale rehabilitation projects recognized this year were in the Greater Vancouver area. Each represented significant investment by private development interests and accomplished a number of community objectives.

The Flack Block, across from Victory Square in Vancouver, was a major undertaking by the Salient Group, known for its often daring heritage under-takings. This project brought an important landmark back to life and injected significant investment into the heart of the City's most socially and economically challenged neighbourhood.

Almost next door, the Woodward's project by Westbank Projects Corporation/Peterson Investment Group represented another challenging site in Vancouver's downtown eastside that was handled with considerable innovation and dedication. Both the Flack Block and Woodward's received Outstanding Achievement Awards, Heritage BC's highest honour.

Also in Vancouver, the Pennsylvania Hotel project saw the Portland Hotel Society convert a valued heritage landmark into social housing, a top priority for the local government and the community as a whole.

The Salt Building, a former industrial structure, was revamped to serve as an important venue in the Olympic Village earlier this year, and now will become an exciting new commercial and retail complex.

In New Westminster, the Boiler House project on the former Woodlands site converted a heritage structure with a troubled history into an attractive and useful asset as part of a major private development by the Onni Group of Companies.

Proscenium Architecture + Interiors and Commonwealth Historic Resource Management Ltd were recognized for their contributions that have helped to ensure that a number of Vancouver's historic theatres move with the times and continue to provide first-rate venues for the performing arts.

The restoration of the Sikh Temple in Abbotsford, a National Historic Site, and the rehabilitation and conversion of an historic residence in Courtenay capped the project awards.

Two publications from Victoria, "Inside Chinatown" and "This Old House", were recognized with Outstanding Achievement Awards in the advocacy category.



OUTSTANDING ACHIEVEMENT

Robert Amos & Kileasa Wong, Victoria:
"Inside Chinatown"

The Victoria Heritage Foundation:
"This Old House"

Westbank Projects Corporation/
Peterson Investment Group,
Commonwealth Historic
Resource Management Ltd.,
Jonathan Yardley Architects Inc., and
Henriquez Partners Architects:
The Woodward's Project, Vancouver

Khalsa Diwan Society,
Raiwall Development Ltd., and
Jonathan Yardley Architect Inc.:
The Sikh Temple, Abbotsford

The Salient Group,
Acton Ostry Architect Inc., and
Donald Luxton & Associates Inc.:
The Flack Block, Vancouver

AWARDS OF HONOUR

Proscenium Architecture + Interiors
and Commonwealth Historic
Resource Management Ltd.:
Vancouver historic theatres

Courtenay and District Museum:
"Capes Escape"

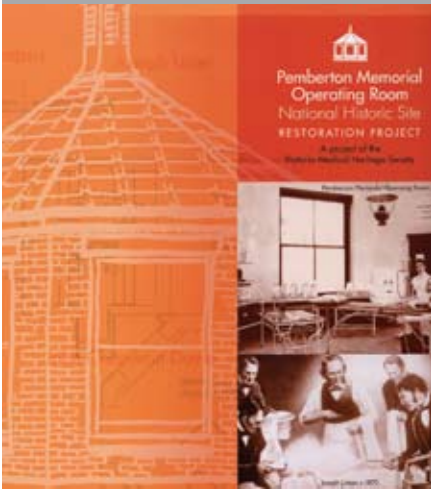
The Portland Hotel Society,
Merrick Architecture, and
Donald Luxton & Associates Inc.:
The Pennsylvania Hotel, Vancouver

Commonwealth Historic
Resource Management Ltd.,
Jonathan Yardley Architect Inc., and
Acton Ostry Architect Inc.:
The Salt Building, Vancouver

The Onni Group of Companies,
Robert Lemon Architect Inc.,
Douglas R. Johnson Architect Ltd., and Sharp
& Diamond Landscape
Architecture Inc.:
The Boiler House, New Westminster

PHOTOS FROM TOP: FLACK BUILDING DETAIL; ERIC PATTISON & LESLIE GILBERT PRESENT AN AWARD OF HONOUR TO GREG PICCINI, PROSCENIUM ARCHITECTURE + INTERIORS FOR THE REHABILITATION AND CONSERVATION OF VANCOUVER'S HISTORIC THEATRES; THE WOODWARD'S PROJECT

SEE MORE PHOTOS AND DETAILS ON OUR WEBSITE » www.heritagebc.ca



PEMBERTON MEMORIAL OPERATING ROOM, VICTORIA

National Historic Site Recognizes Medical History

In 1894 when the Royal Jubilee Hospital in Victoria received donations totaling \$3,500 from J.D. Pemberton, the former Surveyor General of B.C., and his wife, the board of directors concluded that the best use of the funds would be to construct a new operating room.

In the 19th century, surgery involved considerable risk, with a post-operative mortality rate from infections and other complications of 50%. But radically new concepts promoting antiseptic operating conditions promised to change all that and make surgery a relatively safe option for treatment. Dr. Davie, the Royal Jubilee Chief Medical Officer, had enjoyed the opportunity to work with Lord Lister, the great medical pioneer, during a European sabbatical, and brought his revolutionary teachings back with him.

The new operating room, designed by noted architect John Teague, was a model of the Listerian approach. The free-standing, eight-sided structure, with large windows on all sides, maximized ventilation and natural light. The room’s ceramic tile floor and plaster walls could be cleaned quickly and thoroughly. It also had a modern hot water system and an attached sterilizing room. It is noteworthy that the operating room was not a theatre – there was no allowance for a viewing gallery. Only a thoroughly prepped team would be present during any procedure.

It received its first patient in 1896. Lord Lister himself visited the following year and gave his complete approval. At the time, it was one of the most advanced facilities of its kind in Canada, and soon proved its worth as post-operative mortality rates dropped to 5%.

The operating room was used for three decades. Today, it is maintained as an historic site, along with an adjacent chapel built at the same time, by the Victoria Medical Heritage Society. In 2007, the Heritage Legacy Fund provided a grant of \$25,000 towards replacement of the roof.

On June 25, a new National Historic Site plaque recognizing the pioneer role of the operating room in Canadian medical history was unveiled by the Honourable Gary Lunn, representing federal heritage minister, Jim Prentice.

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BAMBERTON HISTORICAL SOCIETY

Theatre & History

This summer the Bamberton Historical Society, in collaboration with the Seeds and Salt Theatre Company, is bringing Vancouver Island’s past to life in twelve island communities. Located just north of Victoria, the Bamberton Historical Society’s goals include presenting history in an entertaining way — hence the Bamberton Mystery History Tours.

“Our tour guides grew up in the Bamberton company village and they love sharing their personal memories with visitors,” says Maureen Alexander, society president. “This gave me the idea to produce a live show using some of the amazing true stories that changed the course of Vancouver Island’s history. The show travels to different communities which allows us to collaborate with groups such as intercultural and historical societies and agritourism venues to share resources and work together to build cultural tourism.”

This summer’s production, ‘The Road Less Travelled’, retells three extraordinary stories in a dramatic style that gives the audience a chance to step back and look at history in a new and exciting way including the forgotten, the humorous, the tragic and the sometimes not-so-heroic events, and the men and women who made them happen.

» www.bambertonhistoricalsociety.org



PHOTO: BAMBERTON HISTORICAL SOCIETY

150 MILE HOUSE

A Community Effort

Jack Bell of Williams Lake is working with the regional heritage program and community to preserve heritage buildings on a property he purchased as a new site for his RV business in nearby 150 Mile House.

The property has several historic structures including one that has been identified as a jail and courthouse built in 1913. There are also vintage agricultural buildings including a couple of barns.

The Cariboo Regional District established a heritage authority in 2005, set up a heritage steering commission and began a register. These preliminary steps made it easier to respond to the 150 Mile House structures which are located within a District electoral area.

The former jail had to be moved aside to make way for a highways project, and the search is on for a new location. A blacksmith shop and log structure will also be moved and conserved. As for the barns, Mr. Bell is going to incorporate one of them into his RV business on site. The larger of the two has been surveyed and is deemed to be beyond saving, but the historic materials will be salvaged through careful deconstruction. Mr. Bell is working on the project with the 150 Greenbelt and Trails Society as well as the Regional District.

“The Chemo development in 150 Mile House is a perfect example of business and the community working together to achieve common goals”, said heritage committee chair, Joan Sorley. “There are many historical treasures throughout the Cariboo, and we are excited about the opportunity to work with property owners and other stakeholders to assist with heritage conservation.”

This spring, the Regional Board received the Statement of Significance for the former courthouse, the first step in having it included on the Canadian Register of Historic Places.

KOOTENAYS

Fire Consumes Historic Buildings

Fire continues to be one of the greatest threats to heritage structures in B.C. Two fires this spring that destroyed historic buildings in the Kootenays appear to have been cases of arson.

On Thursday, June 3, the historic Silver Ledge hotel in Ainsworth burned to the ground. Ainsworth does not have a fire department. Despite the best efforts of firefighters from nearby Kaslo and Balfour/Harro departments, the 114-year-old, balloon-framed heritage landmark was consumed in a couple of hours. That same day the RCMP took a suspect into custody on suspicion of arson, and charges were laid the next day in Nelson Provincial Court.

Built in the 1896, the Silver Ledge operated as a hotel until 1949. Closed for 14 years, it was then bought by two Calgary families as a summer residence. For several years it has been a museum. It appears that the museum collection had been removed a few weeks before the fire.

On May 13, two of the Lardeau Valley’s oldest buildings, both on the 115-year-old Marblehead Quarry site two hours north of Nelson, were also totally destroyed in a fire that police considered to be suspicious. The buildings had recently been at the centre of a proposed community economic revitalization scheme.



PHOTO: THE CARIBOO REGIONAL DISTRICT

“The Chemo development in 150 Mile House is a perfect example of business and the community working together to achieve common goals.”



THE SILVER LEDGE IN FLAMES



ZLATAN JANKOVIC

Zlatan Jankovic Joins HBC Board

Zlatan Jankovic and Larry Foster were declared elected to the Heritage Board at the Annual General Meeting in Victoria on June 3. Larry has been a director since 2008, while Zlatan is new to the board.

Zlatan holds Bachelor and Master of Science degrees from the Universities of Sarajevo and Belgrade. Since 1994 he has been a heritage planner with the City of Vancouver where he has managed implementation of the Heritage Building Rehabilitation Program, negotiated Heritage Revitalization Agreements, and administered the Gastown and Chinatown Historic Area Planning Committees, among other things. In the ten years prior to his joining the heritage planning unit, Zlatan worked in a number of professional capacities in the private sector in both Vancouver and Toronto. He has also worked for the United Nations, and as an architect in Croatia.

Immediately after the AGM, the board met and appointed the executive. Larry Foster of Kelowna remains as President, and Leslie Gilbert of West Vancouver is serving a second term as Vice President. Karen Russell of Vancouver is the Treasurer-Secretary, while Pat McAllister of Vernon is again the Past President

Heritage BC

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Bob Parliament Retires

Heritage Branch staff member Bob Parliament has retired after more than 40 years in the conservation field.

Before coming to B.C., Bob had a distinguished career as paper conservator, creating a conservation program at Princeton University Library, and establishing the Paper Objects Stream in the Queen's University Art Conservation Program.

With the Heritage Branch, Bob had oversight of Kilby Store and Farm, Historic Yale and the Xa:ytem Long House Interpretive Centre. As a Certification Service Provider for the Commercial Heritage Properties Incentive Fund he assisted in generating the most applications of any provincial jurisdiction in Canada. In recent years, Bob was probably best known as a Regional Heritage Planner for the Heritage Branch, working with many communities out of his Fraser Valley office.



BOB PRESSING CIDER AT KILBY
PHOTO: HERITAGE BRANCH

President’s Message

Summer is with us again – that time when we take to the roads to explore the many amazing features found in every region across the Province. Our natural and built heritage resources are some of the most captivating among them. It is always inspiring to find heritage treasures surviving and thriving in all our large and small communities, again confirming that heritage conservation is fundamental to our sense of what ‘community’ really means.

The annual Heritage BC Conference held in Victoria appears unanimously to have been a success – good topics, good presenters, good times. The theme of Values in Action advanced the new direction of focusing more on the important values of heritage resources in a broader contextual sense, and not only on individual architectural assets.

The Conference delegates were pleased to have the Honourable Kevin Krueger, Minister of Tourism, Culture and the Arts, responsible for heritage programs, address the session, and provide an update on a number of the initiatives being pursued by the Heritage Branch of the Ministry.

The Heritage BC Awards ceremony at the Conference provided delegates with an exciting range of notable projects and advocacy undertakings submitted from around the Province. The pride that goes with a successful heritage project, large or small, is always an inspiration to us all.

On another note, following dialogue with Minister Krueger earlier in the year, Heritage BC is now submitting a proposal to be submitted to the government toward a renewal of heritage conservation in British Columbia. The proposal addressing financial, organizational and programming solutions is timely in view of the reduced support to the broad heritage community during the last couple of years.

A happy summer to all...

Executive Director’s Message

After a protracted struggle, the heritage community has managed to get the provincial government to change the Homeowner Protection Act (see the article on page 4 for details).

The change to the HPA is minor, but very significant — it simply exempts recognized heritage property. No big deal, but it took four years.

As always, it is useful to look back and ask what we have learned from the experience. In this case, I think we could sum it up with a familiar adage: “an ounce of prevention is worth a pound of cure.” (I don’t know what the metric equivalent is.)

Too often, well-intended legislation and regulations are ham-fisted. They introduce blanket requirements that may achieve a number of laudable goals, but have unintended consequences.

The HPA is a case in point. Created after the leaky condo scandal to protect the buyers of new homes, the law set up standards for construction and put insurance in place when things failed. But the law also captured heritage buildings in its net and caused a lot of unnecessary damage. While there has never been any indication that historic building rehabilitation was putting home buyers at risk, heritage buildings were now expected to meet regulations designed for new construction. In many cases, the only workable solution was to tear out and throw away historic elements, seriously degrading the heritage value of the property.

How could we have avoided this problem? Heritage needs to be at the table when new rules are being created, or old ones revised. Fixing problems takes a lot of energy, which is always in limited supply. It would be a lot more efficient to get it right at the outset.



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heritage + sustainability



public lecture 7 pm
Thursday, Nov. 4, 2010 *Free!*
SFU Harbour Centre

Symposium 9 am - 5 pm
Friday, Nov. 5, 2010
Morris Wosk Centre for Dialogue
\$100
\$125 (for professional learning credits)



The Vancouver Heritage Foundation is a registered charity committed to creating a culture of repair, reuse and reinvestment in historic buildings through education, public awareness and granting. We accomplish our mission through award-winning courses, tours and publications.

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What is the
CULTURAL, ECONOMIC, ENVIRONMENTAL
sustainability of older buildings?

Nov. 4th public lecturer speaker Richard Moe, Out-Going President of the National Trust for Historic Preservation "Conservation and Sustainability in the 21st century."

Nov. 5th one day symposium for the public, related professionals in the design and construction industries, and city officials will focus on sustainable design in the rehabilitation and retrofit of older buildings.

- Opening address by Richard Moe, Out-going President, NTHP USA
- Moderator for the day: Michael Geller
- Presentation of NOW house, Lorraine Gauthier, CMHC
- LEED® Existing Buildings and Green Up, Joe Stano, CaGBC
- Sustainability by the Numbers Canada - latest research on the rehabilitation and operation of existing buildings in Canada.
- 3 new Vancouver case studies demonstrating best practices in sustainable rehabilitation of older buildings

The symposium is a key elective in Old School: Courses for Building Conservation Certificate Program.

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