Cape Breton Regional Municipality

Heritage Advisory Committee

AGENDA

Monday, November 2\textsuperscript{nd}, 2015
4:00 p.m.

2\textsuperscript{nd} Floor Boardroom, Suite 205
City Hall
320 Esplanade, Sydney, N. S.

Committee Members: Councillor Eldon MacDonald, Chair
Councillor Charlie Keagan
Councillor Mae Rowe
Ken MacDonald, Citizen Appointee – Vice Chair
Spyro Trifos, Citizen Appointee
Anne Dwyer, Citizen Appointee
Eleanor Anderson, Citizen Appointee
Norma Boyd, Citizen Appointee
Vanessa Childs-Rolls, Citizen Appointee
Matthew Cook, Citizen Appointee
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Roll Call

1. \textbf{Approval of Minutes:} June 23\textsuperscript{rd}, 2015 (previously distributed)

2. \textbf{Heritage Cape Breton Connection Request:} Vanessa Childs-Rolls, Citizen Appointee (See page 4)

3. \textbf{Future of the Heritage Advisory Committee - Discussion:} Committee (See page 7)

Adjournment
Heritage Advisory Committee

Heritage Cape Breton
Connection Request
Cape Breton Regional Municipality
320 Esplanade
Sydney, Nova Scotia
B1P 7B9

October 27, 2015

Attn: Rick McCready/Eldon MacDonald

Dear Mr. McCready,

The non-profit Heritage Cape Breton Connection is an umbrella group representing the majority of museums and heritage societies on Cape Breton Island. We have been in existence since 1984 (formerly called the ‘Iona Connection’) and have striven to support local history and heritage on the island. We liaise with government and other heritage organizations throughout the province and advocate for heritage issues raised by our membership.

Heritage Cape Breton Connection is served by a present volunteer Board of eleven members representing small community museums and historical societies across the island, as well as Parks Canada and the Nova Scotia Museum. All four counties in Cape Breton are represented on the Board as well. There are over 30 member organizations plus individuals and our organization is supported financially by current membership fees which range from $25-$100 per year. We hold two large member meetings each year—one in the spring which includes our AGM and one in the fall where members come together to share their accomplishments, challenges and concerns. Our Board has also successfully applied for and received a number of project grants through the Department of Communities, Culture and Heritage to carry out initiatives of benefit to the whole Cape Breton heritage community such as the ‘Voices of Heritage’ video series and a re-branding and marketing.

Because we do not undertake fund-raising, we have been entirely dependent on our membership fees and these have been insufficient recently to carry out normal Board expenses. We will be raising fees this year but not too steeply as most of our members run on tight budgets. We are approaching our four municipal units to request an annual subsidy to support the work of our organization. Heritage is part of the larger ‘Culture Sector’ in Nova Scotia and as such generates important economic activity. According to the new ‘Culture Satellite Account’—culture in Nova Scotia has created $868 million in economic activity – 2.6% of the economy — (2010 – latest statistics) of which heritage
created $14 million. Nova Scotia attracts a very large percentage of visitors who come for the culture – and many of these visit our museums and heritage centres.

Therefore, Heritage Cape Breton Connection would like to request your consideration for an annual subsidy of $1000 to support us in assisting with operational funding and in providing professional development and networking opportunities for our members.

The following are our objectives as an organization:

- **Advocacy** – presenting a unified and regional voice to government agencies
- **Communications** – online news updates, collaborative promotions such as the ‘Voices of Heritage’ project, bi-annual meetings
- **Resources** – conference and workshop information, a profile page on each member organization on our website – [www.heritagecapebreton.ca](http://www.heritagecapebreton.ca)
- **Recognition** – honorary lifetime memberships, ‘Engaging Youth in Heritage Award’ at regional Heritage Fairs
- **Professional Development and Support** – professional links and online resources, committees that support the heritage community, excellent networking opportunities

As an organization that fully supports heritage in Cape Breton, we provide an essential service that has been and will continue to be of vital importance to our local municipalities.

We thank you for your attention to this matter and we look forward to hearing from you.

Cathy Gillies (President)
Heritage Cape Breton Connection
[www.heritagecapebreton.ca](http://www.heritagecapebreton.ca)
(902)787-3441
Heritage Advisory Committee

Future of the Heritage Advisory Committee - Discussion
Future of the Heritage Advisory Committee - Discussion:

Topics
1. What is the committee’s role as defined in the Heritage Property Act?

2. What other roles could the committee play? For example:
   
a) Should the committee be more proactive in encouraging property owners to have their properties registered?
   
b) Should the committee play a greater role in working with non-profit heritage organizations?
   
c) Should the committee develop a strategy for heritage conservation in the CBRM?
   
d) Should the committee be recommending the establishment of additional heritage conservation districts? (i.e. Kolonia)
   
e) Should the committee be focused on research and data collection related to built heritage? (i.e. Completing the inventory )
   
f) What role might the committee play with respect to intangible heritage (as opposed to built heritage)
   
g) If the committee expands its role, will additional staff or financial resources be required?
   
h) What are the priorities and what can realistically be pursued in the next few years?
CBRM Heritage Program: New Member Orientation

October 29, 2013

Legislation
• Heritage Property Act
• Allows Councils to adopt bylaws enabling them to register properties and streetscapes as heritage properties. A Heritage Property Bylaw permits a Municipality to regulate the exterior appearance and the demolition of registered properties
• Provides for the establishment of Heritage Conservation Districts
• Permits municipalities to provide financial incentives for conservation

Heritage Property Bylaw
• CBRM has registered a relatively small number of properties (21)
• There are 3 each in Sydney Mines, Glace Bay and Sydney, 2 each in North Sydney and Dominion, and 1 in each of the following communities: Louisbourg, Port Morien, New Victoria, Grand Narrows, Albert Bridge, Point Edward, Big Pond, and Lingan.
• There are also provincially registered properties and the North End Heritage Conservation District
The North End Sydney
HCD:

• Has more than one hundred buildings, 80% of which are at least 100 years old
• Is primarily a residential area, although three museums are located in the neighbourhood
• Was approved by Council in 2008 following an extensive neighbourhood planning process in Sydney’s North End.
New Buildings

- New main buildings must be generally consistent with the neighbourhood’s traditional architecture
- In some of the District new main buildings must be two and one half storeys in height

Alterations/additions to existing buildings

- Additions require approval under the Bylaw if visible from an abutting street
- Alterations require approval under the Bylaw if the alterations are substantial (and are visible from an abutting street)
- Repairs to foundations, new roofing materials, interior renovations and colour changes are exempt
Type A buildings (Not substantially changed in recent years)

- Additions and alterations are permitted but should be generally consistent with the building’s original style

Type B Buildings (substantially changed)

- Alterations and additions that are consistent with original style are encouraged; replacing inconsistent features is permitted
Type C Buildings (post 1940)

- Are exempt from most provisions in the draft Bylaw
- Additions must be generally consistent in style with the original structure

Type D Buildings (1930s brick)

- Only one in District
- Retention of brick façade is required; additions must be consistent with original structure
Demolitions (pre 1940 main buildings only)

- Council approval required
- Council may delay issuance of a demolition permit for a maximum of two years
- 2 demolitions have taken place since District was established

Financial Incentives

- CBRM's Heritage Incentive Program program will pay up to $12,000 (or 50%, whichever is less) for eligible renovations and repairs. For roof repairs and replacements, the maximum grant is 30%.
- Annual Budget is $50,000
CBRM Heritage Inventory

- CBRM has been developing a database of all buildings in the CBRM built prior to World War 1
- The database includes property identification numbers, photos and historical and architectural information if available
- Sydney and North Sydney are completed

Role of HAC

- To make recommendations to Council on (1) registration of heritage properties (2) changes to the Heritage Property Bylaw and the Heritage Conservation District Plan and Bylaw and (3) applications to alter or demolish heritage buildings.
- To promote awareness and education (conference, awards etc.)
Thank you!