

**From:** Paul Gravett [<mailto:pgravett@heritagebc.ca>]  
**Sent:** July 25, 2018 10:17 AM  
**To:** Zeinabova, Blanka  
**Subject:** Help us gain attention for heritage on Parliament Hill

Dear Blanka,

The National Trust, Heritage BC and heritage organizations across Canada are working together on an exciting new phase in the Year of Action for historic places!

Liberal MP John Aldag has agreed to sponsor a [parliamentary petition](#) that calls on the Minister of the Environment to ensure substantial funding for historic places in Federal Budget 2019.

**We are asking you to [sign the petition](#) so that your voice is heard. The only way heritage will gain attention on Parliament Hill is through a groundswell of support from the heritage community.**

Our second request is to ask you to share the petition with your colleagues.

If signing the petition is a conflict with your employer, please consider signing as a private citizen.

#### **Why a parliamentary petition?**

We need to show Government that support for historic places are worthy of attention in Federal Budget 2019. With thousands of signatures, we can send a message that federal investment is needed to save places of significance to Indigenous peoples, and help owners and organizations save and renew historic places in ways that create green jobs, attract investment, and help fight climate change.

#### **What's the strategy?**

The goal of the Year of Action to #changethegame4heritage is to secure thousands of signatures, help you meet with your Member of Parliament this summer, and host a Day of Action on Parliament Hill in the fall – just in time for MPs and cabinet ministers to include a substantial fund for historic places in their priorities for Budget 2019. Stay tuned for updates and instructions throughout the summer.

Be part of our Year of Action! Help ensure that MPs will have a reason to take action for historic places this fall.

Thanks for your support.

Paul Gravett  
Executive Director  
Heritage BC

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# PETITION TO THE HOUSE OF COMMONS

Whereas:

- Canada's collective story is told through its historic places, and thousands of sites have been formally recognized by public authorities;
- Canada has committed to protecting and preserving cultural heritage by being party to the UNESCO Convention Concerning the Protection of the World Cultural and Natural Heritage;
- Investing in the rehabilitation of historic places contributes to economic growth through job creation, revitalization of traditional downtowns, and tourism;
- The retention and reuse of historic places contributes to the fight against climate change, reducing construction and demolition waste and avoiding the environmental impacts of new development;
- Reconciliation requires investment in historic places of significance to Canada's Indigenous peoples;
- The Standing Committee on Environment and Sustainable Development in its report Preserving Canada's Heritage: the Foundation for Tomorrow identified the need for federal leadership, including funding and incentives for historic places not owned by the federal government; and
- Federal action is needed without delay, since estimates indicate that more than 20% of Canada's historic places were lost between 1970 and 2000 – and losses continue due to lack of funding;

We, the undersigned, **citizens of Canada**, call upon the **Minister of Environment and Climate Change** to demonstrate federal leadership for historic places by working with the Minister of Finance to create a multi-million dollar fund in Budget 2019 that would support the efforts of Indigenous peoples, charities and not for profits to save and renew historic places, and encourage private sector investment and heritage philanthropy.



Sponsor

[John Aldag](#)

Cloverdale—Langley City

Liberal

British Columbia



History

**Open for signature :** July 11, 2018, at 9:31 a.m. (EDT)  
**Closed for signature :** November 8, 2018, at 9:31 a.m. (EDT)



Signatures (1881)

**Province / Territory**

**Signatures**

Alberta	289
British Columbia	315
Manitoba	49
New Brunswick	73
Newfoundland and Labrador	43
Northwest Territories	2
Nova Scotia	109
Ontario	825
Prince Edward Island	21
Quebec	108
Saskatchewan	32
Yukon	7
Other Countries	8

[Sign the petition](#)