

CITY OF ST. ALBERT HERITAGE MANAGEMENT PLAN

Welcome to the Public Open House for the *City of St. Albert Heritage Management Plan*. The first draft of the Plan is being presented tonight for your comments.

We would appreciate your feedback on what strategies you feel will be most beneficial in the development of St. Albert's Heritage Management program.

WHAT IS A HERITAGE MANAGEMENT PLAN?

Increasingly, municipalities are recognizing the value of protecting their heritage. A municipal heritage management plan is a document that assists and guides a municipality's stewardship of its historic resources, by developing both policy and strategy. Tailored to the unique needs of a municipality, a heritage management plan can be effectively incorporated at a variety of phases in the program.

A heritage management plan provides a framework to further recognize the potential of the city's heritage assets to act as a solid basis for the development of a vital and sustainable urban environment and a vibrant local economy. This will be accomplished through greater community involvement, enhancement of public awareness of heritage conservation efforts and greater engagement at the community level.

The heritage management plan builds upon the City's existing successful heritage initiatives, and utilizes provincial and federal best practices for heritage management and conservation. It will provide:

- A phased, 10-year plan with set goals, strategies and actions for sustaining a successful heritage program in St. Albert.
- Integration with other civic policies such as the Municipal Development Plan, the Downtown Area Redevelopment Plan, the Cultural Master Plan and the Tourism Master Plan.
- A framework for restoring, maintaining, and adding new buildings to the Heritage Inventory
- Policies and processes for managing the diverse range of heritage resources on the Heritage Inventory

The plan is being developed by Donald Luxton & Associates and David Murray Architect, who are working closely with City Staff and a Heritage Management Plan Steering Committee. There has been extensive public consultation including an online survey. The following timetable outlines the consultation process:

- March 2012: Commencement of project
- March 29: First Steering Committee Meeting
- June 20: Second Steering Committee Meeting
- June 20: First Stakeholders Meeting
- July 11: Third Steering Committee Meeting
- July: Start of online survey
- October 1: Council Workshop
- October 16: Second Stakeholders Meeting
- October 30: Public Open House
- November 26: Final Council Presentation (to be confirmed)
- December 31: Deadline for final documentation to Province
- Early 2013: Final Council Presentation (to be confirmed)

ST. ALBERT'S HERITAGE RESOURCES

Rich in its diversity and history, the City of St. Albert is rooted in its missionary and Métis beginnings and encompasses a diverse collection of intact historic and modern buildings, historic neighbourhoods and streetscapes and natural and cultural landscapes and views. St. Albert's history dates back to First Nations occupation, early European exploration and missionary settlement beginning in the 1860s and later French-Canadian and Métis settlement. The City of St. Albert recognizes the value of protecting its heritage assets and, over time, has developed a heritage program that promotes the long-term conservation and interpretation of its historic assets including built heritage sites and human history.

WHAT HAS BEEN ACHIEVED IN ST. ALBERT?

- Heritage Survey - 102 sites
- Places of Interest List – 62 sites
- Heritage Inventory - 20 sites
- Context Paper (2009-2010)

MUNICIPAL HISTORIC RESOURCES:

- Little White School (2009) (ARHP)
- White Spruce Forest (2011)
- St. Albert Place (2009)
- Cunningham House and Hogan Farm House (2009)
- Alberta Wheat Pool Grain Elevator (2009)
- Alberta Grain Company Grain Elevator (2009)
- Banque d'Hochelega (2009)
- Juneau House (2009)

PROVINCIAL HISTORIC RESOURCES:

- Alberta Grain Company Grain Elevator (2007)
- Alberta Wheat Pool Grain Elevator (2007)
- Bishop's Palace (1977)
- Father Lacombe Chapel (1983)

City-owned Heritage Sites managed by Arts & Heritage St. Albert:

- St. Albert Grain Elevator Park
- River Lot 23 & 24
- Little White School
- Banque d'Hochelega (Art Gallery of St. Albert)

Provincial-owned Heritage Sites managed by Arts & Heritage St. Albert:

- Father Lacombe Chapel



DEFINITIONS:

CULTURAL LANDSCAPES: A landscape designed and created intentionally by humans, which may be valued for its associations with human activity, its natural beauty or its scientific or cultural importance. Examples include parks, cemeteries, farms, etc.

INTANGIBLE CULTURAL HERITAGE: Practices, representations, expressions, knowledge and skills, as well as associated tools, objects, artifacts and cultural spaces that communities and groups recognize as part of their history and heritage.

PROVINCIAL HERITAGE RESOURCE: Sites that receive heritage protection from the Province of Alberta.

SURVEY: Identification of what buildings, structures, landscapes, and places could contribute to their local heritage.

PLACES OF INTEREST LIST: A prioritized list of identified sites on the survey with potential heritage value that have not yet been fully evaluated.

INVENTORY: Identifies the historic resources that the community values and wants to preserve.

MUNICIPAL HERITAGE RESOURCE: Sites that receive heritage protection from the City of St. Albert.

CONTEXT PAPER: Describes the people, events and themes that are significant to the community.



ST. ALBERT HERITAGE MANAGEMENT PLAN 2012

HERITAGE MANAGEMENT PLAN POLICIES

Heritage Conservation has already been integrated into City policy framework, and is referenced in the following plans:

- Municipal Development Plan
- Downtown Area Redevelopment Plan
- Cultural Master Plan
- St. Albert Heritage Site Functional Plan
- Tourism Master Plan
- Municipal Development Plan

The deliverables for the Heritage Management Plan include the following:

- Recommendations for further integration of heritage conservation into the City's planning framework
- Recommended roles and responsibilities for the Heritage Program
- Communication material to explain designation to the public
- Incentives and granting models for Municipal Historic Resources
- An Implementation Plan

A Heritage Management Plan can provide many tangible and intangible benefits, and has a strong positive impact on community development and quality of the living environment:

- Increases community pride and awareness
- Manages pace of change
- Guides development of programs that engage community in local heritage (e.g.: heritage awareness and interpretation initiatives)
- Supports sustainability, environmental and economic development initiatives
- Encourages investment in heritage sites through community partnerships
- Generates employment through heritage trades and other economic spin-offs



RECOMMENDATIONS

A 10-year timeframe was decided upon to implement the Heritage Management Plan. The following outlines the **GOALS** and **STRATEGIES** for the plan. Please provide us with any feedback you may have.

GOALS

- Enhance St. Albert's unique sense of place, derived from its topography, its legacy of heritage resources and its rich community history
- Identify, evaluate, manage, and commemorate significant heritage resources that illustrate the broad range of St. Albert's historical development;
- Continue to integrate the management of heritage resources within the municipal policy framework;
- Support the preservation and interpretation of the city's rich and complex history and culturally diverse traditions;
- Foster economic development and viability through long-term investment in heritage resources, cultural facilities and programs such as cultural tourism initiatives; and

- Plan for the development of healthy, vibrant and sustainable neighbourhoods by recognizing historic infrastructure and community identity.

STRATEGY 1: ENHANCED HERITAGE PROGRAM

Develop an enhanced City of St. Albert Heritage Policy and Program framework that links to broader civic goals of sustainability, economic development and neighbourhood planning, while providing significant and sustainable development opportunities.

STRATEGY 2: A BROADER RECOGNITION OF HERITAGE

Identify, evaluate, manage and interpret significant historical resources that illustrate the broad range of St. Albert's heritage values.

STRATEGY 3: NEIGHBOURHOOD HERITAGE

Plan for the sustainable development of historic neighbourhoods.

Please note that a number of the following Actions support the recommendations of the Cultural Master Plan, including Allocated Heritage Maintenance Funds (Recommendation 14) and Greater Public Access to Musée Heritage (Recommendation 15).



STRATEGY 1: ENHANCED HERITAGE PROGRAM

Develop an enhanced City of St. Albert Heritage Policy and Program framework that links to broader civic goals of sustainability, economic development and neighbourhood planning, while providing significant and sustainable development opportunities.

ACTIONS:

INTEGRATION WITH MUNICIPAL PLANNING and other City departments

- Continue to integrate, over time, heritage initiatives with broader civic goals of economic development, sustainability and community planning.
- Ensure fairness, clarity and certainty throughout an open public process of reviewing and protecting heritage sites.

CIVIC HERITAGE RESOURCE MANAGEMENT

- Develop an enhanced stewardship policy for City-owned heritage resources, including conservation and maintenance plans for individual resources.

HERITAGE PROGRAM MANAGEMENT

- Establish a comprehensive St. Albert Heritage Register, that would identify those sites considered to have heritage value. The St. Albert Heritage Register should include all sites that have been identified, evaluated and designated, and can include cultural landscapes.

HERITAGE CONSERVATION INCENTIVES

- Identify heritage sites that would be eligible for provincial conservation incentives.
- Provide conservation incentives for Municipal Historic Resources that are not eligible for provincial incentives.
- Establish a Heritage Reserve Fund of approximately \$50,000 per year that would receive an annual budget allocation, and could provide funding in the following areas. If not allocated in any one year, surplus funds could accumulate over time to allow for special projects.

- o Maintenance for municipally-owned heritage sites (approximately \$20,000 per year) to be allocated as required.
- o Heritage education and awareness initiatives (approximately \$15,000 per year) to be distributed based on community applications.
- o Conservation grants for Municipal Heritage Resources (approximately \$15,000 per year) available to private heritage building owners through a grant application process.

HERITAGE CONSERVATION OUTCOMES

- Adopt the *Standards and Guidelines for the Conservation of Historic Places in Canada* as the basis for heritage project review and the granting of heritage incentives.
- Provide City staff with training in the application of heritage Standards and Guidelines.



STRATEGY 2: A BROADER RECOGNITION OF HERITAGE

Identify, evaluate, manage and interpret significant historical resources that illustrate the broad range of St. Albert's heritage values.

ACTIONS:

BROADER DEFINITION OF HERITAGE

- Identify, protect and celebrate a broad range of potential heritage resources (both tangible and intangible) to provide a full range of understanding of St. Albert's history.
- Evaluate additional sites identified on the *Places of Interest List*.
- Survey additional neighborhoods that have not yet been examined.
- Collaborate with partners to commemorate historic, natural and cultural sites through commemorative plaques and signs, on river trails and throughout the city.

HERITAGE EDUCATION AND AWARENESS

The City of St. Albert and the Musée Heritage Museum should continue to:

- Provide leadership in heritage communication that will raise the profile of heritage by broadly supporting community partners in the promotion of local history and heritage resources.
- Encourage collaborations between heritage organizations and schools to enhance the teaching of local history.
- Make historical information available through a variety of means to enhance public awareness and understanding of local history and heritage resources including cultural landscapes, First Nations, Francophone and Métis history.
- Preserve and interpret the River Lots as part of the implementation of the Heritage Sites Functional Plan (2009)



STRATEGY 3: NEIGHBOURHOOD HERITAGE

Plan for the sustainable development of historic neighbourhoods.

ACTIONS:

INTEGRATION WITH MUNICIPAL PLANNING

- Support enhanced conservation of neighbourhood heritage character through the Municipal Development Plan:
- The identity, character and heritage resources of the historic neighbourhoods should be identified, protected and commemorated.
- When developing plans for infill in existing neighbourhoods, build upon historic integrity and infrastructure, while adopting a flexible approach that allows appropriate infill and development.
- Support affordable housing policies through continued and adaptive re-use of existing housing stock.
- Enhance the range of conservation incentives for heritage homeowners over time.

Please comment as you view the panels using the provided sticky notes and/or fill in a comment sheet once you have reviewed the panels



NEXT STEPS

HERITAGE MANAGEMENT PLAN REPORT

Following the review of comments from this Open House, a final report will be prepared, including an Action Plan for Implementation.

CONTINUED COMMUNITY CONSULTATION

We will continue to seek community input on the recommendations of the Plan through targeted consultation and the online survey.

Please fill in your comments tonight or forward to the City, or fill in the online survey, prior to November 9th.

FINAL PRESENTATION TO COUNCIL

A presentation of the final Plan is scheduled for early in 2013.

Thank you for attending this Open House!

Please comment as you view the panels using the provided sticky notes and/or fill in a comment sheet once you have reviewed the panels