February 12, 2024

Dear members of the Executive Policy Committee:

I'm writing in support of Heritage Winnipeg's request for an increase in funding.

Heritage Winnipeg has been instrumental in bringing awareness to our city's history, advocating for the preservation and repurposing of built heritage, and keeping Winnipeggers informed on current issues surrounding historical buildings, interactive tours, and other events with relevance to the history of the city.

Doors Open Winnipeg, hosted by Heritage Winnipeg annually, is a unique, free event that puts together a host of museums, buildings, and areas that can be toured in order further the understanding of Winnipeg's history. No other organization in the city devotes the amount of effort and coordination to a single historical event that Heritage Winnipeg does.

The Millenium Centre, which Heritage Winnipeg maintains, is a 114 year-old building that requires a significant amount of maintenance to keep operational. Heritage Winnipeg needs monetary support in order to keep the building up to the standards of over a century later. The prices for materials and labour continue to rise, yet Heritage Winnipeg's budget continues to stagnate.

With the 150th anniversary of Winnipeg's incorporation, now, more than ever, organizations like Heritage Winnipeg need to be supported by the City of Winnipeg. It's in part because of them and the work they do that we can look back and get an accurate portrayal of the last century and a half. And I have no doubt that allowing them to continue, through necessary increases in funding, will ensure that history is accurately portrayed a century and a half from now.



Kenneth Ingram
President, North West Winnipeg Historical Society