### HERITAGE WINNIPEG CORPORATION

SUMMER/FALL 2006 Volume 28, Issue 2

# HERITAGE VIEWS



Upper Fort Garry is the birthplace of Winnipeg and Manitoba and the "Gateway to the West". Built as part of the original structure in 1835, the Upper Fort Garry Gate still exists and it is the oldest original segment of Winnipeg's early structural beginnings.

## What's Inside:

Friends of Upper Fort Garry

#### Please help support Heritage Legacy Fund

Heritage Canada Conference OTTAWA—OCTOBER 2006 Heritage Winnipeg AGM

Railway Days 2006

Update —Advocacy

Historic Maps available

#### **President's Message**

In the tradition of all new Presidents, it is important to define what will be the priorities for one's term of office. How do I answer the question "how can I best serve the organization, the membership and the community that its mandate covers?"

Heritage Winnipeg has many wonderful programs in place as a result of the efforts of previous Presidents and boards. After the appropriate annual review of all initiatives, I know that many of these activities will be identified as key elements of the organization's ongoing work and must continue-for example: on-line information and virtual tours of specific buildings to meet public demand for knowledge, heritage education in the schools, Doors Open to educate and inform Winnipeggers and of course, advocacy where that voice is needed. By agreeing to be President, I am committing to lead the board in continuing the critical work of the organization and to seek out new ways to promote and encourage the conservation of historic and heritage structures and sites.

In order for an organization to be effective, good governance is critical. In this first year of my term, I will be working with the Board to review past processes and to implement new governance practices and policies. At a governance session of the board, the directors have already come together in agreement of how the organization will operate, with management being charged with creating a business plan and budget based on the strategic direction being developed by the board. Putting in place the procedures of good governance will be a big priority for me this year.

Partnerships and financial long-term sustainability will also be a priority in this term. Thanks to Roger August's work of the past couple of years, we will be moving forward on the establishment of an endowment fund. You will be hearing more in the very near future. I will also be meeting with current funders and new partners to introduce myself and to solicit their ideas and reaffirm or create new ways of working cooperatively.

I have the interest, the time and the energy and I hope that I am able through my leadership of the Board to see Heritage Winnipeg continue to do its fine work according to its mission statement.

Penny McMillan





#### **Executive Director's Message**

I look forward to an exciting year, not only as Executive Director of Heritage Winnipeg but as the newly elected Manitoba Governor of the Heritage Canada Foundation.

I will be heading down to Ottawa in my new position to learn more about how we can make a greater connection with our national umbrella organization here in the City of Winnipeg. The theme of this year's conference is entitled, "Heritage In An Electronic Age". I will be making a presentation entitled, "Winnipeg Buildings at Risk". This is in conjunction with the Handley Partnership, a UK based business recently contracted by Heritage Winnipeg, thanks to a grant from The Winnipeg Foundation. Scott Handley, a structural engineer visited Winnipeg recently to create a database of historical buildings in our downtown which were all assessed and will be in published in report. He has conducted over 30,000 building assessments in the U.K., which has been very successful in long-term protection of the built heritage. The information compiled in Winnipeg will be able to assist our organization in reviewing the conditions of heritage buildings in our downtown so we can take a much more proactive role in advocating to building owners and politicians the major benefits of regular maintenance which is critical in their protection from potential demolition or neglect.

Heritage Winnipeg recently started an Endowment Fund in partnership with The Winnipeg Foundation. Our Board of Directors all supported and contributed to the initial start up of the fund and we will now be actively soliciting support from our members and the public at large. This fund was created in order to provide our organization with long-term financial sustainability. We are always looking at ways to fund and sustain the organization as annual costs increase and operational funding is more difficult to obtain.

In addition, we are very pleased to announce that the Marwest Group of Companies, is our first Corporate donor. They are responsible for many heritage restoration/renovation projects in the City of Winnipeg, including the Grain Exchange building, The Johnston Terminal at the Forks, the Hamilton building and the Millennium Centre.

Over the summer I wrote and appeared in Red River Showcases, "Manitoba Memories", a series of historical vignettes that will be televised on PBS. The first vignette featured the historic Upper Fort Garry and the second was on 529 Wellington Crescent. I hope to continue participating in this as it is a great opportunity to showcase our unique heritage.

On behalf of Heritage Winnipeg I recently participated in student recruitment at the University of Winnipeg through the Volunteer Centre of Manitoba and earlier in the year at Kelvin High School. This gives us an opportunity to speak with many students with respects to not only what our organization does but volunteer opportunities for them.

Finally we will be again participating in the Teachers' SAG Conference at River East Collegiate in November. This one day event allows us to speak with teachers regarding the upcoming school year and our educational outreach program including educational tools and walking tours.





Lord Elgin Hotel, Ottawa

Government Conference Centre, Ottawa

## Report from the Annual General Meeting 2006





Heritage Winnipeg President, Penny McMillan



*City Councillor, Harvey Smith & HW Executive Director, Cindy Tugwell* 



Key Note Speaker, Rev. Harry Lehotsky

On Wednesday, June 28th, 2006 at 7:00 pm, Heritage Winnipeg held its Annual General Meeting. The Ellice Theatre located at 587 Ellice Street, played host to the event attended by over 70 people, most of whom were members of Heritage Winnipeg. Thank you to the Ellice Café for catering this event.

Special key note speaker, Rev. Harry Lehotsky of New Life Ministries began the evening. Rev. Lehotsky gave a passionate and informative presentation on the work he and others have done and are currently working on. Heritage Winnipeg was proud to present Rev. Lehotsky with a plaque honouring his tireless work in the West End community. (see p.5)

The evening also saw Penny McMillan appointed as the new President of Heritage Winnipeg. Heritage Winnipeg also acknowledged the retirement of David McDowell and John Wells as a Board of Directors. A special thank you to the both of them for all of their support! David McDowell continues to very active in the organization and is continuing to spearhead the Streetcar 356 committee.

The Executive Director gave a review of the annual report for 2005-06 indicated we have been very active in the heritage community with successful event as Heritage Day, Manitoba Day and Doors Open Winnipeg. Executive Board member, Roger August gave a financial overview of the past year in the Treasurer's Report. Heritage Winnipeg, once again, had a busy and successful year, ending in approximately the same cash position





Cindy & Harry

## Legacy of a Community Leader...



HW Executive Director, Cindy Tugwell & Rev. Harry Lehotsky



Manitoba Governor, David Dueck & Rev. Harry Lehotsky.







Outside the Ellice Café & Theatre at the plaque unveiling.

On August 17th, 2006 Heritage Winnipeg and the surrounding community gathered outside the Ellice Café & Theatre to honour Rev. Harry Lehotsky.

*His tireless work towards the betterment of the West End community* was commemorated by Heritage Winnipeg, with the presentation of a bronzed plaque affixed on the Ellice Café & Theatre.

Everyone at Heritage Winnipeg would like to thank Rev. Lehotsky for all of his hard work and passionate resolve. It not only shows in the refurbishment of the Mac Building but the community that inhabits its surroundings. God Bless both you and your family.

Trish Masniuk, Harry, & Councillor Smith



Councillor Harvey Smith, Cindy & Harry

#### In Honour of Rev. Harry Lehotsky-

For his significant contribution to the social fabric of the West End community. "Heritage is not just about architecture but social spaces and historic relationships."

Heritage Winnipeg June 2006



## **"FRIENDS OF UPPER FORT GARRY"**

Over the summer, our Executive Director worked with "Friends of Upper Fort Garry" to submit an Expression of Interest to the City of Winnipeg by September 29th. The proposal will try to entice the City to re-zone 100 Main Street as heritage parkland.

A once-in-a-lifetime opportunity exists for the citizens of Winnipeg and Manitoba to recover the birthplace of their city and province. For approximately 50 years, Upper Fort Garry was the centre for commerce, law and political governance.

Consisting of many prominent citizens "Friends of Upper Fort Garry" have had a growing concern about the future of 100 Main Street. A study introduced by Heritage Winnipeg in 2002, and funded by the Winnipeg Foundation and the Thomas Sill Foundation involved a cross-section of individuals with a variety of historical, cultural, and anthropological and business backgrounds.

The design concept proposes a multi-use park that focuses on the educational, cultural, and historical value of the site.



The Forks of the Red and Assiniboine Rivers has had a long history of commerce. Before the habitation of Europeans, the Forks has been an important focus of Aboriginal activity, most notably as a place of residence, barter and burial.

The Upper Fort Garry Gate was built as part of the original structure in 1835, and is the oldest original segment of Winnipeg's early structural beginnings. The Upper Fort Garry site is the birthplace of Winnipeg and Manitoba. This was the site of early commerce for the Hudson's Bay Company, the site of disputes and conflict, and the headquarters of Manitoba's first provisional government headed by Louis Riel.

We will wait to hear from the City of Winnipeg over the next several months, on the progression of our Expression of Interest.

We will keep you updated!



Existing Gate at Fort Garry Gateway Park

## **ADVOCACY UPDATES**



The Union Bank Tower (also known as the Royal Bank building) built in 1905, is Western Canada's first steel framed skyscraper. This building is currently undergoing a rigorous exterior cleaning by Pace Greentree Media. Thanks in part to a grant the building owner has received from the federal program, "Commercial Heritage Properties Incentive Fund.

Unfortunately this program has just recently been cancelled by the federal government in a recent announcement by Treasury Board President, John Baird as part of a list of cuts to "wasteful" programs. In the short time since it was introduced, CHPIF has proven its value in helping save buildings across Canada from demolition, with as many as 60 projects in the works.

504 Main Street

Heritage Winnipeg has been following and advocating the protection and rehabilitation of the Ryan Block (a.k.a. the King building) for over a decade and a half. The building sustained fire damage in 1991 and was never repaired. The building is in the heart of the Exchange District across from Old Market Square. Unfortunately it has been vacant and neglected over this time.

In September 2004, the owner requested the building be removed from the Buildings Conservation List. Fortunately the Standing Policy Committee on Property and Development concurred with the recommendation of the Historical Buildings Committee not be removed from the Conservation List.

In July 2005 the City of Winnipeg enforced "*The Vacant and Derelict Buildings By-law No.35/2004*" and the owner complied. In addition, a Redevelopment Plan was to be submitted to the City by February 2006 but was never received. However, at the Standing Policy Committee on Property and Development on September 5th, 2006, a request for waiver of the Boarded Permit Fee was denied. It was at this time that the owner indicated that he had submitted the newly completed Redevelopment Plan to the Administrative Department at the City.

The potential project, spurred by Bedford Investments, is to develop a multi-storey parking structure with grade level retail on this site, using existing century old walls, at a projected cost of 6.4 million. To date Heritage Winnipeg has not seen the report.

On June 15th, 2006, the Historical Buildings Committee recommended that the Business Block located at 38-44 1/2 Albert St. be placed on the Buildings Conservation List as a Grade 3 historical building. It is the intent of the owners to demolish these structures to establish a surface parking lot with a new curb cut on Albert Street. This item was laid over until November at the Lord Selkirk-West Kildonan Community Committee.

An application was made by the owners for a Certificate of Suitability to demolish 104-108 Princess at the Standing Policy Committee on Property and Development on September 5th, 2006. In light of an email communication on behalf of Fairchild Lofts Company, the application was withdrawn. We will continue to follow the issues around this building.



104 King Street





Albert Street Block



104-108 Princess Street

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#### HERITAGE LEGACY FUND

Heritage Winnipeg is pleased to be officially embarking on a long-term sustainability plan which includes the creation of an Legacy Fund in partnership with The Winnipeg Foundation. Our current goal to raise funds by the first deadline of September 30th has been met.

We are looking to the "Friends of Heritage Winnipeg" to help by giving a donation to our organization. For more information or to donate to the Heritage Legacy Fund, please contact the Heritage Winnipeg office at 942-2663 or email us at info@heritage.com.



## SAG 2006

Heritage Winnipeg will once again be present at the Special Area Group Conference, specifically involved in the Social Studies Department. River East Collegiate plays host to the event on November 24th.

Education is a vital part of HW's mandate and the SAG Conference is a great chance

to get the heritage message out into the classroom!



#### Railway Days—2006

The Winnipeg Railway Museum was pleased to once again host the annual Railway Days event held on September 9th and 10th, 2006 from 10am to 5pm. The event celebrated rail heritage, industry, hobbyists, and preservation all under one roof. Hundreds of adults and children of all ages were in attendance to explore our wonderful transit heritage, located on tracks 1 & 2 of Winnipeg's historic Union Station. A fun and educational time was had by all!

Heritage Winnipeg once again had the opportunity to include a display promoting our ongoing Streetcar 356 restoration project. Streetcar 356 is currently housed in the Railway Museum. We will set out to seek funding during the 2006-07 year.





#### **Doors Open 2007 Volunteer Opportunity**

Heritage Winnipeg presents the fourth annual Doors Open Winnipeg. If you are interested in volunteering the weekend of May 26-27th, 2007 to help put on another successful and exciting event, Heritage Winnipeg would like you to contact our office! Approximately 200 volunteers are needed.

To register or for more information, please contact the Heritage Winnipeg office at 942-2663 or email us at info@heritagewinnipeg.com. We would like to hold a volunteer orientation this winter to discuss various ideas and tasks.

#### Doors Open Winnipeg 2007—"Celebrating Stories Buildings Tell".

#### The Greatest Film Set of All Walking Tour - Take Two!



Shirley Kowalchuk—Tour Coordinator



Executive Director & Tour Coordinator

Heritage Winnipeg was very pleased with respect to the resounding success of the Doors Open Winnipeg Exchange District walking tour "*The Greatest Set of All.*" Discovered by the multi-million dollar international film industry, we explored blocks of heritage buildings that were backdrops to many movies. We visited spots where famous Hollywood moments were captured on film. In addition where the spirit of local films and heroes has survived.

Heritage Winnipeg decided it would be fitting to do an encore. On the weekend of June along with tour coordinator Shirley Kowalchuk, we repeated the success of the Doors Open Winnipeg event. Tours commenced at 11a.m. outside the Artspace Building for three consecutive days.

Heritage Winnipeg will now be augmenting the original tour for Doors Open Winnipeg 2007. It will be presented during the weekend of May 26th & 27th. If you have an interest in the volunteering, please contact the office at 942.2663 or email us at info@heritagewinnipeg.com.

#### The Exchange District cordially invites you to...

#### Exchange District's Farmers Market

Located in Old Market Square, the Exchange District Farmer's Market provided by the Exchange District Biz, returned for another successful and delicious year! Vendors and craftsman from around the province gathered in the historic Exchange District on Thursdays and Saturdays throughout August and September.

Fresh herbs, Manitoba-grown produce, baked goods, and handmade crafts, were just a few of the gems found in this downtown market! As an extra incentive to venture down, on Thursdays the Farmer's Market ran concurrently with the Music in the Market Concert Series presented by Bedford Investments Music.

Live music, fresh locally grown produce, and historic surroundings, what more could a shopper ask for!





#### A few more reasons to shop outside the box!

Come on down and take advantage of the opportunity to purchase quality hand-crafted items produced by The Winnipeg Embroiders Guild and The Manitoba Crafts Museum and Library.

<u>สสสสสสสสสสสสสสสสสสส</u> Manitoba Craft Museum and Library Christmas Ornament Sale! 1B—183 Kennedy Street Saturday, November 25, 2006



Winnipeg Embroiders' Guild Heritage Needle Arts Fair

**Dalnavert Museum 61** Carlton Street Saturday, November 25, 2006

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For more information please contact Andrea Earl, Curator Manitoba Crafts Museum and Library at 487-6117 or leave a message with Judy Boatman, Winnipeg Embroiders' Guild at 257-0321.

#### AT THE HWC OFFICE...

Kristen has been working in the Heritage Winnipeg office for the past three months. She has recently been granted an extension in order to continue her student placement until mid November.

"I am thrilled to be able to continue to work at Heritage Winnipeg with Cindy and all of the directors. I have thoroughly enjoyed my time here and I am extremely grateful to be given the opportunity to continue to immerse myself in all things heritage a little while longer."

Kristen will be finishing her placement on a part-time basis while she continues to complete her Education Degree at both the University of Winnipeg and Red River College.

A special thank you to Heritage Canada who once again administered the Young Canada Works program. The program is funded through the Government of Canada through the Department of Canadian Heritage. Thank you also to the Canadian Wheat Board for their support!







## **BARBER HOUSE UPDATE**





A before & after look at Barber House

As reported in the Winnipeg Free Press this September the city is ordering soil tests to be done at 99 Euclid Avenue after an environmental assessment of the property uncovered unacceptable levels of lead, copper and zinc.

The historic Barber House is the site of one of Winnipeg's oldest structures. Built around 1862, this historic structure is a city and provincial heritage site. The log home predates the rail line that brought industry and immigration, surviving from a time when Winnipeg's wealthy and influential lived in Point Douglas.

Barber House is scheduled to become a "community hub" potentially consisting of a laundromat, coffee shop, and a daycare for local children. The approximate cost of the renovation is \$2.7 million dollars. The project is being initiated by SISTARS (Sisters Initiative Steps Towards a Renewed Society). The community organization will delay taking over until they know the extent of the clean-up needed.

#### Heritage Winnipeg Board of <u>Directors 2006-07</u>

Penny McMillan, President Celine Kear, Past President **Steve Demming** 1st Vice-President John Petryshyn, 2nd Vice-President R. Thomas Dixon, Secretary W. Roger August, Treasurer David Dueck, Nancy Klos Walt Schoenhausen David Dandeneau Jim Kacki **Councillor Harvey Smith**, City of Winnipeg

#### Appointees: City of Winnipeg Manitoba Historical Society Heritage Canada Foundation

**Honourary Advisory Panel:** Bernie Wolfe David Harris Jeanne Perreault Alan Finnbogason

**Cindy Tugwell,** Executive Director, Manitoba Governor, Heritage Canada Foundation

Thank you to the CITY OF WINNIPEG and PROVINCE OF MANITOBA for their annual support of our programs and projects.



#### www.heritagewinnipeg.com www.virtual.heritagewinnipeg.com

Visit us on the Internet:



Help in our fundraising efforts! Quantities are limited!

W.G. Fonseca—1884 Historic Winnipeg Maps for sale. Only \$39.99 (taxes incl.) FOR MORE INFORMATION, CALL 942-2663, OR DROPIN TO 509-63 ALBERT STREET TO PICK ONE UP. DISCOUNTS WILL BE PROVIDED BY FLEET GALLERIES IF FRAMING IS REQUIRED.

#### HERITAGE WINNIPEG MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION 2006

I/WE would like to support Heritage Winnipeg by becoming a new member or by renewing my membership for one year.

New Membership



#### **MEMBERSHIP DUES:**

Family/Organizational
Individual
Student/Senior

\$30.00 \$20.00 \$15.00

#### **CONTACT INFORMATION:**

Name:	
Address:	
City:	Province:
Postal Code:	Phone No.:
Email:	

Please make your cheque payable to Heritage Winnipeg and mail to: 509-63 Albert Street, Winnipeg, Manitoba, R3B 1G4.

A big thank you to all our MEMBERS for your support!