



Dear Mayor and Council,

We are sending you this poster to celebrate Heritage Week, which takes place on February 20-26, 2023. Heritage Week is an annual event, established by the National Trust for Canada in 1973, that encourages Canadians to learn about and advocate for the heritage in their communities.

Heritage BC is a not-for-profit that educates and builds awareness for heritage stewardship in the province, and every year we promote Heritage Week with posters, proclamations, and themed events to raise awareness for the importance of learning about our diverse heritage across the province.

As the leaders of your community, your initiative can play an important role in stewarding the heritage, both tangible and intangible, in our communities for future generations. There are a few key things that you can do to promote awareness of and advocate for heritage.

- **Declare Heritage Week through a Municipal Proclamation**

Every year, the Provincial Government and local governments across BC make proclamations for Heritage Week, signaling the importance of the stewardship of heritage in this province. If you have questions about this, please contact us.

- **Visit a Heritage Site, Museum, or Cultural Centre**

Consider a local government 'field trip' to a local heritage site, museum or heritage organization to learn more about your community's history. Your visit can have a lasting impact on a small not-for-profit, and signal the value they bring to the community as stewards of history and heritage.

- **Learn About the Basics of Local Heritage Conservation**

Local Governments have the capacity to conserve local heritage in all its forms through tools outlined in the Local Government Act. Familiarize yourself with these important tools by reading the free one-pagers on our website: heritagebc.ca/heritage-quick-studies.

- **Support and Introduce Heritage-Supporting Policies**

In 2022, we released a report on the need to seismically upgrade historic buildings in the case of an earthquake, which can pose risks both to occupants life safety and to that of the building. Read the report at heritagebc.ca/seismic-report to learn more, and consider introducing financial incentives to building conservation that are predicated on the inclusion of seismic upgrading.

- **Become a Member**

For \$100 a year, a Government Membership to Heritage BC provides all staff planners and associated committee members with free access to our on-demand and live webinars, as well as discounts for heritage workshops and our annual conference. Promoting continuing education will create a strong foundation for the protection of your community's unique heritage.

Have questions about what we do at Heritage BC? Learn more on our website, heritagebc.ca or reach out by email at info@heritagebc.ca. We would love to hear from you.

Thank you from all of us at Heritage BC!

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Greetings!

As a not-for-profit organization of provincial scope, Heritage BC recognizes that its members, and the local history and heritage they seek to preserve, occupy the lands and territories of B.C.'s Indigenous peoples. Heritage BC asks its members to reflect on the places where they reside and work, and to respect the diversity of cultures and experiences that form the richness of our provincial heritage.

Heritage BC

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