

# Shape Your Future Victoria



## Heritage

### Definition and description

**Heritage** means many things to many people; it may include real property, such as buildings and landscapes, artefacts, and cultural traditions. In Canada, there is a broadly accepted term for heritage that is real property: **historic place**.

Historic places are often buildings but can be any type of private or public land use, such as ecological reserves, parks, archaeological sites, designed landscapes, bridges, and public squares.

Parks Canada defines historic places as properties that “have been (or could be) recognized by an appropriate authority for their heritage value, i.e. for their aesthetic, historic, scientific, cultural, social or spiritual importance or significance for past, present and future generations.”

### Why is this topic important?

A sustainable city celebrates and conserves built, natural and cultural heritage that is valued in neighbourhoods and the broader community. It also ensures that historic places continue to serve useful functions in society.

Sustainable heritage has environmental, economic, social value and tangible impacts. For example, heritage rehabilitation supports climate action and green building standards through the retention, re-use, and energy retrofits of existing buildings. Heritage can be a cornerstone of sustainable tourism, and contribute to social and cultural well-being in projects that create affordable housing, including rental units, without losing history.

OFFICIAL COMMUNITY PLAN

*Ideas and Options for the Future*

*June 25 and 26 - Topic Insert*



# Public Input on Heritage

<p><b>Proposed Goal 1 From Public Input :</b> <i>Connect People to Places</i></p>
<p><b>Direction:</b> <i>Form and Character</i></p>
<p><b>Ideas and Examples</b></p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Maintain physical heritage.</li> <li>• Preserve, retain and restore biological and cultural heritage.</li> <li>• City Hall restoration.</li> <li>• Market intervention to protect key resources (open space, heritage, etc.), incl. grants &amp; education.</li> </ul>

<p><b>Proposed Goal 2 From Public Input :</b> <i>Transform the Urban Environment</i></p>
<p><b>Direction:</b> <i>Green Buildings</i></p>
<p><b>Ideas and Examples</b></p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• More intensively used heritage buildings with more upper storey residential, more energy intensive heritage buildings.</li> <li>• Live/work in upper storey spaces of Old Town heritage buildings (adaptive re-use).</li> </ul>

Related Victoria Sustainability Framework Subthemes and Goals	
<b>Heritage:</b>	<i>Victoria's cultural and natural heritage resources are protected and celebrated.</i>

# Existing Policies on Heritage

Victoria Sustainability Framework (2010)		
<i>Heritage</i>	<i>Victoria's cultural and natural heritage resources are protected and celebrated.</i>	
Official Community Plan (1995)	Downtown Core Area Plan (draft 2010)	Other Plans / Policies
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Policies to conserve and rehabilitate built heritage.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Heritage protection</li> </ul>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Maintain appropriate settings for architectural and historical landmarks and districts.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Maintain lower-scale buildings throughout the Historic Commercial District and along the waterfront to respect the lower context of the area, and gradually transition to taller buildings in Central Business District.</li> </ul>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Encourage the revitalization of Chinatown in a manner which maintains its distinctive identity.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Sensitive infill that responds to the function, form and character of each district in the Downtown Core Area.</li> </ul>	