



NEWFOUNDLAND & LABRADOR
HISTORIC TRUST
— est 1966 —

Background:

Museums, archives, historic sites, and historical societies are stewards of our collective memory and our living heritage, showcasing the diverse narratives that shape our identity as Newfoundlanders and Labradorians.

Other reasons to better support our heritage sector include:

Tourism: Our cultural and natural heritage are pillars of NL's tourism attractions. Heritage institutions are often anchor attractions in their regions, making them vital to the province's economic development.

Job creation: Heritage institutions employ a variety of staff, including curators, educators, researchers, guides, conservators, administrative personnel, and maintenance workers.

Built heritage restoration requires skilled tradespeople. *Every dollar spent by Heritage NL's restoration program leverages over five dollars in federal funding and delivers \$1.36 back to the Newfoundland economy in the form of HST and income tax.*

Local business support: Heritage institutions often collaborate with local businesses for events, catering, and merchandise. Cultural tourism boosts sales for restaurants, hotels, shops, tour groups and other businesses in the vicinity.

Community engagement: Heritage institutions frequently host events, workshops, performances and educational programs that engage the local population. These activities encourage community participation and can lead to increased spending in the area.

Cultural development: By investing in exhibitions and programs, and partnerships with arts organizations, heritage institutions enhance the cultural landscape of a region, making it more attractive for residents and businesses alike.

Real estate value: A vibrant cultural scene, including museums and heritage

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buildings, can increase property values and real estate demand in an area.

Research and innovation: Heritage institutions often engage in research and preservation projects that can lead to innovations in various fields, potentially benefiting local industries and educational institutions.

Sustainability initiatives: Museums and other heritage institutions are involved in sustainability efforts, promoting and supporting local artists and craftspeople, which supports the local economy and encourages environmentally friendly practices. And built heritage preservation and adaptive reuse play an important role in the green economy and battling climate change.

Educational partnerships: Museums, archives and heritage groups frequently collaborate with schools and educational institutions, providing resources and programs that enhance learning and encourage student engagement.

Quality of life: Heritage institutions are cultural hubs that stimulate economic activity, foster community pride, and contribute to the overall quality of life in their regions. By providing adequate support, our government can ensure that Newfoundland and Labrador's heritage institutions thrive and fulfill their crucial role in this province of which we are so proud.

1. TCAR's Cultural Economic Development Program (CEDP) – Heritage Component. The budget allocation for this program has not increased in at least 17 years. It is especially important to allocate more funds to the operational component of this program.

Our heritage institutions are struggling to cover core operational costs. Too many staff and volunteers, however dedicated and resourceful, are burning out.

2. Heritage NL (Heritage Foundation of Newfoundland and Labrador). Our province's crown agency delivers award-winning public programming, and supports museums, heritage groups and other segments of our communities through outreach work, expert guidance, and grants. Its budget for heritage building restoration and maintenance grants is currently \$150,000 to distribute to more than 340 potentially eligible heritage buildings and structures including arts spaces, archives and museums,

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and other community institutions. That amount is less than Heritage NL was allocated for grants 10 years ago, endangering our province's heritage places and the organizations that operate from them. We therefore join our heritage sector colleagues and supporters in requesting \$5 million over the next five years, allocated to CEDP and Heritage NL.

It will empower us to preserve our stories, educate future generations, and promote cultural tourism. We therefore urge you to allocate additional resources to these vital institutions in the upcoming budget and for the next five years.

Sincerely,

Newfoundland and Labrador Historic Trust

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