



ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING OF HERITAGE REGINA

June 12, 2024

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

Heritage Regina has enjoyed yet another year of successful programming and advocating on behalf of cultural and built heritage. Our educational programming, including walking tours and lectures, continued with strong attendance numbers and excellent reviews from participants. We continued our partnership with Frost and the Regina Downtown BID and partnered with the University of Regina to offer the very successful Ghost Tour of College Avenue Campus. We continue to engage with local tour guides, and lecturers while continually seeking to expand our repertoire of topics and presenters.

We continued to own and manage the Regina Cultural Trailway (RCT) in 2023. The RCT website included the addition of 6 new sites to our already existing inventory in Cathedral. We continue to partner with The Provincial Capital Commission to launch the first phase of the trailway in Wascana Park in 2024. The Cultural Trailway continues to be a vibrant part of Heritage Regina 's educational offerings and an award- winning way to experience the city of Regina.

Educational Programming sponsors and partners in 2023 were the City of Regina, the Cathedral Village Community Association, The Artesian on 13TH, the Downtown Business Improvement District, and the Provincial Capital Commission. We want to thank them for their generous support and assistance.

To keep our supporters, donors and community updated on all things Heritage, we continue to use some of our resources to support our website and our social media channels. We welcomed a new social media person, Nathaniel Hak, to ensure our website, and social media is up to date, informative, and provides the community with interesting heritage-based information. Feel free to reach out to Nathaniel and introduce yourself through our Facebook page.

The Heritage Regina website has proven to be a valuable way for us to educate the public about our city's rich heritage, share event information and keep the public up to date on our advocacy work. Presentations to various city committees, links to surveys, articles and online videos show up on the home page and are archived on the site for future reading.

Traditional media also provided opportunities for us to reach the public regarding our upcoming events and local heritage issues. We were interviewed on CBC Radio-Regina and Saskatoon, CTV Regina, Global Regina, Access Communications, Cathedral's Village Voice and in the Leader-Post. Our articles about important events and places in the city are a regular feature in the Village Voice.

In 2023, advocacy did not stop. We continued to work tirelessly with the City to develop Phase 2 of the Heritage Maintenance Policy which includes monitoring the maintenance of existing heritage properties and providing input into opportunities to enhance preservation strategies. This new policy will help define how buildings, whether occupied or vacant, are tracked and maintained into the future.

We have an important role on the city's Heritage Sector Reference Group which completed the first full year of application of the new policies related to designation and incentives. This resulted in record designations and distribution of incentives in the past year. In 2023 we saw the re-introduction of the heritage building plaque program. This will result in the latest additions to the designated properties list having plaques erected to identify them as heritage buildings. Additionally, Heritage Regina has submitted a photographic and demolition policy to the city to help guide the documentation of buildings that cannot be saved and to ensure the history is not lost. We will continue to work with the City in the coming year to ensure ongoing evaluation of properties for designation and in a consultive role on outstanding provisions in the Heritage Policy.

There are always buildings that need our support. This past year has kept us busy with advocacy work to preserve historic buildings such as the Gordon Block, Regina's Central Branch Library and additional buildings requesting our support. Also, Heritage Regina sits on the committee for the Wascana Park 10-year plan. The community views Heritage Regina as a heritage resource. We fielded many calls from the public, builders, relators and homeowners, requesting assistance navigating heritage policy, seeking advice on restorations and to answer questions on designation, restoration, and heritage policy.

Saving the biggest news to last, Heritage Regina was pleased to welcome Sarah Wood as our first ever Executive Director. With funding from the City of Regina, we were lucky to hire Sarah to help us move our organization forward. Sarah is a skilled heritage professional and brings a variety of experience which has already proven to be invaluable to the organization. Please reach out to Sarah at info@heritageregina.ca with any questions, ideas, or information.

Members of Heritage Regina, our Board members and our volunteers made the work of Heritage Regina possible throughout another eventful year. Memberships and donations help us support our programs and fund our advocacy work. We thank all who supported us financially in 2023 and we are inspired by the community's ever-growing interest in our work. The leadership provided by the board and their time, talents and resources has been proven invaluable to our continued success. I am grateful for their dedication and enthusiasm, and I look forward to another exciting year in 2024!

Respectfully submitted,

