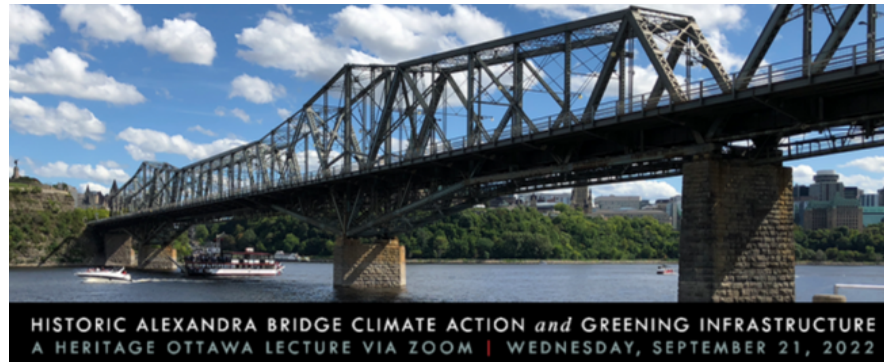




ANNUAL REPORT

2022-2023





VISION

Heritage Ottawa envisions a city that values its heritage resources, integrates them into all planning decisions and ensures their contribution to Ottawa's liveability. We see a future where investment in the conservation of heritage buildings, historic neighbourhoods, cultural landscapes and other places that matter to communities is embraced as the smart cultural and sustainable choice for the city.

MISSION

Heritage Ottawa is an award-winning, volunteer driven, not-for-profit organization that champions the protection and stewardship of Ottawa's built heritage and cultural places, celebrating their value in enriching our shared environment.

Heritage Ottawa is a Registered Charity and the largest organization in Ottawa devoted exclusively to this cause.

A word from the president

I am delighted to present the Heritage Ottawa Annual Report for 2022-2023 where we have highlighted some of the organizations many accomplishments.

Those of you who attended our members'-only lecture event at the Orange Gallery in June 2022 may remember that I reported Heritage Ottawa has had a good pandemic. I stand by those words. In the last couple of years, Heritage Ottawa has gone through a sort of Renaissance, forced to change ways of doing things because of COVID. This has emboldened us to think differently about how we advocate for, celebrate, and raise awareness of our rich built heritage in Ottawa.



We have had a very busy and productive year, thanks to our volunteer board members and to our other dedicated volunteers. Most importantly, though, it is thanks to our members, our generous sponsors and donors, and our partners that we have had the impetus to keep doing what we have striven to do in the past – to work tirelessly to save and highlight the wonderful heritage places we hold dear in Ottawa. Our nearly 600 members have shown exceptional support for the critical work of the organization through participation in our programs, membership renewals, donations, volunteerism, and participation in last June's member survey. Finally, I want to thank Jennifer Fink. Jen is our Administrative Officer and our only paid employee. She is key to our team.

Among our accomplishments this year is the greatest reach we have had to date with our programming, particularly through our lecture series, our walking tours and our communications tools. In all cases we took the measures we had implemented because of the pandemic and made them standard practice. The board itself has adopted a hybrid meeting cycle. We are greatly honoured that our efforts to continue operating during the pandemic with these initiatives were recognized by the City of Ottawa and Mayor Sutcliffe with the presentation to Heritage Ottawa of the 2023 Heritage Day Proclamation.

On behalf of the board of Heritage Ottawa I want to thank you for your ongoing support.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Katherine Spencer-Ross', on a light-colored background.

Katherine Spencer-Ross
President

SAVING PLACES

Members of the Advocacy Committee donated nearly 1,500 hours of their time researching and responding to a record number of advocacy matters.

- 30 written and oral submissions to the City of Ottawa's **Built Heritage Committee** on applications under the *Ontario Heritage Act* and on *Official Plan*, Site Plan Control and Zoning By-law amendments. This work also involved pre-planning meetings with community groups and heritage representatives, and occasionally with developers.
- 20 local community consultations or town halls on properties such as **St Brigid's Centre for the Arts**, **Lansdowne 2.0**, and the **New Ottawa Hospital**.
- Numerous meetings and interventions on the worrisome provincial **Bills 23, 108 and 109** that erode the protection of built heritage under the OHA, compromise municipal councils' ability to develop planning and rezoning strategies, and end third party appeals to tribunals by community groups, eliminating their ability to challenge heritage, planning and re-zoning decisions.
- Consultations, interventions and ongoing monitoring of federal properties such as **Tunney's Pasture**, **Alexandra Bridge**, **Central Experimental Farm**, **Heron Road**, **Wellington Street**, and **Block 2 of the Parliamentary Precinct**.
- A new video created to help raise awareness about the need for protective legislation to prevent further encroachment on the Central Experimental Farm.
- A series of bilingual questions developed for candidates in advance of the **Municipal Election** with a focus on protection and investment in Ottawa's heritage assets, picked up by Capital Heritage Connexion and the media.



- Responded to numerous requests for interviews pertaining to local heritage-related issues and government neglect related to the deteriorated condition and future of **24 Sussex Drive**.
- Collaborated with heritage organizations to study and recommend amendments to the draft of **Federal Bill C-23**, the long awaited *Historic Places of Canada Act*.

STAYING CONNECTED

Heritage Ottawa was grateful to receive the **2023 Heritage Day Proclamation** from Mayor Sutcliffe in recognition of our steadfast advocacy efforts and keeping the public connected with in-person and virtual events, despite the challenges of the pandemic. What an honour!

WEBSITE

- Heritage Ottawa continued to maintain an engaging bilingual website essential to our outreach activities. Sections with heritage news, activities, programs, events and resources are regularly updated with new content, which is promoted via E-Bulletins and social media.
- Continued use of online registration/payment function that improved efficiencies significantly.
- Total number of website visits: 79,637
- Visit heritageottawa.org | patrimoineottawa.org

E-COMMUNICATIONS

- 33 E-Bulletins, E-Messages and Media Releases (via MailChimp) covering heritage-related news and activities were sent out that received over 25 requests for media interviews.
- Facebook & Twitter: 9,538 followers with an organic post reach of 164,775.
- YouTube: Lectures, CEF video, and more, uploaded for a total of 2,064 views.
- Partnership with the University of Ottawa Community Engagement Team to develop a student placement in support of social media strategy.

QUARTERLY NEWSLETTER

- 4 issues of the full-colour, 12-page Newsletter were produced and made available to members in hard copy and online.
- An extensive archive of back issues dating to 1974 is available to the public at heritageottawa.org/publications.
- For the first time, two sponsors were recruited to support the publication, **Everest Restoration** and **Perfect Books**.



RAISING AWARENESS

WALKING TOURS

- Heritage Ottawa delivered another successful season of 12 walking tours of which one was in French and six were sold out.
- Continued to use the popular online registration/payment system put in place to meet COVID challenges.
- Along with old favourites and refreshed tours, two new tours were offered: *Monuments*, *National Belonging*, *Contested Memories* and *Around the World in Sandy Hill*.
- 494 people registered for the tours.

LECTURE SERIES

- Heritage Ottawa presented 10 free lectures, including one as part of the Annual General Meeting 2022.
- Lecture topics covered a range of subjects including new conservation tools, systemic challenges, heritage landscapes and "Emerging Scholars" student presentations.
- The online format has increased participation significantly with 743 participants plus 1,004 YouTube views, for a total of 1,747 views.

PARTNERSHIPS

- Heritage Ottawa supported and participated in Heritage Day, Doors Open Ottawa, Jane's Walks, and Ottawa Regional Heritage Fair.
- After a two-year hiatus due to COVID, Heritage Ottawa partnered with Ottawa Local Immigration Partnership (OLIP) to host a series of guided bilingual walks in Chinatown, the Byward Market, Vanier and Little Italy.
- A new partnership was created with the University of Ottawa Community Engagement Team to help strengthen Heritage Ottawa's social media strategy.
- Participation in the Mayor's Task Force on Heritage, the Ottawa Cultural Alliance, the Alexandra Bridge Coalition, Lowertown Leaders Table on the future of St. Brigid's, the university-led research partnership *Quality in Canada's Built Environment: Roadmaps to Equity, Social Value and Sustainability*.



ORGANIZATIONAL SUSTAINABILITY

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

- Refined and formalized a public recruitment process for the Board of Directors.
- 17-member board evenly split between men and women that includes representation from equity seeking communities, namely francophone, rural and youth with three young professionals.
- Supervised part-time Administrative Officer, Jennifer Fink.
- Committee struck to review and update By-laws.
- Developed a new three-year Strategic Plan, informed by an extensive member survey and supported by an Action Plan.
- 2022 online Annual General Meeting attracted 80 member participants.

MEMBERS AND DONORS

- Heritage Ottawa ended the fiscal year with 582 members, representing a 5.2% increase over the previous year.
- Three fundraising campaigns were undertaken that generated 200 donations from 160 donors.
- Donations from members and non-members increased by 46.2%, including donations from board members amounting to \$5,025.
- Three member/donor-only events were organized in recognition of their support.
- The Heritage Ottawa Endowment Fund was formally launched at the Ottawa Community Foundation.
- Successfully attracted two new sponsorships in support of Newsletter production.
- Transitioned to online banking and online bookkeeping to streamline and improve financial oversight.

FINANCIAL SUPPORT
GOVERNMENT PARTNERS



SPONSORS



Leadership Sponsor



Supporting Sponsors

VOLUNTEER RECOGNITION

The work of Heritage Ottawa would not be possible without the support of our dedicated volunteers. THANK YOU!

Board of Directors and Committee Members

Richard Belliveau, Paul Bennett, Barbara Bottriell, Gorana Botic, Maya Bugorski, Zeynep Ekim, Ian Ferguson, Linda Hoad, David Jeanes, Kate MacFarlane, Hunter McGill, Carolyn Quinn, Martin Rice, Katherine Spencer-Ross, Gilles Séguin, Allison Margot Smith, John Zvonar.

Committee and Working Group Non-board Members

Peter Coffman, Jay Baltz, François Bregha, Peter Coffman, David Flemming, Peter Holdsworth, Helga Jeanes, Danielle Jones, Stuart Lazear, John Leefe, Anne Maheux, Leslie Maitland, Robert Martin, Edouard Martin, Heather McArthur, Nicole Sammut, Sandy Smallwood.

Walking Tour Guides and Coordinators

Lynn Armstrong, Hugh Daechsel, Tonya Davidson, Hilary Duff, Mark Farine, Julie Harris, Elizabeth Heatherington, Linda Hoad, David Jeanes, Jemma Johnson, Kathy Krywicki, Nancy Miller Chenier, Jean Yves Pelletier, Neil Thompson.

Lecture Speakers

Mark Brandt, Peter Coffman, Marc Denhez, Julie Harris, Tyler Hodgkinson, Richard Hinchcliff, Jennifer Irwin, Patricia Jasen, Stephen Jarrett, Kyle Kreutner, Paul Lebrun, Greg MacPherson, Lauren Maloney, Avery Marshall, Heather McArthur, Ashley Mowry, Sharon Trac, Andrew Waldron.