

Message from the Chair

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Looking back at 2015, Heritage BC has continued to grow in directions that raise awareness and build capacity for heritage conservation in communities across the Province of British Columbia.

Heritage BC delivered \$75,000 in grants from the Heritage Legacy Fund (HLF) through which we supported 12 capital projects to conserve historic places and other cultural heritage resources, and 5 heritage awareness projects. Eligibility for grants is open to not-for-profit and charitable organizations, First Nations and local governments. In 2015, HLF grant recipients were diverse in geographic reach and included not only buildings, but also Catalina Aircraft, Quesnel's water wheel and the industrial landscape of the Pacific Cannery National Historic Site in Port Edward.

This year we connected 87 participants in our successful educational webinars and expanded from our core offerings (e.g. Heritage Basics and Writing Statements of Significance), to new and emerging topics in B.C. (Heritage Conservation, Sustainability and Climate Change). Membership increased to 264 and members were engaged more through social media including our fresh new E-Update Bulletins in addition to the longstanding Heritage Quarterly Magazine. The "Main Thing" conference in Rossland was an ideal place to meet people in the West Kootenays and learn from the host city about success in historic downtown revitalization.

Leading and supporting a better understanding of heritage in geographic, social, cultural and ethnic communities is central to our increasing role as a service provider. Working with several Provincial ministries, we launched the "Get on the Map" series. Developed through public input, the first map is World Wars Monuments and Memorials in BC. Through the partnership with the Ministry of International Trade, and the Heritage Branch, Heritage BC managed a public process for the Chinese Historic Places Recognition Project, and created a map of the 77 nominated sites.

On behalf of Heritage BC, I am proud of these accomplishments in 2015, and the great efforts of Executive Director, Kathryn Molloy, and the staff team. I would like to thank each and every Board member for their dedication of time, knowledge and expertise to our committees and sharing with us the perspective of members and the broader community in their local regions.

In 2016, I will step aside as Chair and take on the role of Past Chair to fill the big shoes of Janice Henry, who is leaving the Board early to transition into her new life as a retiree in Palm Springs! I would like to thank Janice for her commitment to Heritage BC, and the wealth of experience that she brought to the Board as Executive Director of the Central Okanagan Heritage Society.



Helen Cain
Board Chair

*Report is available in Clerk's Office.