

HERITAGE WINNIPEG'S *Annual Report*



Incorporated
1978

EXCHANGE DISTRICT NATIONAL HISTORIC SITE



2025
2026

WWW.HERITAGEWINNIPEG.COM



Land Acknowledgment

Heritage Winnipeg acknowledges that the land on which we gather is Treaty 1 Territory, the traditional lands of the Anishinaabeg, Inninewak, Anishinewak, Dakota Oyate and Denesuline, and the National Homeland of the Red River Métis.

Our Mission

To promote and encourage the conservation of historic and heritage structures and sites, and attend to those matters which enhance and complement this purpose. Emphasis will be on restoration, revitalization, preservation, education and advocacy, in order to augment the cultural inheritance of the community, with consideration for pertinent logistics and feasibility.

President's Message

Hello Heritage friends and members. As usual, this year has been a busy one. Many projects to take care of and support or fight against. That keeps us on our toes! As you may be aware, Heritage Winnipeg manages the old Bank of Commerce building on Main Street between Lombard and McDermot, called the Millennium Centre. It has held many events there during this year. Weddings, conventions, graduations, fund-raisers, heritage awards, and movies! In January we had four productions filmed in the Millennium Centre - *Nobody 2*, *Violent Night 2*, *Shortwave* with John Hamm, and *Coppermine*. It was exciting to have filming in our building, keeping it alive!

Now for the bad news. In early January the city had a water main break on McDermot Avenue, just two buildings away from the Millennium. It caused 100,000 gallons of water to flood our sub basement and knock out our boiler. We had a function going on in the building at the time, and more events scheduled. Needless to say it was a scramble for the rest of the month.

We had to get heat in the building immediately. Our only saving grace was the temperature was a bit mild and not freezing, as January usually is. But that did not take away from the disaster. It took six days of 24/7 pumping to remove the water, then another 24 hours to pump out the mud. At the same time temporary heaters were put in all over the building to protect the water lines and give us heat for our events. Next project was to repair or replace the boiler. Repair was chosen and is still ongoing. It is close to being back online, and hopefully we will be back to normal for this winter.

This was a huge catastrophe for Heritage Winnipeg, you can just imagine the very high stress levels for the next two to three months. I myself was there from 7:00 am to 11:00 pm for over three weeks. Cindy was taking care of the needs we had to put together with the insurance company and the different businesses doing the cleanup and repair work. I think we both aged ten years in that one month. A big thank you to all the contractors involved that worked so hard to help us, and still are working to get us back to "normal".

This did not deter us from our obligations that Heritage Winnipeg requires. We still kept up with our support work and needs of the communities and our work with the city and others.

We thank all of you, members and supporters of Heritage Winnipeg. You mean a lot to us, and we are dedicated to continuing doing our job for you, and our mandate.

Last thing. Don't forget to get your copy of volume two of *Stories Our Buildings Tell*. Robert Sweeney and I worked for two years to give you more glimpses of our wonderful history of our City, that you should be so proud of being a part of. If you are here, then learn about the stories behind where you now live. See where we came from, how we grew into what we are today. Our past is the most exciting story you'll read in a long, long time.

Be safe. Be good. Be kind.



Greg Agnew



GREG AGNEW

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APPOINTED BY THE CITY OF WINNIPEG NOVEMBER 2025

Councillor Shawn Dobson

Heritage Winnipeg Team

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Cindy Tugwell

HERITAGE OFFICER

Cheryl Mann

YOUNG CANADA WORKS IN HERITAGE ORGANIZATIONS STUDENT

Jonna Lumarque

Financial Highlights

In 2025-2026, the Province of Manitoba contributed \$22,300 to Heritage Winnipeg, and our operational grant from the City of Winnipeg was \$40,000. Thank you for your support!

Heritage Winnipeg would also like to thank The Winnipeg Foundation for their much needed financial support. To view our complete audited financial statements, please contact the Heritage Winnipeg office.



Thank You!

Thank you to everyone who contributed their time, talents and funds to Heritage Winnipeg! Our dedicated membership plays a vital role in sustaining our organization with their ongoing support along with our generous donors, including those who participated in our 2025 December Donation Drive.

Complimentary partner organizations also provided invaluable assistance throughout the year, as do all our selfless volunteers. It is with your support that Heritage Winnipeg's important work can continue!

Charity Registration # 11895 6572 RR0001



Community Engagement

We strive to share our passion for built heritage conservation through presentations, tours, blogs, projects, television, social media, partnerships, our resource centre and more. It is important for us to build trust, nurture future heritage advocates and ensure our goals are aligned with the community's needs.

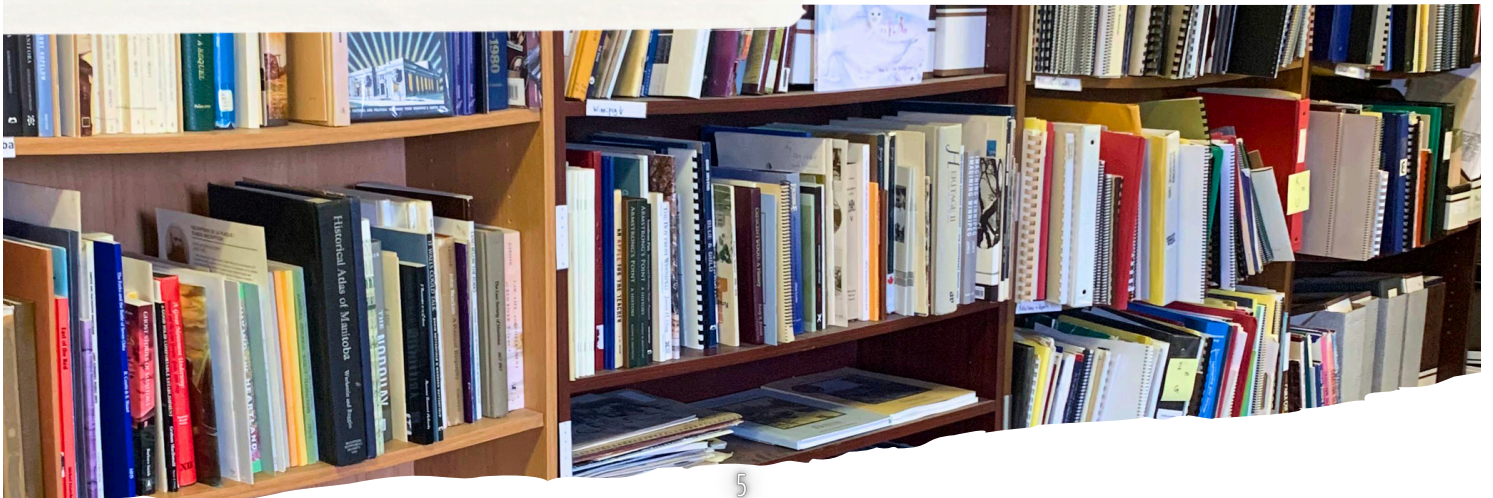


WALKING TOUR OF DOWNTOWN WINNIPEG

Shared Success

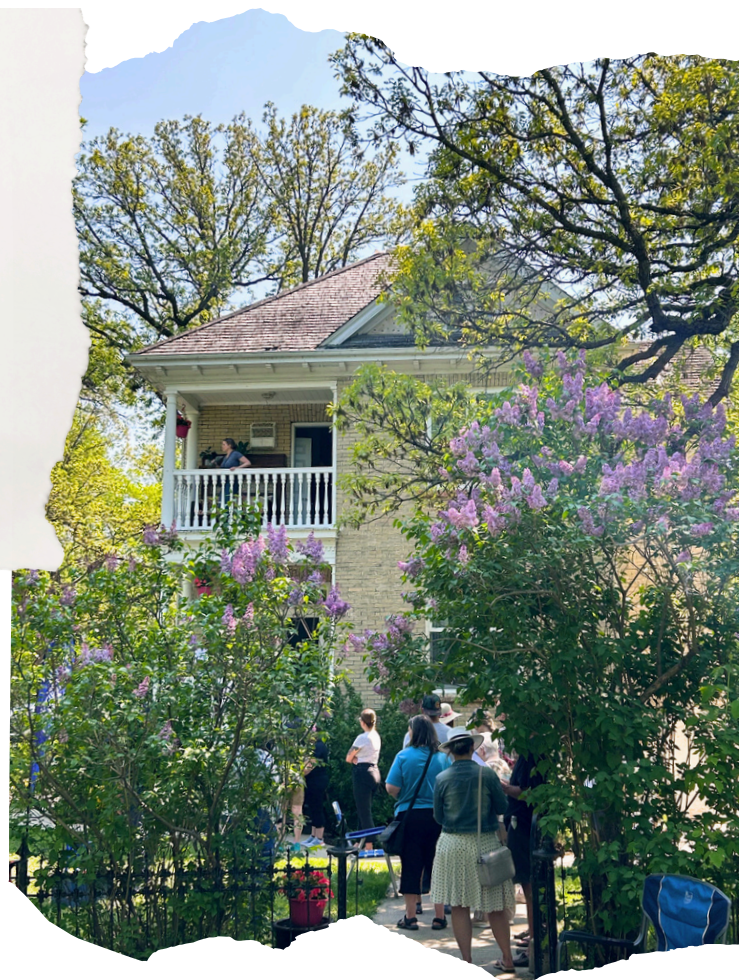
We collaborate with community stakeholders; providing our facilities, materials, knowledge, and support to help their heritage causes.

HERITAGE WINNIPEG'S RESOURCE CENTRE



Doors Open Winnipeg 2025

A great time was had by all at Doors Open Winnipeg 2025 on May 24th and 25th. In our 22nd year the weather was fabulous, events were exciting, attendance numbers were up and the feedback was positive. Enthusiastic volunteers once again outdid themselves welcoming the public, helping make this free community event possible!

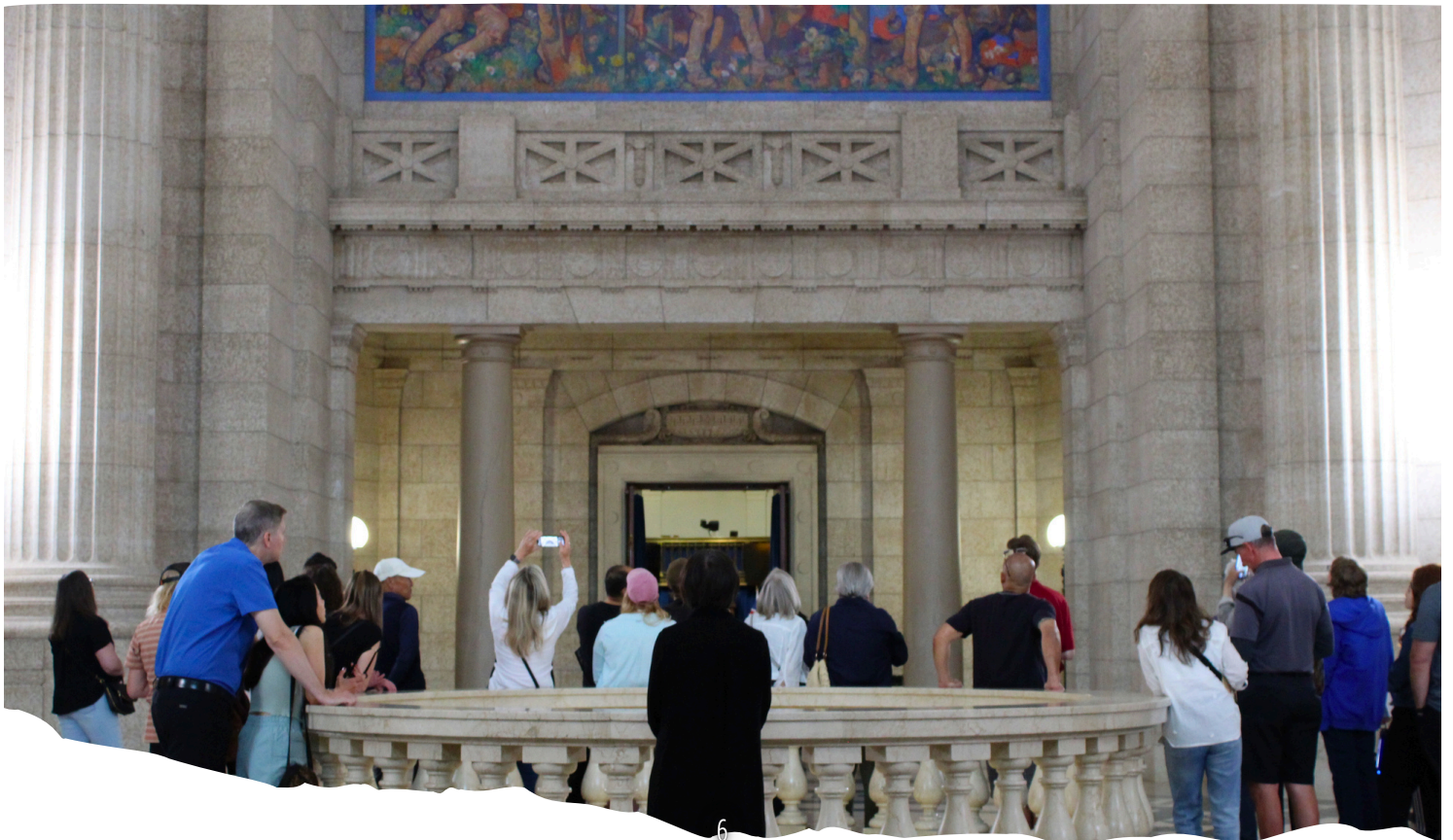


CARON HOUSE

AGOWIWINAN CENTRE



MANITOBA LEGISLATIVE BUILDING



Doors Open Winnipeg 2025

With new buildings, events, and tours – along with returning favourites, Doors Open Winnipeg 2025 had something enjoyable for everyone! It was a weekend dedicated to exploring and celebrating built heritage treasures, cultural institutions, and historic streetscapes throughout our great city and beyond. Hard-working hosts were ready to share the story of Winnipeg's residents and buildings, bringing history to life in new and engaging ways.

The scavenger hunt was back for the fifth year, with kids spotting the Golden Boy all across the city. Fun selfies of guests having a great time during the weekend were posted to enter the social media contest, and great local prize packs were won. Guests also voted in the 15th annual People's Choice Awards, with the Canadian Forces Base Winnipeg, A Portal to Ukrainian Culture, and Now & Then: Scotia's Fight Against the 1950 Flood, chosen as the winners.

This year was especially thrilling as we joined in celebrating the Canadian Forces Base Winnipeg's 100th anniversary! It was a grand event the scale of which Doors Open Winnipeg had never seen before. There were indoor and outdoor events with activities for the whole family, including bus tours, flypasts, RCAF band performances, and more!

Doors Open Winnipeg is truly one of the premiere, cannot-miss annual spring events in the city, with all the positive feedback we received in agreement. Inviting guests behind the facades of our historic buildings to meet the people who inhabit them and to learn about the history also plays an important role in inspiring the public to support the heritage movement. We are grateful to all the guest who came out.

What a wonderful weekend of celebrating the stories our buildings tell!

Thank You!

Heritage Winnipeg would like to give a sincere thank you to all the generous volunteers, hosts, and sponsors of Doors Open Winnipeg 2025. It is only with their contributions that this FREE event is possible!

We would also like to say a special thank you to Heritage Winnipeg's President, Greg Agnew, for his endless dedication to volunteering for this event!

MARBLE SPONSORS



TYNDALL STONE SPONSORS



GRANITE SPONSORS



TERRA COTTA SPONSORS

ALPHA MASONRY



SUPPORTER SPONSORS



Event Highlights

39TH ANNUAL PRESERVATION AWARDS

Heritage Winnipeg's 39th Annual Preservation Awards were held on April 10th, 2025, in the 1903 Gregg Building at 52 Albert Street. Ten awards were handed out to the exceptional people, organizations and businesses who went above and beyond in the conservation and restoration of Winnipeg's built heritage. Thank you to all the nominees and award winners for your dedication to the conservation of Winnipeg's built heritage! Also to the event sponsors and to all the members of our 2025 Judging Committee!

MANITOBA DAY

Heritage Winnipeg celebrated Manitoba Day on May 12th, 2025 with our FREE printable kids activity booklet, including colouring sheets by talented local artist Robert Sweeney. From our 100,000 lakes and waterways, biodiversity, numerous cultural and musical festivals, to our beautiful built heritage and rich history, there are so many reasons to celebrate our magnificent province!

RED RIVER HERITAGE FAIR

Heritage Winnipeg participated the Red River Heritage Fair on May 1st, 2025 at the University of Winnipeg's Duckworth Centre. It was a celebration of history, cultural diversity, new perspectives, and exciting connections between the past and present. Heritage Winnipeg sponsored three awards, the Heritage Winnipeg Awards, recognizing worthy projects related to Winnipeg's built heritage. Thank you to Heritage Winnipeg's President, Greg Agnew, who volunteered as a judge and presented the awards. Congratulations to our deserving winners!

2025 FALL FUNDRAISER

On October 3rd, 2025, Heritage Winnipeg's hosted out Fall Fundraiser, *Magician & The Muse*, in the historic Millennium Centre at 389 Main Street. The evening was full of dazzling illusions, starting with talented Magician Terry Greenwood performing astonishing tricks up close. First on the stage was a special opening act by mind-bending Illusionist Sean Fields, followed by the stars of the night, International Illusionist Sean Watson and Métis Magician Chanelle Munroe. The crowd was positively bewitched by their world-class magic! Heritage Winnipeg would like to sincerely thank everyone who contributed to making this event such a great success. From the sponsors and fundraising committee, to the volunteers and guests, we could not have hosted such a fantastic event without our heritage supporters!

DOORS OPEN WINNIPEG 2026

A great time was had by all at this year's Doors Open Winnipeg on May 30th and 31st. In our 23rd year of celebrating the stories our building tell, the sun was shining, events were exciting and the feedback was positive. We would like to give a sincere thank you to all the visitors, volunteers, hosts, and sponsors that helped make this FREE event possible. See you next year on May 29th and 30th, 2027!



ANNUAL PRESERVATION AWARDS

Upper Fort Garry



Did You Know?

Upper Fort Garry was a trading post used by the Hudson's Bay Company from 1822-1869.

Most of the Fort was demolished in the 1880s, leaving only a stone gate behind. Can you find it in the picture?



ANNUAL PRESERVATION AWARDS

DOORS OPEN WINNIPEG



FALL FUNDRAISER



Event Highlights

Heritage Winnipeg's goal is to showcase Winnipeg's spectacular built heritage in innovative ways that captivate the public's imagination while partnering with like minded organizations that work to promote vibrant communities. Thank you to everyone who supported our events!



MILLENNIUM CENTRE

Project Updates

Heritage Winnipeg continues to pursue our long term projects, remaining committed to ensuring all types of heritage are conserved and celebrated.



UNION STATION



STREETCAR 356

WINNIPEG: STORIES OUR BUILDINGS TELL



Project Updates

MILLENNIUM CENTRE

Heritage Winnipeg continued full time management of the 1912 former Bank of Commerce building at 389 Main Street, working hard to conserve it and allow it to keep serving its community. Weddings, films, fundraisers, and all kinds of public and private events have used the building's elegant spaces throughout the year. We take our role as stewards of this building very seriously, working tirelessly to ensure its past, present, and future are all well cared for.

As we persist in our goal to redevelop the building in its entirety, restoration of the hardwood flooring on the mezzanine level was completed. Thank you to the Thomas Sill Foundation, the Province of Manitoba Heritage Grants Program and the City of Winnipeg's Gail Parvin Hammerquist Fund for helping make this project possible.

We would also like to thank Central Maintenance Hardwood Flooring for the amazing job they did on the floors of the mezzanine and as well as the Tapestry Room. Extra revenue from some of movies filmed in the building allowed for a fresh protective coating on the hardwood floor in the Tapestry Room and new, exceptionally good-looking floors in both washrooms, thanks to Concrete Restoration Services.

Sadly, on January 6th, 2026, a water main break caused about four feet of water to flood the subbasement. It took several days to pump out, fortunately not damaging any of the building's character-defining features. Forced air gas heating in the main banking hall kept the building from freezing as the steam boilers were partially underwater. Heritage Winnipeg has been hard at work rectifying this terrible situation with our insurance company and tradespeople, who are mitigating damage and starting repairs. We anticipate it will take many months to resolve all the issues caused by the flooding, and will continue our restoration efforts until this important heritage building is in good working order once again.

STREETCAR 356

The rehabilitation of Streetcar 356, Winnipeg's last known wooden streetcar, had been moving very slowly since the closure of the Winnipeg Railway Museum, its home, in December 2021 due to code issues. The streetcar is now sitting on boxcar wheels while it waits for restoration activities to begin again. A huge thank you to everyone who has persevered with this project though all the delays!

Meanwhile, there has been progress at the museum, located in the 1911 Union Station at 123 Main Street. New skylights were installed throughout the building's former smokestack channels and new windows were installed along Track 1. Further work depends on funding and approval from Parks Canada, resulting in no set reopening date for the museum.

WINNIPEG: STORIES OUR BUILDINGS TELL

Heritage Winnipeg successfully launched our newest book, *Winnipeg: Stories Our Buildings Tell Volume 2* on February 6th and 7th, 2026. A follow-up to the best seller we released in 2024, this book will have stunning new artwork and 120 additional stories that are sure to invoke happy memories and warm feelings of nostalgia. Created by Heritage Winnipeg President and historian Greg Agnew along with local artist Robert Sweeney, the book is available through Indigo - Chapters bookstores and on the Heritage Winnipeg website. We are thrilled with the positive reception the book has received and greatly appreciate everyone's support of Winnipeg's built heritage. Special thanks to the family of Brett Ozero for helping make this book possible!



MILLENNIUM CENTRE

Advocacy Updates

291 BANNATYNE AVENUE

On June 11th, 2025, the City of Winnipeg Standing Policy Committee rejected all appeals and voted unanimously to move forward with the 291 Bannatyne Avenue project. It involves the adaptive reuse of the 1890 Sanford Building (109 Princess Street) and the 1907 Maw's Garage (111 Princess Street), with two nine-storey additions creating 144 residential units. Heritage Winnipeg worked with the developer and the residents of the Exchange District to ensure this is a historically sensitive project that respects the existing community.

BLEAK HOUSE

The City of Winnipeg completed phase one of the capital renewal project at the 1874 Bleak House at 1637 Main Street in November 2025. New insulation, sheeting and siding was installed, resolving imminent safety concerns. Once the scope of phase two has been refined, funding and approvals can be secured, and a timeline confirmed. Heritage Winnipeg will continue to track the progress of this project to ensure the City of Winnipeg is maintaining our community's important heritage.

CARNEGIE LIBRARY

On July 17th, 2025, City Council approved increasing the budget for the conservation of the 1905 Carnegie Library at 380 William Avenue by \$3.5 million to cover rising market costs. Vacant since it was damaged during renovations in 2013, the building is the home of the City of Winnipeg Archives, which have been languishing in an inadequate warehouse facility. Renovation work on the building finally resumed in fall 2025.

CENTREVENTURE

CentreVenture unveiled its Strategic Plan on January 27th, 2026, outlining a vision for doubling the population of Winnipeg's downtown by 2050, to help create a vibrant, thriving neighbourhood. Adaptively reusing heritage buildings for residential development is an important part of the plan, which CentreVenture's new Heritage Conversion Program is set to facilitate, starting with four heritage buildings.

CHOCOLATIER CONSTANCE POPP

On September 22nd, 2025 the City of Winnipeg Standing Policy Committee on Property and Development denied an appeal, leaving Chocolatier Constance Popp responsible for covering the cost of reinforcing their roof, which could be over \$100,000. Located at 180 Provencher Boulevard, the building was declared unsafe due to concerns that the 100+ year old roof will not be able to support the increased snow load caused by construction of a four-storey building next door at 174 Provencher Boulevard.

DE LAVAL WAREHOUSE

On April 16th, 2025 the City of Winnipeg Standing Policy Committee on Property and Development dismissed an appeal that sought to stop a variance for the project at 120-128 James Avenue. The project will now move forward, adding four storeys to the 1912 De Laval Warehouse at 128 James Avenue and a new 10-storey building will be constructed next door, creating 87 new residential units.

GRANITE CURLING CLUB

On November 7th, 2025, the Manitoba Municipal Board released its report on the plans for a 111-unit, mixed-income housing project located in the west parking lot of the city-owned 1913 Granite Curling Club building at 22 Granite Way. The Granite Curling Club was concerned that the loss of parking space would negatively impact the non-profit club's sustainability. City Council rejected the report's directive to work with the club to develop an adequate parking plan that satisfies both parties before issuing a development permit. The club has now asked the Court of King's Bench to review the case.

GINGERBREAD CITY HALL CLOCK

In March 2025, True North Real Estate Development reached out to Heritage Winnipeg regarding the relocating the historic clock once located in Portage Place Shopping Centre's Edmonton Court. It was the city's first public clock, installed atop Winnipeg's Gingerbread City Hall in 1903. Heritage Winnipeg is working to ensure the clock is respectfully removed and carefully stored until it can be erected somewhere else, hopefully indoors near Winnipeg's current city hall.



GINGER BREAD CITY HALL CLOCK

Advocacy Updates

Heritage Winnipeg speaks on behalf historic buildings in crisis, provides resources and support for building owners, government, media and the public, and collaborates with like minded organizations.



BLEAK HOUSE



MAW'S GARAGE

ROXY THEATRE



PECK BUILDING



DELORME HOUSE

KENNEDY HOUSE



Advocacy Updates

Heritage Winnipeg believes that protecting our community's built heritage fosters healthy, unique, dynamic, environmentally friendly and fiscally viable neighbourhoods that we can all be proud to call home for generations to come!

Advocacy Updates

HENDERSON HOUSE & DELORME HOUSE

Both built in the mid-19th century, Henderson House and Delorme House were moved to St. Norbert Provincial Heritage Park over 40 years ago to save the community's heritage. But left unmaintained for decades, the weather is wearing away at the historic homes, leading to their inevitable destruction if no intervention is made soon. Sadly, it does not seem that any effort will be made by the Province of Manitoba to save the buildings.

KENNEDY HOUSE

Restoration work at Kennedy House in St. Andrews continues, set back by asbestos abatement. The building has been undergoing critical structural and conservation work by the Province of Manitoba since December 2021. The Kennedy House Renewal Committee hopes that if a teahouse reopens in the home, the business can help subsidize Métis art, culture, and heritage programming in the remaining space.

LEMAY FOREST

On April 14th, 2025, Premier Wab Kinew announced the Province of Manitoba's plans to expropriate the Lemay Forest and conserve it as a provincial park. The roughly 18-hectare St. Norbert property is a sensitive natural and cultural heritage area, likely containing mass graves from the Asile Ritchot Cemetery. On April 16th, 2025, the Manitoba Municipal Board upheld the City of Winnipeg's decision to reject the developer's plan for the property, and pausing the deforestation until there is more clarity on the future of the Lemay Forest.

MARKET LANDS

On July 14th, 2025, City Council approved construction of a 168 foot residential tower as part of phase two of the Market Lands project, on the site of the former 1966 Public Safety Building at 151 Princess Street. While the property is surrounded by built heritage, it is not technically in the Exchange District National Historic Site, and therefore not restricted by the area's 100 foot building height limit.

MARLBOROUGH HOTEL

On March 5th, 2026, City of Winnipeg Mayor Scott Gillingham announced plans to adaptively reuse the historic 1914 Marlborough Hotel at 331 Smith Street as housing. The new \$48-million redevelopment plan includes retail spaces, the restoration of the sky-view banquet hall, and 307 units of housing. Led by CentreVenture, the building owner will be involved, with plans to preserve the historic character. On March 26th, 2026, City Council approved a \$5-million grant from the Housing Accelerator Fund for the project.

PECK BUILDING

On October 8th, 2025, the National Trust for Canada released its 2025 Endangered Places List, intended to bring attention to challenging heritage sites and support the communities trying to save them. This year the list includes the Peck Building at 33 Princess Street, nominated by Heritage Winnipeg. Although the building is protected from demolition by a municipal heritage designation, there are serious concerns about its future as it has been vacant for years, with seemingly no plans for its conservation, putting it in danger of neglect.

ROXY THEATRE

In the final week of January 2026, demolition of 1929 Roxy Theatre at 385 Henderson Highway began. The building was adaptively reused as Roxy Lanes in the 1960s and later sold to the Manitoba Métis Federation in April 2022, who plan to construct a new six storey affordable housing complex for seniors. It is unclear if any of the historical elements, signage, or artifacts from the building were saved.

SEVEN OAKS HOUSE

On October 22nd, 2025 the 1853 Seven Oaks House at 50 Mac Street was announced as a National Historic Site. As the oldest home standing in Winnipeg, its historical significance is now recognized by all three levels of government. The house operates as a museum, educating the public while conserving the homestead site and related artifacts, showing what life would have been like during the 19th century.



MILLENNIUM CENTRE

Heritage Winnipeg

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Heritage Winnipeg is funded in part by the City of Winnipeg and the Province of Manitoba.



Upcoming Events

Heritage Winnipeg's 2026 Fall Fundraiser
October 1st, 2026
heritagewinnipeg.com/2026-fall-fundraiser

41st Annual Preservation Awards
Call for nominations!
heritagewinnipeg.com/apa-nominate

Doors Open Winnipeg
May 29th & 30th, 2027
doorsopenwinnipeg.ca