

HERITAGE WINNIPEG

News & Views

Special 'post-Doors Open' Edition

heritagewinnipeg.com * virtual.heritagewinnipeg.com * June 2011

DUDRS OPEN 2011 WINNIPEG PORTES UVERTES

Our biggest Doors Open ever was a huge success! At all the fantastic sites the participants did a great job! They were gracious and excited about presenting their buildings and opening their doors to the public. A thank you to all the participants and their volunteers for making this year's event a success. A special thank you to all the Doors Open volunteers and to Greg Delorme, our Doors Open Coordinator. We had **over 16,000 site visits** this year.

- Manitoba Legislative Building had the highest overall turnout, with 1,569 visits over Saturday and Sunday. Many visitors may have come because of the intriguing history revealed by scholars in recent years.
- St. Mary's Academy had the highest turnout in a single day, with more than 873 visits in only 5 hours on Sunday. Sister Wikeem and the other organizers were thrilled at the public's interest. They put on a superb tour.
- Downtown gems did very well. The Winnipeg Rail Museum and Mariaggi's Theme Suite Hotel each brought in more than 700 visits over the weekend.
- The **Law Courts** and **Government House** each brought in at least **500 visits** in 4 hours on Saturday.



New Buildings

We had 13 new buildings this year.

- Artlington Gallery (former National Upholstery)
- Balmoral Hall
- Canadian Mennonite University
- Caron House
- Fort Gibraltar (in Whittier Park)
- Grant's Old Mill
- Manitoba Indigenous Cultural Education Centre
- Royal Canadian Mint
- St. James the Assiniboine Anglican Church & Cemetery
- St. Luke's Anglican Church
- St. Mary's Academy
- St. Michael and All Angels Anglican Church
- Transcona Historical Museum



Sponsors - Thank You!

CITY OF WINNIPEG • WINNIPEG FREE PRESS
CTV • THE WINNIPEG FOUNDATION
MANITOBA ASSOCIATION OF ARCHITECTS
CENTREVENTURE • GREAT-WEST LIFE
TELPAY • SHELTER CANADIAN PROPERTIES LTD
THE FORKS RENEWAL CORPORATION
ALPHA MASONRY • VIA RAIL CANADA
DOWNTOWN BIZ • POLLARD BANKNOTE

Walking Tours

We also had several popular walking tours.

- Downtown BIZ Walking Tour
- Exchange District BIZ Walking Tour
- Mike's Bloody Saturday Walking Tour
- The Forks Market "Cache Me If You Can!"
- West End BIZ Walking Tour

Volunteer Reception

Heritage Winnipeg hosted a reception for the volunteers at the King's Head Pub on Sunday evening, May 29th. Cindy Tugwell, the Executive Director, gave out door prizes, including books, t-shirts, and other goodies.



Storytelling

The addition of storytelling this year was a hit! The events were very well-received. Big crowds showed up at each venue, eager to hear some of the 'back stories' of Winnipeg.

Greg Agnew presented at the Aboriginal Centre (former CPR station) and Union Station. His theme was how the railway shaped Winnipeg in the last century. He shared the history of the Countess of Dufferin, the first steam locomotive in the west. (The Countess of Dufferin can still be seen at the Winnipeg Railway Museum.) He capped his tour through history with the story of how CPR built Winnipeg Beach.



William Ashdown, Jr. presented at Artspace (Gault Building). He told the history of James Ashdown, "the Merchant Prince of Winnipeg", with period pictures and some entertaining family photos. Visitors shared some of their own family anecdotes connected with Ashdown's stores.

Yan and Marie Dallaire presented in French and English at the **St. Boniface Museum**. They told humorous fictional stories of Jean-Baptiste the Voyageur, who worked for the North-West Company, and his wife Germaine. Their playful interaction with the audience was a lot of fun.

The first-ever
Doors Open Winnipeg Awards
will be presented

June 23rd, 10:45am, at the Winnipeg Free Press Cafe.
WINNERS WILL BE ANNOUNCED IN FIVE CATEGORIES:

Best Restoration
Best Tour
Best Architecture
Best Overall Experience
The Hidden Gem