



NEWFOUNDLAND & LABRADOR  
**HISTORIC TRUST**  
— est 1966 —

October 18, 2024

From: The Newfoundland and Labrador Historic Trust  
Coordinator@historictrust.ca  
P.O. Box 2403  
St. John's, NL, Canada  
A1C 6E7

To: Honourable Minister Steve Crocker  
P.O. Box 8700  
Confederation Building  
St. John's, NL A1B 4J6  
Email: TCARMinister@gov.nl.ca

Re: Increased funding for NL's Built Heritage programs

Dear Minister Crocker,

We are writing to join our colleagues in the built heritage community of Newfoundland and Labrador to ask your government to increase funding to the two bodies responsible for guiding the future of heritage buildings of our province: Heritage NL and the CEDP (Cultural Economic Development Program).

As our board wrote to government two years ago, the allocation for Heritage NL is increasingly lagging, all while we spend millions using these very same buildings in our tourism and marketing campaigns. Our concern remains the same: that without increased funding for the organisations which protect this sector, the buildings will be lost, and our tourism campaign along with it.

So we join our heritage industry colleagues in requesting government **increase the funding for Heritage NL and CEDP-Heritage Component, by five million dollars over the next five years.**

**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.

*The Newfoundland and Labrador Historic Trust is dedicated to the preservation of the province's buildings and landscapes and their importance to communities.*

**2. Heritage NL** (Heritage Foundation of Newfoundland and Labrador). Our province's crown agency is the backbone of built heritage in this province, and yet its funding does not reflect that vital role. It 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, 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.*

Funding these programs is not just the right thing to do, it's good for the economy as well. According to their research, every dollar Heritage NL invests, yields \$1.36 for the province's economy. Not to mention that saving a heritage building is better for the environment, reducing our overall carbon budget versus new construction.

The Historic Trust believes that this funding request represents an opportunity for the province to solidify its commitment to our unique cultural identity, and to preserve these buildings for future generations of Newfoundlanders and Labradorians.

Sincerely,

Board of Directors  
Newfoundland and Labrador Historic Trust

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