

**TO:** CHAIR AND MEMBERS  
COMMUNITY HERITAGE COMMISSION

**DATE:** 2021 November 1

**FROM:** DIRECTOR PLANNING AND BUILDING

**FILE:** 3520 20  
*Reference:* CHC Projects - General

**SUBJECT:** HERITAGE PROGRAM 2-YEAR WORK PLAN REVIEW

**PURPOSE:** To review the status of the work plan items identified in the 2020-21 Community Heritage Commission Work Plan.

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#### RECOMMENDATIONS:

1. **THAT** this report be received for information.
2. **THAT** this report be advanced to Council for information.
3. **THAT** a copy of this report be forwarded to the Parks, Recreation and Culture Commission for information.

### REPORT

#### 1.0 BACKGROUND

The Community Heritage Commission (CHC) was established by bylaw in 1988 to advise Council on matters concerning the identification, management and preservation and/or restoration of buildings and sites with historical significance in Burnaby. The City's heritage program consists of two main components: conservation and management of heritage resources and recognition of civic heritage assets and historical events.

At its 2019 November 28 meeting, the CHC approved a work plan for 2020 and 2021. This report provides an overview of the status of the items in the two-year work plan.

#### 2.0 POLICY SECTION

The heritage recognition and conservation activities included in this work plan align with the following Council-adopted plans and strategies: *Official Community Plan* (1998), *Corporate Strategic Plan* (2017), and *Burnaby Social Sustainability Strategy* (2011).

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### 3.0 HERITAGE PROGRAM UPDATE (2020-2021)

In 2020 and 2021, the CHC advised Council on a range of heritage conservation and heritage recognition applications and initiatives, management and preservation of heritage buildings and landmarks, and initiatives to increase awareness and conservation of the City's heritage resources. The work was guided by the 2020-21 Community Heritage Commission Work Plan and responded to applications and emerging issues. The work of the Commission was challenged by the emergence of the COVID-19 pandemic, which resulted in the cancellation of the April meeting and a six-month pause in the Chinese Canadian history research project. However, work to fulfill the work plan and support priority areas continued.

A summary of the 2020-21 work plan is outlined below in Table 1.

Table 1: 2020-21 Heritage Program Work Plan

PROJECT	STATUS
<b>Heritage Conservation</b>	
Bylaw amending the HRA for the Lonsdale Guardhouse Residence	Adopted
Authorization to prepare HRA and Heritage Designation Bylaws for the Captain William Eyres Residence	Adopted
Processing of heritage applications and updating of heritage inventory records	Ongoing
Heritage policy and programs review	Underway
Heritage homeowners workshop	Postponed to 2022-23
Review of civic monuments and plan for repair and conservation	Complete
Designation of Alta Vista Reservoir Vent	Adopted
Civic building safety and security review	Underway
Detailed design for adaptive reuse of Fairacres Garage & Stables	Underway
Review and monitoring of restoration works at Mather's House	Underway
Review and monitoring of accessibility upgrades to Capitol Hill Community Hall	Underway
<b>Heritage Recognition</b>	
Publication of <i>Inkwells to Internet: A History of Burnaby Schools</i>	Complete

Reprinting of <i>Tram Memories: In Celebration of the Restoration of Interurban 1223</i>	Complete
Chinese Canadian history research project	Underway
“Heritage on the Heights” walking tour map	Underway
Delivery of training session for CHC on stewardship of Indigenous heritage resources	Postponed to 2022-23
Outlining of an approach to commemorating diverse community heritage in Burnaby	Complete
Neighbourhood History Series presentations (2020 & 2021)	Complete
Delivery of Burnaby history session at Pacific Northwest Labour History Conference	Cancelled due to COVID-19
Exploration of partnership to capture oral histories of veterans	Complete
Repair and redesign of interpretive signs at Deer Lake and Burnaby Heights	Complete

### 3.1 Heritage Conservation

The CHC advises Council on the conservation of a broad range of heritage resources, including those owned by the City, and those that are publically and privately owned.

#### 3.1.1 Policy and Projects to Advance Conservation of Heritage Properties

**Heritage Revitalization Agreement (HRA) – Lonsdale Guardhouse Residence (6985 Canada Way):** A Bylaw amending the original HRA for the Lonsdale Guardhouse Residence was adopted by Council at its 2020 December 14 meeting.

**Captain William Eyres Residence (6079 Canada Way):** The recommendations of a report authorizing staff to prepare an HRA Bylaw and Heritage Designation Bylaw for retention and protection of the Captain William Eyres Residence were adopted by Council at its 2021 June 28 meeting.

**Heritage Applications:** Meetings were held with six property owners interested in potentially conserving their properties through an HRA resulting in an application for subdivision through an HRA for the Captain William Eyres Residence and a second application for subdivision through an HRA that is under review. Discussions are ongoing with two additional property owners. Two properties on the heritage inventory received a demolition permit: the F.J. Butler Residence at 7125 Frederick Avenue and the Hastings Grove Store at 7262 Curtis Street. A third property was removed from the inventory following extensive renovations (a residence at 7150 McKay Avenue).

**Official Community Plan (OCP) Review:** As part of the City's ongoing work to review its OCP, a review of the City's heritage program has been initiated. A Heritage Policy and Programs Review is underway, which will make both management and policy recommendations for consideration as part of the City's OCP update.

**Heritage Homeowners Workshop:** The 2021-22 work plan included a new annual workshop to provide property owners with information to support the protection and conservation of heritage buildings. The workshop was intended to be for owners of properties on the civic heritage inventory. Staff were unable to advance this work plan item due to the emergence of other priorities and the closure of civic facilities where such a workshop could be held. Methods for communicating with owners of property on the heritage inventory to encourage the protection and conservation of heritage resources will be considered as part of the Heritage Policy and Programs Review.

### ***3.1.2 Stewardship of Civic Heritage Resources***

**Review of Civic Monuments and Historic Landscape Features:** In cooperation with staff in Parks Operations, a review of masonry resources listed on the City's Community Heritage Register and Heritage Inventory was completed. An update on this work was provided to the CHC at its 2021 June 10 meeting, and outlined a phased approach to repair and conservation of the City's heritage cenotaphs and heritage landscape features.

**Designation of the Alta Vista Reservoir Vent (5172 McKee Street):** A heritage designation bylaw was adopted by Council at its 23 November 2020 meeting to protect the Alta Vista Reservoir vent. Designation of the resource followed salvage of the vent during the demolition of the Alta Vista Reservoir and completion of a condition assessment. Work is underway to repair and restore the Alta Vista Reservoir Vent, and to reinstall it at Alta Vista Reservoir Park with an interpretive sign.

**Building Safety and Security Review:** Work to conduct a safety and security review for civic owned heritage buildings was initiated by staff, and this item will be included in the 2022-23 CHC Work Plan.

### ***3.1.3 Review and Monitoring of Conservation Projects in Progress for Civic Heritage Resources***

**Fairacres Estate (6344 Deer Lake Avenue):** An adaptive reuse study for the Fairacres Garage and Stables building was completed, and at its 2020 September 28 meeting, Council adopted the CHC's recommendations to undertake design development for reuse of the ground floor of the building as a visual arts studio, and the upper floor as administrative offices. Detailed designs for the required renovations are currently being developed, and a Heritage Alteration Permit application will be advanced to the CHC in 2022.

**Mather's House (6450 Deer Lake Avenue):** Planning staff continued to review and monitor restoration works at the Mather's House, which will include restoration of the porte cochere, turret, and reception hall and replacement of the cedar shingle roof. It is anticipated that this work will be completed in 2022.

**Capitol Hill Community Hall:** Planning staff reviewed and monitored accessibility upgrades to the hall, which are anticipated to be completed in 2022. The development and installation of interpretive signage outlining the history of the hall and the Capitol Hill Community Hall Association will be included in the CHC 2022-23 work plan.

### **3.2 Heritage Recognition**

The CHC advises Council on a range of heritage recognition initiatives, from interpretive signage and publications, to presentations and digital access initiatives. Recognition work includes research to identify and understand heritage resources and landmarks.

#### **3.2.1 Publications to Recognize Burnaby's Community Heritage**

**History of Burnaby Schools:** *Inkwells to Internet: A History of Burnaby Schools* was printed, and also made available as a digital book at [heritageburnaby.ca](http://heritageburnaby.ca). Complimentary copies of the book were provided to Burnaby's public libraries and school libraries, and books were made available for purchase through the Burnaby Village Museum. A \$1,300 contribution from sale of the books was made to the Burnaby Retired Teachers' Association Scholarship and Bursary Foundation managed by the Vancity Community Foundation, and an additional contribution will be made based on sales in 2021.

**Tram Memories:** The publication *Tram Memories: In Celebration of the Restoration of Interurban 1223* was reprinted, and also made available as a digital book at [hertiageburnaby.ca](http://hertiageburnaby.ca). The publication is available for purchase through the Burnaby Village Museum.

**Chinese Canadian History in Burnaby:** Research for a Chinese Canadian History in Burnaby resource guide was completed, and the publication is currently being reviewed and designed. Work was initiated on a Big Bend farm tour map, which will include a history of agriculture in Burnaby's Big Bend area and incorporate the history of Chinese Canadian family farms and market gardens.

**Burnaby Heights Walking Tour Map:** Research for development of a "Heritage on the Heights" walking tour map of North Burnaby was initiated. The walking tour map will feature the diverse history of the Burnaby Heights neighbourhood. This item will be included in the 2022-23 CHC Work Plan.

#### **3.2.2 Recognition of Burnaby's Diverse Community Heritage Through Partnerships and Interpretation**

**Stewardship of Indigenous Heritage:** Planning was completed for a training session for the CHC on identification and stewardship of Indigenous heritage resources. The session was postponed due to COVID-19, and will be included in the 2022-23 CHC work plan.

**Commemorating Diverse Community Heritage in Burnaby:** An approach to recognizing the histories of diverse settlement and Indigenous communities in Burnaby was outlined and advanced to Council for information at its 2020 July 6 meeting. The report identified an upcoming Heritage Policy and Programs Review as an opportunity to further consider this work.

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**Neighbourhood History Series:** The annual historical lecture series organized by the Burnaby Village Museum and Burnaby Public Library pivoted to an online delivery model, with 433 people attending during the livestream, and subsequent viewings via Facebook in 2020. The seven talks offered in 2020 included presentations on heritage landmarks, organized in coordination with heritage planning staff. In 2021, two series were offered: the Spring Neighbourhood Speaker Series explored a range of topics shared by Indigenous speakers and knowledge keepers, and the fall series focused on Japanese Canadian history in Burnaby.

**Partnerships:** A partnership between the City, retired historian Dr. Allen Seager, and the Solidarity Notes Labour Choir was initiated to deliver an interactive session on Burnaby's history at the Pacific Northwest Labour History Conference. The event was later cancelled due to COVID-19.

Staff followed up on a request by the CHC at its 2019 November 12 meeting to consider a historical research project that includes capturing stories of Burnaby's veterans. A partnership was explored with Legion 83, but the project is not currently feasible as potential interviewees are not available due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

**Signs and Plaques:** Work to repair and maintain the existing stock of heritage plaques and signs was advanced by staff, and included reprinting the Deer Lake Heritage interpretive signs. The "Heritage on the Heights" signs were also reprinted, and redesigned to incorporate new research, meet the City's corporate brand standards, and modify the sign mounts to improve durability.

#### 4.0 CONCLUSION

This report provides an update on the status of the Community Heritage Commission 2-Year Work plan for 2020 and 2021. It is recommended that the Community Heritage Commission receive the report for information purposes, and advance it to Council for information. It is also recommended that a copy be forwarded to the Parks, Recreation and Culture Commission for information.



E.W. Kozak, Director  
PLANNING AND BUILDING

LC:sa

Copied to: Chief Administrative Officer  
Deputy Chief Administrative Officer and Chief Financial Officer  
Director Engineering  
Director Parks, Recreation and Cultural Services  
City Clerk