

# EDMONTON HISTORICALBOARD

2019 ANNUAL REPORT ATTACHMENT 1

# TABLE OF CONTENTS

LETTER FROM THE CHAIR42019 HIGHLIGHTS5HERITAGE OUTREACH COMMITTEE6HISTORICAL PLAQUES & RECOGNITION AWARDS COMMITTEE8HISTORICAL RESOURCES REVIEW PANEL9BOARD MEMBERS & BIOS112020-2021 WORK PLAN14

# EDMONTON HISTORICAL BOARD MANDATE:

TO ADVISE CITY COUNCIL ON MATTERS RELATING TO CITY OF EDMONTON HISTORICAL ISSUES AND CIVIC HERITAGE POLICIES. TO ENCOURAGE, PROMOTE, AND ADVOCATE FOR THE PRESERVATION AND SAFEGUARDING OF HISTORICAL PROPERTIES, RESOURCES, COMMUNITIES, AND DOCUMENTARY HERITAGE.



# LETTER FROM THE CHAIR

Dear Mayor Iveson and Councillors, and citizens of Edmonton,

On behalf of the Edmonton Historical Board, I am pleased to submit our 2019 Annual Report, as approved by the Board on February 26, 2020. Within the pages that follow, you'll find a summary of the activities of the Board over the past year, and our efforts to deliver on our mandate to promote and advocate for the preservation of Edmonton's heritage.

The Edmonton Historical Board was established as a Council Committee under the Edmonton Historical Board Bylaw (Bylaw 13601). The bylaw defines the Board's mandate as "...[to] advise Council on historical issues and heritage policy; and to encourage, promote, and advocate for the preservation and safeguarding of historical properties, resources, communities, and documentary heritage."

The EHB has a deep connection to the history of this city. Our lineage stretches to 1947 with the creation of the Archives & Landmarks Committee, renamed the Edmonton Historical Board in 1966. In our near 75-year history, we have been at the forefront of preserving the history and memory of our city. From the first register of historic resources in 1984 to the present, the City has now identified hundreds of historic properties, landmarks, and features across the city, and has protected over 150 Municipal Historic Resources. For our part, the Board has been pleased to support this process, recommending unique properties to the Inventory of Historic Resources, properties now eligible for designation as Municipal Historic Resources.

With the growth of the Inventory and designation program, comes a responsibility to ensure our approach is inclusive of the community experience within a place and the architectural diversity of the city. While our context for conservation only grows with the passage of time, the pressures threatening the conservation of heritage resources remain. With this mind, the Board is committed to advocating for a renewed Historic Resource Management Plan to guarantee the City and citizens are empowered with the tools and knowledge to protect future heritage for future generations.

Over the last year, our sub-committees have worked diligently to meet our mandate. We have been pleased to continue our close relationship with Council, Administration and heritage partners including the Edmonton Heritage Council and Edmonton & District Historical Society.

Lastly, we have initiated a new approach to strategic planning that will ensure the EHB can best fulfill its mandate.

In the coming year, we expect to refine our processes and structure, create new pathways for citizen engagement and collaboration with stakeholders, and launch several initiatives to better support and advise Council on the conservation of Edmonton's heritage.

Our heritage is our legacy. Our heritage is the tangible record of the lived experience of this place and all those who have called it home. Our heritage defines us, guides, and provides meaning and context to the forces that continue to shape our city. Protecting that legacy is our responsibility to you and the citizens of Edmonton. I trust and thank my Board colleagues for their dedication to this task, and as always, we look forward to engaging with you to fulfill that mandate.

Respectfully submitted,

Daniel Rose Chair, Edmonton Historical Board

# 2019 Highlights







# HERITAGE OUTREACHCOMMITTEE

# Quarterly Newsletter

Launched in mid-2018, the Heritage Outreach Committee creates and distributes a quarterly e-newsletter from the Edmonton Historical Board. Over the last year, thenumber of e-newsletter subscribers has more than doubled from 200 to 440. Our analytics far exceed industry standards, with 65% open rate and a 23% click rate, which suggest a devoted readership. Our e-newsletters feature content on current and emerging issues impacting Edmonton's built heritage, stories on people and places that have influenced the development of Edmonton, and media stories on issues of interest.

# Social Media & Civic Engagement

The Edmonton Historical Board's Facebook page now has over 2,000 followers – an increase of 300 from last year. The Board continues to be active on this page, utilizing it as a platform for engagement on emerging issues, current media stories, and as a venue to share content from Edmonton's Architectural Heritage website.

# Wheritage:

# Partnership with Fort Edmonton Park

The Heritage Outreach Committee publicly unveiled our large-scale interactive board game, Wheritage, during Free Admission Day (see below). Produced in collaboration with Fort Edmonton Park, the game provides information about historic buildings that have been moved to the Park, buildings that have been protected in situ around Edmonton, as well as buildings that have been lost to demolition. We will continue to use this interactive public engagement tool at future events to engage citizens in important conversations about the city's built heritage and the value of historic preservation.

# Faculty of Graduate Studies & Research

The Edmonton Historical Board partnered with the University of Alberta's Faculty of Graduate Studies and Research to offer internship positions to two PhD students, giving the Board the opportunity to develop connections with the university community. The graduate students worked with the Heritage Outreach Committee to support engagement and outreach initiatives. Elise Sammons, PhD student in the Political Science Department, prepared a report on Indigenous heritage, which provided some considerations for the Edmonton Historical Board to reflect on as the Board seeks to better represent Edmonton's Indigenous history and heritage in its work. Lauren Albrecht, PhD student in Department of Pediatrics, helped to organize a successful walking tour of the Edmonton Cemetery (see below for more detail).

# Edmonton's Architectural Heritage Website

The Heritage Outreach Committee continues to manage and develop Edmonton's Architectural Heritage website (EdmontonsArchitecturalHeritage.ca). This year, there were an average of 11 thousand visitors to the site. In order to leverage this visitor traffic, we added a pop-up window, which invites visitors to signup for our e-newsletter when they first navigate to the site. Based on the Indigenous heritage report provided by our 2nd U of A graduate student, Elise Sammons, PhD student in Department of Political Science, we are in the process of having the website reviewed to ensure that the content reflects Edmonton's rich and diverse Indigenous perspectives.

# Free Admission Day

As part of the Board's work to engage with the broader Edmonton community, members of the Heritage Outreach Committee took part in Free Admission Day at the Edmonton Valley Zoo on September 29, 2019. This provided an opportunity to engage with citizens not normally taking part in the Board's activities and events. Through discussions with citizens, Board members were able to discuss the initiatives and current work of the Board while also hearing from citizens on issues and policies that are of importance to them.

# Nerd Nite Cemetery Tour- Community Event

On June 3, 2018, the Heritage Outreach Committee partnered with Nerd Nite Edmonton to host a free community walking tour of the Edmonton Cemetery. The tour focused on the built history of the cemetery, which is the city's oldest and most architecturally diverse cemetery. Spearheaded by one of the Board's U of A graduate students, the event garnered an exceptional amount of public interest, with more than 50 people in attendance. The large group was split into two, with one tour hosted by Edmonton City Archivist and public historian, Kathryn Ivany, and the other by Lauren Albrecht, PhD student. Working with Nerd Nite provided the Board with a unique opportunity to extend its network, engaging new members of the public in the stories of our city's built heritage.





# HISTORICAL PLAQUES & RECOGNITION AWARDS COMMITTEE

The work of the Plaques and Awards Committee within the Edmonton Historical Board is year round. The committee oversees the creation of plaques for historic resources that have been preserved in the city. We also strive to find groups and individuals whose work have made significant contributions to the preservation of history and heritage in Edmonton so that they can be properly recognized. For forty-five years the Edmonton Historical Board has overseen this program and has organized an annual Plaques and Awards event.

# Plaque and Award Creation

In April of 2019, submissions for Plaques and Awards were reviewed by members of the committee and selections were made. 2019 saw a wide variety of designated buildings and structures and award recipients. The committee was also able to dedicate some resources to updating plaques that were either damaged, missing information, or had errors that needed to be corrected. Texts were developed for the plaques and awards in collaboration with the recipients prior to being manufactured.

# 45th Annual Plaques and Awards Ceremony

Submissions for 2019 were varied, in total the committee supervised the creation of eight new plaques for designated buildings and locations. The committee also revised three old plaques and recognized three individuals for their contributions to history and heritage within Edmonton. Two of the recognized individuals are very much non-traditional award recipients, as they are both craftsmen. One dedicated his career to teaching thousands of Edmontonians and visitors the detailed work required to create York Boats while working at Fort Edmonton Park, while the other works on restoration of historic buildings in Edmonton, many of his projects are currently designated resources within the City. The final award recipient is a longtime heritage and history researcher in Edmonton and has spent years working with the Edmonton District Historical Society. The 45th Annual Plaques and Awards Ceremony will take place on April 2nd at Fort Edmonton Park.

# Upcoming Work

As the Plaques and Awards Committee continues to create new plaques for recently designated buildings, members are also cognisant that there is a slowly building backlog of old plaques that need to be revised or repaired. Many plaques that were made forty years ago often contain outdated information or views that we want to change. Going forward the committee will seek to strike a balance between revising old plagues and making new ones. We will also strive to make our plaquing program more inclusive to the variety of cultures that call Edmonton home. In 2019 the Committee approved the creation of translated plaques for structures of cultural significance. The Harbin Gate will receive two plaques, one in Mandarin and one in English. St. Joachim's Church will receive two as well, one in French and one in English. It is the hope of the committee that we will be able to continue both translation and revision work in the future.



2018 EHB members and Plaque & Award recipients

# HISTORIC RESOURCES REVIEW PANEL

# 2019 IN REVIEW

The Historic Resources Review Panel (HRRP) actively identified potentially viable properties for review and recommendation onto the Inventory of Historical Resources. Aiding in this process is a dedicated and diverse body of individuals, chiefly CoE Heritage Planners Robert Geldart, David Johnston, and Scott Ashe, alongside graduate planner Vada Antonakis. City Archivist Kathryn Ivany provides invaluable support, as do other staff members at the Archives, members of the EHB, community members at large, historians, architects, and advisors from the Province. These volunteers and professionals provide us with a wide breadth of expertise, opinion, and experience that allows us to make informed recommendations.

# **REVIEWED SUBMISSIONS**

Lacking funds for a neighbourhood inventory that would identify potential properties of interest, this year the Panel relied solely on submissions from interested owners. The heritage planners worked closely with building owners to explain the process of research, application, review and eventual designation. We were gratified to see interest in the program picking up, with a number of applications from the community received and reviewed. The properties were diverse not only in their sizes and ages, but also in their utilization, condition and architectural styles. We wish to underscore the importance of neighbourhood inventories. The usual threshold for designation of historic properties is 50 years; this means that buildings constructed in the 1970s are now eligible for consideration. Neighbourhoods such as Beverley, Millwoods, and others should be surveyed to ensure that the properties (especially those at high risk of redevelopment) are catalogued and their historical significance understood.

# HERITAGE ACTIVITIES

The Panel commends the work of the Heritage Conservation Unit on several significant achievements in 2019:

- completion of a new (DC1) Direct Development Control Provision zoning for the Westmount Architectural Heritage Area. City Council approved the new DC1 unanimously in July;
- endorsement by City Council of an implementation program for City-owned historic resources;
- a Functional Use Study for Hangar 11 at Blatchford—this report to be distributed to Council in March 2020;
- launch of the "On This Spot" walking tour app for the Old Strathcona area.



# FAREWELL

Finally, the Panel wishes to acknowledge the invaluable contributions of CoE Heritage Planner Robert Geldart, who retired in November. Robert's contributions to the Panel in specific and Edmonton's heritage at large cannot be overstated: when Robert began with this unit in 2000, the City had only 19 designated properties. At his retirement, that number stood at 159. Robert's tireless service to the Board, the Panel, and the City are most sincerely appreciated and we wish him a restful and rewarding retirement.



# Edmonton Historical Board 2018 Members

CITIZENS AT LARGE	DATE APPOINTED BY CITY COUNCIL
Barbara Hilden	May 1, 2014
Erin McDonald	May 1, 2014
Daniel Rose (Chair)	May 1, 2015
Neil Cramer	May 1, 2016
Dominic Schamuhn	May 1, 2016
Hanna Choi	May 1, 2018
David Ryning	May 1, 2018
Christina Wilson	May 1, 2018
Stephanie Bailey	May 1, 2019
Anna Gibson-Hollow	May 1, 2019
James McTague	May 1, 2019

### **BARBARA HILDEN**

Barbara has lived, worked, studied, and instructed in four countries on three different continents. Everywhere she goes, she immerses herself in the culture and heritage of her surroundings: walking, hiking, exploring, and drinking whatever kind of wine they produce. She has worked at Fort Edmonton Park and the Alberta Foundation for the Arts, interned with the Smithsonian Institution, and now serves as Exhibits Coordinator for the Legislative Assembly of Alberta (Borealis Gallery).

## ERIN MCDONALD

Having completed an Honours BA at the University of Toronto, Erin completed her Certificate of Museum Management & Curatorship at Fleming College. Erin has actively volunteered at several museums and has served on the Alberta Museums Association Board of Directors. Erin is passionate about arts, culture and heritage and seeks to engage the Edmonton community in the history and stories of the city.

### DANIEL ROSE

Dan was born and raised in Edmonton and holds a Bachelor of Arts degree in History and Political Science from the University of Alberta. Having lived and worked in some of Edmonton's finest historic buildings, Dan has become active in Edmonton's heritage community working to raise awareness of our City's built heritage and advocating for historic preservation and adaptive reuse.

### **NEIL CRAMER**

Born and raised in Edmonton, Neil holds a Bachelor Degree in History with a Minor in Psychology from Grant MacEwan University. His passion for history started with his career at Fort Edmonton Park, where he learned about how fun and interesting the stories of Edmonton's past were. Neil enjoys sharing his knowledge with everyone and has worked with both the federal and provincial governments to provide text for historic plaques throughout the province of Alberta.

### DOMINIC SCHAMUHN

Dominic is the Manager of Stakeholder Relations with the Alberta Motor Association, and previously worked in Edmonton's philanthropic sector with United Way of the Alberta Capital Region and the University Hospital Foundation, where he coordinated their Brain Centre Campaign. He entered the philanthropic sector after more than five years working in provincial politics, including time working for an opposition leader and for the Chief Opposition Whip at the Alberta Legislature.

#### **HANNA CHOI**

Hanna is a marketing and advertising professional in the Arts and Entertainment industry. Hanna is currently Director, Brand Communications at the Francis Winspear Centre for Music and Edmonton Symphony Orchestra, where she leads all marketing and communications strategies. Hanna holds a Master of Business Administration (MBA) and a Bachelor of Commerce (BCom.) from the University of Alberta.

#### **DAVID RYNING**

David is a lifelong Albertan and has been an Edmontonian since the early 1990s. He currently works in communications for the Alberta Government, and as a freelance writer and editor. Past roles have included framing, construction and journalism. He has a Master's degree in history from the University of Alberta and lives in the Bellevue/Highlands area of Edmonton.

#### **CHRISTINA WILSON**

Christina joined the Edmonton Historical Board in May, 2018 and is a member of EHB's Plaques and Awards Committee. As a recently retired public library CEO, she has served on several, non-profit boards in Edmonton, Red Deer, Lethbridge and Beaumont. Christina's interest in Canadian history and architectural preservation began at Brock University where she received a Bachelor of Arts in History and Politics and continued at Western, where she achieved master degrees in Political Science and Library and Information Science.

#### **STEPHANIE BAILEY**

Stephanie was born and raised in Edmonton and holds a master's degree in English Literature from the University of Victoria. She was previously the managing editor of Curb, a quarterly publication on urban planning and policy, produced by the City Region Studies Centre at the University of Alberta, and she now serves as staff writer with the alumni magazine, New Trail. She is excited by the opportunity to increase awareness and deepen the conversation about how built heritage shapes Edmonton's civic identity.

#### **ANNA GIBSON-HOLLOW**

Born and raised in Alberta, Anna is a proud Edmontonian who has lived in this city for over 30 years. She is a professional archivist who has a keen interest in the built and documentary heritage of the city of Edmonton. In June 2019, Anna became the newest University Archivist at her alma mater, the University of Alberta. Anna has also worked at the U of A's Office of Advancement, Enbridge, the Government of Alberta and the Provincial Archives of Alberta. In her spare time, Anna loves to walk or bike through the River Valley with her husband, 8 year old son and their two dogs.

#### **JAMES McTAGUE**

James is a lifelong resident of the Edmonton area. He holds a Bachelor of Science, a Master of Science, and a Juris Doctor, all from the University of Alberta. He has a passion for history, the restoration of historic structures, and the preservation of the unique impact historic structures have on our community. James works as a civil lawyer with a firm that has been part of the Edmonton community for over a century. James values the integration of historic resources into our City and appreciates the notable impact such structures have on our sense of community and connection with the past.

# Edmonton Historical Board 2020-2021 Work Plan

# MAY 2020

# CHAIR

- Liaise with Council, CouncillorDesignate, external groups, media (as required)
- Orientation of new board members

### EXECUTIVE

- Meeting third Wednesday
- Committee chairs orient new committee members
- Review, interview (as needed), and award research contract

# HERITAGE OUTREACH COMMITTEE

- Social media channelsmaintenance
- Organization, planning, promotion of Heritage
   Conversations event

# HISTORIC RESOURCES REVIEW PANEL

- Review of individual inventory and designation
   applications
- PLAQUES & AWARDS COMMITTEE
- Receive and review nominations for 2020
   AD-HOC COMMITTEE
- Planning for participation at APT & National Trust
  2020 Joint Conference in Edmonton

### BOARD

- Members re-appointed to 2020/21 term
- New members appointed to Board
- 2020/21 Executive and Committee rosterfinalized

# JUNE 2020

### CHAIR

• Liaise with Council, CouncillorDesignate, external groups, media (as required)

### EXECUTIVE

Committees set annual goals

### HERITAGE OUTREACH COMMITTEE

- Meeting second Wednesday
- Social media channels maintenance
- Organization, planning, promotion of Heritage
   Conversations event
- Preparation of electronic newsletter for July

# HISTORIC RESOURCES REVIEW PANEL

Review of individual inventory and designation
 applications

### PLAQUES & AWARDS COMMITTEE

- Recommend nominations for 2020
- Nominees notified of Edmonton Historical Board decision

# BOARD

• Review and approval of 2020 P&A recipients

# JULY 2020

# CHAIR

• Liaise with Council, Councillor Designate, external groups, media as required)

# HERITAGE OUTREACH COMMITTEE

- Social media channels maintenance
- Quarterly e-newsletter issued
- Heritage Conversations event organized, promoted

# PLAQUES & AWARDS COMMITTEE

- Research and writing of 2020 texts
   AD-HOC COMMITTEE
- Planning for participation at APT & National Trust 2020 Joint Conference in Edmonton
- Participation in Doors Open Edmonton
- Host Heritage Conversations event

# AUGUST 2020

# CHAIR

• Liaise with Council, Council Designate, external groups, media (as required)

### EXECUTIVE

- Progress meeting with Historian Laureate HERITAGE OUTREACH COMMITTEE
- Social media channels maintenance
- Preparation for meeting with City Council

#### HISTORIC RESOURCES REVIEW PANEL

- Review of individual inventory and designation
   applications
- PLAQUES & AWARDS COMMITTEE
- First drafts of awards/plaque texts

# SEPTEMBER 2020

#### CHAIR

• Liaise with Council, Council Designate, external groups, media (as required)

HERITAGE OUTREACH COMMITTEE

- Social media channels maintenance
- Hosting and attendance at Free Admission Day
- Preparation for annual meeting with City Council
- Preparation of electronic newsletter for October
- Promotion of community member recruitment
   HISTORIC RESOURCES REVIEW PANEL
- Review of individual inventory and designation
   applications

### PLAQUES & AWARDS COMMITTEE

- Review of award/plaque texts
- Recipients receive texts for review

### AD-HOC COMMITTEE

• Planning for participation at APT & National Trust 2020 Joint Conference in Edmonton

# OCTOBER 2020

#### CHAIR

- Liaise with Council, Council Designate, external groups, media (as required)
- Preparation for Council Luncheon
   EXECUTIVE
- Budget review with City Archivist and City support staff

### HERITAGE OUTREACH COMMITTEE

- Social media channels maintenance
- Preparation for annual meeting with City Council
- Preparation of electronic newsletter for October
- Promotion of community member recruitment HISTORIC RESOURCES REVIEW PANEL
- Review of individual inventory and designation
   applications

### PLAQUES & AWARDS COMMITTEE

- Final edits of texts in advance of Board approval
- Continued work on review and evaluation of texts
   AD-HOC COMMITTEE
- Planning for participation at APT & National Trust 2020 Joint Conference in Edmonton

#### BOARD

- Review of research contract: progress and draft
- Membership reappointment forms circulated
- Participation at National Trust Conference

# NOVEMBER 2020

#### CHAIR

- Liaise with Council, Council Designate, external groups, media (as required)
- HERITAGE OUTREACH COMMITTEE
- Social medial channels maintenance
- Initial planning for 2021 activities
- HISTORIC RESOURCES REVIEW PANEL
- Review of individual inventory and designation
   applications
- PLAQUES & AWARDS COMMITTEE
- Planning for event begins
- Texts and photos ready for Board approval
  BOARD
- Research report received and disseminated
- Approval of final award/plaque texts

# DECEMBER 2020

### Chair

- Liaise with Council, Councillor Designate, external groups, media (as required)
- Membership/re-appointment reports drafted

#### Introduction for EHB Annual Report prepared EXECUTIVE

Committee chairs prepare reports for EHB
 Annual Report

#### HERITAGE OUTREACH COMMITTEE

- Initial preparation of 2020 Annual Report content
- Social media channels maintenance
- Preparation of electronic newsletter for January
- Continuation of planning for 2021 activities

#### PLAQUES & AWARDS COMMITTEE

• Plaques and awards manufactured

# JANUARY 2021

#### Chair

- Liaise with Council, Councillor Designate, external groups, media (as required)
- Membership/re-appointment reports drafted
   EXECUTIVE
- Committee chairs submit reports for EHB Annual Report
- Annual meeting with other Heritage organizations

### HERITAGE OUTREACH COMMITTEE

- Coordination of 2020 Annual Report content
- Social media channels maintenance
- Quarterly electronic newsletter issued
- New board member vacancies promoted

# HISTORICAL RESOURCES REVIEW PANEL

Review of individual inventory and designation
 applications

# PLAQUES & AWARDS COMMITTEE

Event planning continues

# FEBRUARY 2021

# CHAIR

- Liaise with Council, Councillor Designate, external groups, media (as required)
- Prepare for P&A event

• Membership/re-appointment report submitted EXECUTIVE

• Progress meeting with Historian Laureate HERITAGE OUTREACH COMMITTEE

- Social media channels maintenance
- New board member vacancies promoted HISTORIC RESOURCES REVIEW PANEL
- Review of individual inventory and designation applications

PLAQUES & AWARDS COMMITTEE

Event planning finalized

BOARD

- Representative appointed to Naming
   Committee
- Annual report approved and submitted

# MARCH 2021

# CHAIR

- Liaise with Council, Councillor Designate, external groups, media (as required)
- Membership/re-appointment report presented to Citizen Services Committee
- Review of new member applications as invited
- Members consulted re: upcoming term committee assignments HERITAGE OUTREACH COMMITTEE
- Social media channels maintenance
- Preparation of electronic newsletter for April
- Planning for 2021 activities (as required)

HISTORIC RESOURCES REVIEW PANEL

Review of individual inventory and Designation
 applications

# PLAQUES & AWARDS COMMITTEE

• Event planning finalized

# **APRIL 2021**

# CHAIR

- Liaise with Council, Councillor Designate, external groups, media (as required)
- 2020 Annual report presented to Citizen Services Committee with Historian Laureate

# EXECUTIVE

- 2021/2022 executive chosen
- 2021/2022 committee assignments discussed and confirmed
- External committee member assignments discussed and confirmed

# HERITAGE OUTREACH COMMITTEE

- Social media channels maintenance
- Quarterly e-newsletter issued HISTORIC RESOURCES REVIEW PANEL
- Review of individual inventory and Designation
   applications

# PLAQUES & AWARDS COMMITTEE

- Event hosted
- Call for 2021 Historical Plaques and Recognition Awards Nominationspublicized

# BOARD

Attendance at plaques and awards event



# PRINCE OF WALESARMOURIES

10440 108 AVENUE, EDMONTON ALBERTA T5H 3Z9 www.EdmontonsArchitecturalHeritage.ca