



Historic places and heritage buildings are our connection to our sense of history, community and identity. Their historic character, richness, and variety of scale contribute to our environments and help link the present and the living past. A region can capitalize on its distinctive heritage assets by identifying, evaluating and protecting them in a manner that sensitively ensures that these valued historic places remain as treasures that can be enjoyed for generations to come.

### 1. CREATES PRIDE

Those who own historic properties whether as a homeowner or business owner, are often proud of their historic property and choose to protect it with ongoing maintenance. By doing this they understand that they are contributing to the protection of historic properties that contribute to the rich legacy of architectural fabric that speaks to the heritage values of our community.

### 2. IS ADAPTABLE AND SUSTAINABLE

Reusing our historic buildings is a form of recycling and prevents demolition and materials being transported to the landfill. Adapting buildings for new functions brings life to the street and contributes to environmental sustainability.

### 3. ADDRESSES ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

Utilizing our history and historic character, we can attract new investment and new development. The conservation and protection of our historic buildings can be a marketing tool to generate economic development and cultural sustainability in our downtown.

### 4. INCREASES TOURISM

Heritage conservation lures tourism, and it is one of the fastest growing areas of the tourism industry. Through the preservation and adaptation of our historic buildings, our built fabric can help us retain our history and create opportunities for historical, architectural, and cultural attractions.

### 5. PART OF URBAN DESIGN

Historic buildings contribute to our sense of time and place. They create a pedestrian scale environment with warm natural textures, and reflect the rich traditions of our community, our link to the events, people, activities, and architectural styles that helped define who we are today. Heritage preservation is environmentally friendly, pedestrian friendly, as well as age friendly.

### 6. CONTRIBUTES TO JOB CREATION

The rehabilitation of historic buildings can utilize local and regional skill, labour, services and materials. It can often require the craftsmanship of specialized trades which can lead to training and development in these specializations within the local job market.

### 7. STRENGTHENS THE TAX BASE

Municipalities strengthen their local tax base by retaining, enhancing, rehabilitating, conserving, and adapting existing historic buildings for new functions.

### 8. STABILIZES PROPERTY VALUES

Historic buildings are desirable places to live and work when the properties are well-maintained. Their property value remains stable and often are not as affected by value fluctuations due to the value of historic character such buildings contribute.

### 9. COMPENSATION/ACCESS TO FUNDING

At the request of the building owner, the municipality can protect the property by designating the historic building as a Municipal Historic Resource. The owner may have ongoing access, by way of an application, to provincial building conservation funding through the Alberta Historic Resources Foundation.

### 10. HERITAGE ADVICE AND GUIDANCE

If an owner of a heritage property is interested in conserving the historic building, the Municipality can provide advice to the building owner to maintain, preserve, or sympathetically develop their property in a manner that ensures the building is protected in the best interest of its character-defining elements.