EPC Special Meeting, December 8, 2016
2017 Annual Operations funding support request to the City of Winnipeg from
HERITAGE WINNIPEG CORPORATION

Heritage Winnipeg is a non-profit, charitable organization that was created by the City of Winnipeg, the Province of Manitoba and the Heritage Canada Foundation in 1978. Heritage Winnipeg promotes the conservation of our city's built heritage.

For thirty-nine years our organization has acted as an advocate, educator and facilitator to all levels of government, the private sector, leaders of community organizations, professionals in the heritage, arts and cultural sector, teachers, students, researchers, writers, and the public at large. We collaborate and partner on many heritage projects, and special events.

Heritage Winnipeg acts as catalyst to promote the many benefits to our city's rich heritage, arts, and culture. The city benefits both economically and socially with good heritage conservation practices of our built heritage resources, and contributing to the revitalization of our city, downtown and Exchange District, a national historic site.

We coordinate and/or facilitate annually in the Heritage Fairs, and celebrate Manitoba Day. We educate students, teachers, professionals, and community organizations with presentations, workshops, tours and committee involvement. We collaborate with many community organizations, building owners, developers and various stakeholders by lending support and resources both short and long term that will benefit the community.

Heritage Winnipeg has been instrumental in advocating protection and maintenance of the city's built heritage by facilitating the highly successful Doors Open Winnipeg. For thirteen years this event has been significant in educating about our history through our built heritage, and celebrating the stories our buildings tell. It promotes community awareness, & civic pride, generating economic and social growth. The event continues to grow each year and includes the involvement of over 500 volunteers annually and with over 300,000 site visits to date.

Heritage Winnipeg plays an important role by working with building owners, developers, contractors, architects, consultants, government, business owners, and community leaders of non-profit organizations to encourage, facilitate, educate and advocate long-term investment and re-development with our city's built, natural and cultural heritage.

We act as a catalyst by participating on many local organizational Boards and we help support many non-profit organizations such as the Millennium Centre, the Friends of Upper Fort Garry, Friends of the Vaughan Street Jail, and Friends of Dalnavert Museum.

Heritage Winnipeg facilitates and participates in a wide range of free community events, and since 1985 presented the annual Preservation Awards. In 2016 we completed a digitized First World War Digital Memorial project showcased at the former Union Station on Main Street and on display until November 2018.

We work with hundreds of volunteers throughout the year and provide valuable employment and work experience. We participate in student programs such the YCW in heritage institutions summer program, RRC CreComm work placement program, and the Winnipeg Foundation's student and youth internship program. We continue to put a lot of resources in social media, including our Website, Twitter, Instagram, Facebook and our Heritage Blog. With an objective to interest and immerse our youth about the value and benefits of heritage conservation through technology and digitization.

Heritage Winnipeg works with the City of Winnipeg regularly and more specifically with the Planning, Property and Development Department with respect to recommendations on heritage policies, our shards project, city planning, secondary plans, studies, workshops, the historic conservation district study, heritage bylaws, designations, and enforcements.

Heritage Winnipeg holds several fundraising events throughout the year in order raise necessary revenue to help sustain our organization. We currently only have one full time staff, an Executive Director. The demand on our resources continues to grow at a capacity we cannot continue to sustain. It has been very difficult to move forward with our future ambitions of working on and supporting many diverse heritage projects in the coming year.

Involvement is ongoing and includes the Mayor's Task Force on sustainability in the arts, culture, and heritage sectors, and recommendations for best practices regarding the City of Winnipeg Museum's future structure. We provided protection and re-development support for the MacDonald and Fortune Block, Milner House, McBeth House, St. Vital Museum, City of Winnipeg Archives, Winnipeg Railway Museum, and James Avenue Pumping Station.

Respectfully it is necessary for Heritage Winnipeg to make a request to the City of Winnipeg, as a committed heritage supporter to provide $70,000 for our annual operating support in 2017. This will help support our organization so we continue to play a very valuable and necessary role therefore contributing to the quality of life in the City of Winnipeg for future generations.

Submitted By:
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