

Title: Heritage Management Plan Policy		Policy No.: 20-01
Section: 61	Section: P-I	Page No.: 1 of 16

Legislation Reference:	Historical Resources Act, R.S.A. 2000, Chapter H-9
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Purpose:	To implement a useful and proactive framework to encourage the effective management and maintenance in facilitating heritage conservation activities in Smoky Lake County.
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Policy Statement and Guidelines:

1. STATEMENT:

- 1.1 In 2007, Smoky Lake County in conjunction with the Town of Smoky Lake, Village of Waskatenau, and Village of Vilna applied for a Municipal Heritage Partnership Program (MHPP) Grant to conduct survey and inventory of Historical Assets in the Region.
- 1.2 In 2009, Community Design Strategies Inc. implemented a Smoky Lake Region Heritage Survey and Inventory project.
- 1.3 Smoky Lake County is committed to support the promotion and protection of the County's historic heritage and has established legislation and an agency for this purpose. In 2012, Smoky Lake County adopted the Smoky Lake Region **"Heritage Management Plan"**, *an exhibit to this Policy*. This policy is a further demonstration of the County's leadership role in heritage management.



**Municipal File:
61-36**

2. DEFINITION:

Heritage Management Plan: is a document that assists and guides Smoky Lake County's stewardship of its historic resources. The plan will capture policy, guidelines, incentives and strategy for implementation for heritage planning and conservation.

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Policy Statement and Guidelines:

3. OBJECTIVES:

- 3.1 Historic preservation is a formal priority for County Council. Smoky Lake County is focused on maintaining the integrity of its heritage assets and its strategic long term vision to support the preservation of the County's historic resources.
- 3.2 To foster an appreciation of and pride in the County's heritage by establishing consistency of practice to ensure historic heritage values are taken into account.
- 3.3 The Heritage Management Plan is a non-statutory policy document and does not supersede any other existing approved plans, policies, or bylaws. It specifically supports a Council priority.

4. GUIDELINES:

The Heritage Management key principles designed to inform a best practice approach addresses four main topic areas:

- 4.1 **Structure and Governance:** Support to provide guidance for the basic historic preservation, fundamental, operational, and sustaining principles that encourage creativity, and alignment for the identification, protection and management of historic resources.
- 4.2 **Heritage Policies:** Develop best practices that will continue to increase the profile of heritage conservation.
- 4.3 **Incentives:** An acknowledgement of the need for, and a commitment to continue to find effective and creative means to support the preservation and protection of historic resources.
- 4.4 **Awareness and Education:** A commitment to continue to support creative initiatives to help ensure County residents have opportunity to learn from and appreciate its historic resources which will build support and heighten awareness of the value and issues regarding preservation of Smoky Lake County's historic resources.

5. PROCEDURES:

- 5.1 The Smoky Lake County Regional Heritage Board was first established in 2006 as the Heritage Advisory Board. This Council appointed body identifies significant historic resources and provides advice to Council on heritage related matters.
 - 5.1.1 The Smoky Lake Regional Heritage Board incorporated lead roles and target dates with recommendations of strategies, activities and tasks for the implementation of the Heritage Management Plan.

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Policy Statement and Guidelines:	
5.2	Smoky Lake County on October 24, 2013 adopted a Heritage Management Plan – 20 Year Action List (2012 to 2032) on the recommendations of strategies and activities/tasks, as per Schedule “A”: 20 Year Action List – Heritage Management Plan.
5.3	Smoky Lake County Regional Heritage Board and Smoky Lake County are responsible for the implementation of the 20 Year Action List – Heritage Management Plan.
5.4	Smoky Lake County Planning and Development Manager will: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 5.4.1 Liaise with the Smoky Lake County Regional Heritage Board on all heritage matters including the Heritage Management Plan 20 Year Action List; 5.4.2 Attend meetings of the Smoky Lake County Regional Heritage Board and report the Board’s activities to Council; 5.4.3 Ensure that heritage conservation, protection and enhancement policies are incorporated into future statutory planning documents (Land Use Bylaw, Municipal Development Plan); 5.4.4 Maintain, update and review the Smoky Lake County Inventory and Register of Historic Resources to ensure that important resources are identified and recorded; 5.4.5 Research grant opportunities for the conservation, protection, enhancement and promotion of heritage and historic resources; 5.4.6 Maintain, update and review the 20 Year Action Plan checklist and report progress on checklist items to Council periodically; 5.4.7 Work with the Communications Director to develop a communication plan to promote the Region’s heritage resources through print material, web-based and social media tools; 5.4.8 Process applications for Municipal Historic Resource Designation and draft designating bylaws to be considered by Council as per County Policy 61-15-01: <i>Designation of Municipal Historic Resources</i>; 5.4.9 Ensure that the Heritage Management Plan is included as part of Council Orientation; 5.4.10 Research opportunities for partnerships with the Regional Community Development Committee (RCDC); 5.4.11 Advertise the recruitment for Heritage Board members and an Administrative Assistant whenever positions are vacant;

	Date	Resolution Number
Approved	June 16, 2016	# - Page #
Amended		
Amended		

SCHEDULE "A"**20 Year Action List – Heritage Management Plan**

The **Heritage Management Plan (“HMP”)** was adopted by County Council on June 21, 2012. This Action List was developed out of a public workshop including residents from all municipalities within the County of Smoky Lake.

1.0 Structure and Governance:

Goal: Smoky Lake County and volunteer groups will collaborate to structure their planning, operations, and initiatives to acknowledge the vital role that heritage plays in our community and economy.

Objectives:

1. Adopt the new Heritage Management Plan to implement a consistent approach to incorporate heritage decisions in ongoing planning and operations.
2. Pursue economic opportunities to fund the implementation of the Heritage Management Plan.
3. Develop a more effective volunteer base and public involvement.
Celebrate and communicate the importance of all heritage work to those in leadership roles, stakeholders, and the general public.

2.0 Heritage Promotion or Substantiation:

Goal: Smoky Lake County will develop heritage practices that will increase the profile of heritage conservation.

Objectives:

1. Celebrate heritage conservation in Smoky Lake County.
2. Increase the profile of heritage and facilitate potential financial support through various sources.
3. Maintain, update, and review the Inventory and Register of Historic Resources to ensure that important resources are identified and recorded.
4. Support and encourage heritage conservation in the County.

3.0 Incentives:

Goal: Smoky Lake County will pursue creative initiatives to fund, and recognize local heritage conservation.

Objectives:

1. Provide municipal support to landowners for designation and restoration of heritage resources within the Smoky Lake Region.
2. Support and encourage partnerships between government, and local organizations, to further heritage conservation in the Smoky Lake Region.
3. Collaborate with federal and provincial programs that support and promote heritage preservation at the municipal level.

4.0 Awareness and Education:

Goal: Smoky Lake County will strive to conserve and collect historical resources and engage and interpret both within and outside the community.

Objectives:

1. Engage and integrate heritage conservation into the broader community.
2. Collect, preserve, and make accessible historical images, collections and information.
3. Interpret, make accessible, and promote heritage resources outside the Region.
4. Engage all levels of government and community members for the conservation of historic sites.

SCHEDULE "A"**20 Year Action List – Heritage Management Plan****1.0 STRUCTURE AND GOVERNANCE**

Possible Strategies and Activities/Tasks	HMP Work Plan Reference	Target Date Year Only	Lead Role B= Board C= County	Additional Comments
Objective #1: Adopt the Heritage Management Plan to implement a consistent approach to incorporate heritage decisions into ongoing planning operations.				
1. Smoky Lake County will adopt the Heritage Management Plan to increase long-term political support for heritage conservation.	S&G; Objective 1; Strategy 1		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Complete
Present the Heritage Management Plan at Joint Municipalities Meeting and have it endorsed by Joint Council.	S&G; Objective 1; Strategy 1; Task 1		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Complete
Ensure each municipality has copy of final Heritage Management Plan.	S&G; Objective 1; Strategy 1; Task 2		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Complete
Have the Heritage Management Plan placed on each of Council's next Meeting Agenda to be adopted.	S&G; Objective 1; Strategy 1; Task 3		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Complete
Report the adoption of the Heritage Management Plan to Smoky Lake County, managing partner for the Project.	S&G; Objective 1; Strategy 1; Task 4		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Complete
Attendance by the Heritage Board at Joint Municipalities Meetings to report on initiatives and encourage support for the continued implementation of the Heritage Management Plan by all municipalities.	S&G; Objective 1; Strategy 1; Task 5	2014; annual	B	County must invite Board to meetings.
Review of the Heritage Management Plan by Smoky Lake County to evaluate progress and consider new initiatives.	S&G; Objective 1; Strategy 1; Task 6	2015; every two years	B/C	
2. Each municipality will adopt the Inventory of Historic Places for their respective municipality.	S&G; Objective 1; Strategy 2		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Complete
Adopt the Inventory of Historic Places that is provided in the Heritage Management Plan, in bylaw or policy.	S&G; Objective 1; Strategy 2; Task 1		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Complete
3. Include the Heritage Management Plan as part of the Council Orientation Package.	S&G; Objective 1; Strategy 3;			
Include the Heritage Management Plan and Municipal Inventory of Historic Places as part of Council Orientation.	S&G; Objective 1; Strategy 3 Task 1	January 2014; every four years	C	For every new election/ councilor.

Provide advice and guidance to Council related to heritage and policy.	S&G; Objective 1; Strategy 3 Task 2	As required	B	
Arrange for MHPP to make presentation at Joint Municipalities Meeting.	S&G; Objective 1; Strategy 3 Task 3	As required	C	
4. Municipalities to implement the use of templates given in the Heritage Management Plan to provide guidance and consistency region-wide.	S&G; Objective 1; Strategy 4		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Complete
Provide a half-day workshop for CAOs/Development Officers/Heritage Board to become familiar with the Heritage Management Plan, designation and conservation process, and how to use the templates provided.	S&G; Objective 1; Strategy 4; Task 1	As required by staff/Heritage Board changes	B/C	
Provide advice and guidance to CAOs/Development Officers regarding heritage conservation.	S&G; Objective 1; Strategy 4; Task 2	As required	B/C	
Utilize the templates provided in the Heritage Management Plan.	S&G; Objective 1; Strategy 4; Task 3	As required	B/C	
5. The Heritage Management Plan will be considered and integrated as part of the development and use of other land use planning documents.	S&G; Objective 1; Strategy 5			
Forward a copy of the Heritage Management Plan to any municipal planner, Subdivision Authority and planning consultant, to be considered in any draft planning documents.	S&G; Objective 1; Strategy 5; Task 1		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Complete
Refer to the Inventory of Historic Places when considering Development Permit Applications and Subdivision Applications, and if there is potential impact to a heritage resource, refer applications to the Heritage Board for comment prior to making a decision.	S&G; Objective 1; Strategy 5; Task 2	As required	C	
Respond to referral requests using the Resource Evaluation Form, Statements of Significance (from the Inventory Report) and photographs on file for the subject site, to determine if the proposed Development Permit Application has any potential for negative impacts to the historic integrity of the resource.	S&G; Objective 1; Strategy 5; Task 3	As required	B/C	
Objective #2: Pursue economic opportunities to fund the implementation of the Heritage Management Plan.				
1. Work with the Regional Community Development Committee.	S&G; Objective 2; Strategy 1			
Identify opportunities that could create a partnership between the Heritage Board and the Regional Community Development Committee.	S&G; Objective 2; Strategy 1; Task 1	2014; annually	C	County representative to the RCDC should have this task applied to their portfolio/job description.
2. Consider the allocation of new budgetary dollars for the implementation of strategies within the Heritage Management Plan.	S&G; Objective 2; Strategy 2	2014; annually	C	

Prepare a Heritage Financial Strategy (detailed alternatives and action steps for implementation) and present to Council for consideration.	S&G; Objective 2; Strategy 2; Task 1	2014; every 5 years	B	
Survey the Region's residents to gauge support of funding heritage conservation projects through tax incentives, grant programs or other sources.	S&G; Objective 2; Strategy 2; Task 2	2014; every 5 years	C	
3. Empower persons and organizations to pursue existing grant programs and potential partnership opportunities.	S&G; Objective 2; Strategy 3			
Create an information package of existing provincial grant programs.	S&G; Objective 2; Strategy 3; Task 1	2015	C	
Promote an Information Session/Open House to provide an opportunity for residents to learn about heritage conservation.	S&G; Objective 2; Strategy 3; Task 2	2016; every 5 years	B/C	
Encourage and assist persons and organizations in the preparation of funding applications to existing grant programs.	S&G; Objective 2; Strategy 3; Task 3	As required	B/C	
Assist Heritage Board Society to submit application for federal charitable tax status.	S&G; Objective 2; Strategy 3; Task 4		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Complete
4. Increase the profile of heritage conservation in municipal service delivery and promote heritage as an economic driver rather than as a "soft-service".	S&G; Objective 2; Strategy 4			
Prepare a presentation to demonstrate the economic benefits of heritage conservation.	S&G; Objective 2; Strategy 4; Task 1	2014; update as required	B	
Objective #3: Develop a more effective volunteer base and public involvement.				
1. Establish new Heritage Board Committees to help establish a strong volunteer base.	S&G; Objective 3; Strategy 1			
Advertise the recruitment of Heritage Board Committee Members for specific projects (i.e. marketing, fundraising, construction, etc.).	S&G; Objective 3; Strategy 1; Task 1	As required	C	
Make presentations to other organizations to increase interest in heritage conservation.	S&G; Objective 3; Strategy 1; Task 2	2018; as required	B	I.E. schools, community organizations, etc.
Produce media releases in local newspapers about heritage conservation activities.	S&G; Objective 3; Strategy 1; Task 3	As required	B	
2. Clarify to individuals and organizations the role and mandate of the Heritage Board and how it integrates with other heritage organizations in the Region.	S&G; Objective 3; Strategy 2			

Develop an information brochure about the Smoky Lake County Regional Heritage Board, clarifying its role and mandate.	S&G; Objective 3; Strategy 2; Task 1	2015; update as required	C	
Develop a separate page on Smoky Lake County's website promoting the Smoky Lake County Regional Heritage Board.	S&G; Objective 3; Strategy 2; Task 2		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Complete
3. Use the Victoria District Area Structure Plan (one adopted) to further engage the public in heritage conservation.	S&G; Objective 3; Strategy 3			
Ensure that Municipal Planning Services (2009) Ltd. has a copy of the Heritage Management Plan to consider during the drafting of the Victoria District Area Structure Plan.	S&G; Objective 3; Strategy 3; Task 1		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Complete
Hold additional public engagement sessions during the development of the Victoria District Area Structure Plan to encourage widespread consensus, with the desire to create a leading-edge Area Structure Plan that allows a balance between development activity and heritage conservation activities.	S&G; Objective 3; Strategy 3; Task 2	TBA; before and throughout process	C	
Advocate heritage conservation when attending Victoria District Area Structure Plan public engagement sessions.	S&G; Objective 3; Strategy 3; Task 3	During ASP development	B	
Objective #4: Celebrate and communicate the importance of all heritage work to date to those in leadership roles, stakeholders, and the general public, in order to sustain the momentum of the Heritage Management Plan.				
1. Celebrate the completion of the Heritage Management Plan.	S&G; Objective 4; Strategy 1		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
Utilize social media tools used by Smoky Lake County to celebrate completion of the Heritage Management Plan.	S&G; Objective 4; Strategy 1; Task 1			Complete
Consider developing other creative, low-cost projects to engage public in heritage resources in the Region (i.e. calendar, colouring book, posters, puzzles, etc.).	S&G; Objective 4; Strategy 1; Task 2	2020	B	
2. Communicate the importance of the Heritage Management Plan to those in leadership roles in heritage and community organizations to further implementation of the Heritage Management Plan into the future.	S&G; Objective 4; Strategy 2			
Present the Heritage Management Plan to the other regional organizations and the general public.	S&G; Objective 4; Strategy 2; Task 1	2020; every ten years	B	

2.0 HERITAGE PROMOTION OR SUBSTANTIATION

Possible Strategies and Activities/Tasks	HMP Work Plan Reference	Target Date Year Only	Lead Role B= Board C= County	Additional Comments
Objective #1: Celebrate heritage conservation in Smoky Lake County.				
1. Recognize and owner's initiative and investment to designate their building as an historic resource.	Heritage Policies; Objective 1; Strategy 1			
Draft a media release to profile each of the historic resources already municipally designated to date.	Heritage Policies; Objective 1; Strategy 1; Task 1	As required.	C	Publish in newspaper, not just website.
Draft a media release when any historic resource is officially designated.	Heritage Policies; Objective 1; Strategy 1; Task 2	2014; As required.	C	Publish in newspaper, not just website.
Be present at a ceremony at the site of the historic resource and acknowledge the owner's initiative to designate the site.	Heritage Policies; Objective 1; Strategy 1; Task 3	As required.	B/C	Publish in newspaper
Implement a commemorative plaque program, which would have the Smoky Lake Regional Heritage Board commemorative plaque placed on each of the buildings municipally designated in the Region.	Heritage Policies; Objective 1; Strategy 1; Task 4	2014		
Objective #2: Increase the profile of heritage within the County and facilitate potential financial support through various sources.				
1. Provide information on available grant funding.	Heritage Policies; Objective 2; Strategy 1			
Objective #3: Maintain, update, and review the County's Inventory and Register of Historic Resources to ensure that important resources are identified and recorded.				
1. Prioritize sites for future designation.	Heritage Policies; Objective 3; Strategy 1			
Complete a Site Evaluation Criteria Rating Form for each site listed on each Inventory of Historic Places.	Heritage Policies; Objective 3; Strategy 1; Task 1	As needed	B	
Endorse and give direction to pursue the municipal designation for specific sites.	Heritage Policies; Objective 3; Strategy 1; Task 2	As needed	B	

2. Facilitate the municipal designation of heritage resources in Smoky Lake County.	Heritage Policies; Objective 3; Strategy 2			
Meet with site owners and discuss the opportunities of designating a resource.	Heritage Policies; Objective 3; Strategy 2; Task 1	As needed	B	
Encourage and assist site owners to complete and submit applications for Municipal Historic Resource Designation.	Heritage Policies; Objective 3; Strategy 2; Task 2	As needed	B	
Complete a detailed Historic Resource Integrity Review to ensure the accuracy of Statements of Significance at the time of the Designation Bylaw presentation.	Heritage Policies; Objective 3; Strategy 2; Task 3	As needed	B	
Make recommendations to County Council for Municipal Historic Resource Designation.	Heritage Policies; Objective 3; Strategy 2; Task 4	As needed	B	
3. Investigate and identify new sites worth of being recognized as historic resources.	Heritage Policies; Objective 3; Strategy 3			
Complete a Heritage Resource Integrity Review on new sites submitted for review.	Heritage Policies; Objective 3; Strategy 3; Task 1	As needed	B	May require trained Board Members or a hired consultant.
Group heritage resources into appropriate category, based on the total scored in the Heritage Resource Integrity Review.	Heritage Policies; Objective 3; Strategy 3; Task 2	As needed	B	May require trained Board Members or a hired consultant.
Objective #4: Support and encourage heritage conservation in the County.				
1. Adopt policies and/or bylaws that encourage protection of historic resources and heritage districts.	Heritage Policies; Objective 4; Strategy 1			
Develop policies, regulations or guidelines in statutory plans, zoning bylaws and heritage district overlays, to identify special areas and sites that require heritage conservation and protection.	Heritage Policies; Objective 4; Strategy 1; Task 1	2013; as needed	C	Completed via LUB
Amend Smoky Lake County's Land Use Bylaw to incorporate heritage conservation policies and regulations.	Heritage Policies; Objective 4; Strategy 1; Task 2	As needed	C	

2. Prevent inappropriate renovations and alterations of historic resources.	Heritage Policies; Objective 4; Strategy 2	When a building is designated	C	County must inform landowners of their legal responsibility towards heritage resources on their property.
Identify and/or create all policies, programs and incentives that could prevent potential historic resources from being demolished.	Heritage Policies; Objective 4; Strategy 2; Task 1	2017	C	

3.0 INCENTIVES

Possible Strategies and Activities/Tasks	HMP Work Plan Reference	Target Date Year Only	Lead Role B= Board C= County	Additional Comments
Objective #1: Establish municipal incentives that encourage landowners to designate and restore heritage resources within Smoky Lake County.				
1. Complete a Heritage Financial Strategy to determine appropriate municipal incentives for the County.	Incentives; Objective 1; Strategy 1			
Survey and analyze other municipalities across Canada to determine best practices for providing municipal incentives for heritage conservation.	Incentives; Objective 1; Strategy 1; Task 1	2012; every 10 years	C	
Explore the feasibility of establishing a site where historic resources facing demolition can be relocated.	Incentives; Objective 1; Strategy 1; Task 2	2020	B	
Consolidate information gathered and prepare alternatives for Council's consideration.	Incentives; Objective 1; Strategy 1; Task 3	2020	B	
Present alternatives to Council and walk them through incentive solutions.	Incentives; Objective 1; Strategy 1; Task 4	2020	B	
2. Explore the feasibility of a municipal Heritage Grant Program that financially supports sites that are designated as Municipal Historic Resources.	Incentives; Objective 1; Strategy 2	2020; every 10 years	C	
Objective #2: Promote and encourage applications to existing provincial heritage conservation incentive programs.				
1. Promote and encourage applications to existing Alberta Culture and Tourism Heritage Preservation Partnership Program, managed by the Alberta Historical Resources Foundation.	Incentives; Objective 2; Strategy 1			
Assist site owners to access monies available through the Historic Resource Conservation category, Transportation/Industrial Artifact Conservation category which funds conservation, preservation and restoration of Provincial and Municipal Historic Resources as well as funds architectural/engineering feasibility studies, reports and plans that have significant connections with Alberta's history.	Incentives; Objective 2; Strategy 1; Task 1	As needed	B	

Objective #3: Support and encourage partnerships between all levels of government and local organizations to further heritage conservation in Smoky Lake County.				
1. Work in conjunction with the Chamber of Commerce and Smoky Lake County Regional Heritage Board.	Incentives; Objective 3; Strategy 1			
Create an information package for the Chamber of Commerce, highlighting the importance of heritage as an economic driver in the community.	Incentives; Objective 3; Strategy 1; Task 1	2020	B	
Give a presentation at a Chamber of Commerce meeting in each community to increase heritage awareness and support.	Incentives; Objective 3; Strategy 1; Task 2	2020; as appropriate	B	
2. Work with other organizations across the Region.	Incentives; Objective 3; Strategy 2			
Identify potential opportunities to collaborate with other organizations that share similar objectives.	Incentives; Objective 3; Strategy 2; Task 1	2015; every 5 years	B	
Identify potential opportunities to work jointly with other organizations on fundraising projects.	Incentives; Objective 3; Strategy 2; Task 2	2015; as appropriate	B	
Objective #4: Collaborate with federal and provincial programs that support and promote heritage preservation at the municipal level.				
1. Encourage the Government of Alberta to increase its annual budget towards heritage conservation grant programs.	Incentives; Objective 4; Strategy 1	2025	B	
2. Identify how Smoky Lake County can enable the provincial government to encourage the federal government to develop a federal heritage incentive program.	Incentives; Objective 4; Strategy 2	2030	C	

4.0 AWARENESS AND EDUCATION				
Possible Strategies and Activities/Tasks	HMP Work Plan Reference	Target Date Year Only	Lead Role B= Board C= County	Additional Comments
Objective #1: Engage and integrate heritage conservation into the broader community.				
1. Create a list of Designated Municipal Historic Resources.	A & E; Objective 1; Strategy 1	2014	C	
2. Engage the community to participate in heritage conservation and promotion activities.	A & E; Objective 1; Strategy 2			
Encourage residents to volunteer on the Smoky Lake County Regional Heritage Board or Committee(s).	A & E; Objective 1; Strategy 2; Task 1	2014; ongoing	C	
3. Create display materials and/or display booth for promotional use.	A & E; Objective 1; Strategy 3	Complete/ ongoing	C	

Produce backdrop/display materials of heritage sites.	A & E; Objective 1; Strategy 3; Task 1	Complete/ ongoing	C	
Produce print materials (pamphlets, brochures, walking/driving booklets) to have on display.	A & E; Objective 1; Strategy 3; Task 2	Complete/ ongoing	C	
Have display booth and promotional materials available at municipal offices and visitor information centers.	A & E; Objective 1; Strategy 3; Task 3		C	
Objective #2: Collect, preserve and make accessible historical images and information.				
1. Create an Oral History Program to engage long-time community members and capture oral histories.	A & E; Objective 2; Strategy 1	2013; ongoing	B	
Establish a program to interview community members and record their oral histories.	A & E; Objective 2; Strategy 1; Task 1	2016; ongoing	B	Regional archives have not been created. Consider establishing an archive.
2. Maintain and retrieve copies of archival photos of buildings of interest.	A & E; Objective 2; Strategy 2			
Make photos available to use during Resource Integrity Reviews and planning decisions.	A & E; Objective 2; Strategy 2; Task 1	As needed	B	
Maintain and update the digital filing system of all heritage photos on the County's server.	A & E; Objective 2; Strategy 2; Task 2	2012; ongoing	C	
Draft a media release to solicit photos of buildings identified as part of the Survey and Inventory of Historic Places project.	A & E; Objective 2; Strategy 2; Task 3		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Complete
3. Launch the Smoky Lake County Heritage Inventory website, which includes the photos and text information of all inventoried sites.	A & E; Objective 2; Strategy 3			
Complete testing of the Heritage Inventory website.	A & E; Objective 2; Strategy 3; Task 1		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Complete
Officially launch the Heritage Inventory website.	A & E; Objective 2; Strategy 3; Task 2		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Complete
Objective #3: Interpret, make accessible and promote our heritage resources outside of Smoky Lake County.				
1. Develop a self-guided walking/driving tour for the Region's historic resources.	A & E; Objective 3; Strategy 1			
Develop a brochure to promote a self-guided walking/driving tour for visitors from outside the Smoky Lake Region.	A & E; Objective 3; Strategy 1; Task 1	2025	B	

Identify which designated historic resources are to be included on the brochure/tour.	A & E; Objective 3; Strategy 1; Task 2	2025	B	
Produce a self-guided tour that invites a traveler to visit historic resources throughout the County and interpret each site.	A & E; Objective 3; Strategy 1; Task 3	2025	B	
Distribute brochures to visitor information centres across Alberta.	A & E; Objective 3; Strategy 1; Task 4	2027	B	
Display brochures at trade show booths manned by County employees.	A & E; Objective 3; Strategy 1; Task 5	2027	B	
2. Market Smoky Lake County as a heritage destination.	A & E; Objective 3; Strategy 2			
Use existing District Marketing Organizations (DMOs), such as Alberta's Lakeland, Kalyna Country, Alberta HUB to market the Region as a place to experience heritage.	A & E; Objective 3; Strategy 2; Task 1	As needed	C	
Submit new pictures and provide new content for DMOs to create new advertisements and promotional information in their magazines and websites.	A & E; Objective 3; Strategy 2; Task 2	As needed	C	
3. Utilize web-based and social media tools to promote Smoky Lake County's historical sites.	A & E; Objective 3; Strategy 3			
Create a "heritage" page for Smoky Lake County's website and provide relevant content.	A & E; Objective 3; Strategy 3; Task 1		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Complete
4. Create an Interpretation Program	A & E; Objective 3; Strategy 4			
Update the County's website with information on designated historical sites.	A & E; Objective 3; Strategy 4; Task 1	Ongoing	C	
Develop interpretive plaques for all sites designated as Municipal Historic Resources.	A & E; Objective 3; Strategy 4; Task 2	2013; ongoing	B	
Objective #4: Engage all levels of government and community members in the conservation of historic sites in the County.				
1. Engage youth to learn about the heritage of Smoky Lake County.	A & E; Objective 4; Strategy 1			
Offer presentations to the school social studies classes about heritage conservation.	A & E; Objective 4; Strategy 1; Task 1	2020	B	

Encourage youth representation on the Smoky Lake County Regional Heritage Board (ages 16-18)	Objective 4; Strategy 1; Task 2			
As part of an existing event, participate in a Heritage Fair and for schools in the Region.	A & E; Objective 4; Strategy 1; Task 3	2023	B	
2. Develop a volunteer recognition program.	A & E; Objective 4; Strategy 2			
Recognize our volunteers.	A & E; Objective 4; Strategy 2; Task 1	2015	C	
Place media releases or advertisements in the local newspapers recognizing the contributions of volunteers.	A & E; Objective 4; Strategy 2; Task 2	As needed; ongoing	C	
Explore the possibility of a Volunteer Appreciation Night.	A & E; Objective 4; Strategy 2; Task 3	2014	C	
3. Encourage Heritage Board Members, Councilors, CAOs and Development Officers to learn about heritage conservation.	A & E; Objective 4; Strategy 3			
Consider participation and attendance at provincial and federal workshops and conferences that are related to heritage.	A & E; Objective 4; Strategy 3; Task 1	Ongoing as available	C	
4. Develop a program to provide heritage awareness training to County staff and Council.	A & E; Objective 4; Strategy 4			
Organize a tour (on-site or virtual) of all heritage resources in the County.	A & E; Objective 4; Strategy 4; Task 1	2017	C	
Deliver a presentation to Council focusing on heritage conservation initiatives within the County.	A & E; Objective 4; Strategy 4; Task 2	Regularly and as required.	B	

smoky lake region Heritage Management Plan

Smoky Lake County
Town of Smoky Lake
Village of Waskatenau
Village of Vilna



MARCH 2012



COMMUNITY DESIGN STRATEGIES INC.

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- Village of Waskatenau
- Village of Vilna
- County of Smoky Lake
 - Hamlet of Bellis
 - Hamlet of Spedden
 - Hamlet of Warspite

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- Town of Smoky Lake
- Village of Waskatenau
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1.1 The Study Area

Smoky Lake County is located approximately 120 km northeast of Edmonton. It is approximately a one hour drive to Edmonton's city limits to the southwest; the City of Cold Lake located to the east, the Regional Municipality of Wood Buffalo three hours to the north.

Smoky Lake County encompasses the Town of Smoky Lake, the Village of Waskatenau, the Village of Vilna and the Hamlets of Warspite, Bellis and Spedden. Collectively, the County, Town and Villages refer to themselves as Smoky Lake Region.

The North Saskatchewan River borders the southern boundary of Smoky Lake Region, where the first travellers settled in the early 1900s. Over time, settlers moved north and eventually the railway line was installed, which attracted communities to be formed alongside the rail line, which travelled east-west throughout the entire Region. The rail line has since been removed, however the major Highway 28 continues to link the communities.

The regional economy is based on many natural resources in the area, however the major economic base is agriculture and forestry. The Region is rich with grazing lands to the north and flat crop lands to the west, and is home to some of the most impressive natural areas in the province. As such, the tourism industry, particularly eco-tourism, is seen as having significant potential in the area. However, the richness of the Region is truly the history of the area reaching back to the late 1800s. The entire region has some of the most diverse yet culturally rich historic places in the province, thus leading to many economic opportunities that draw from these resources.

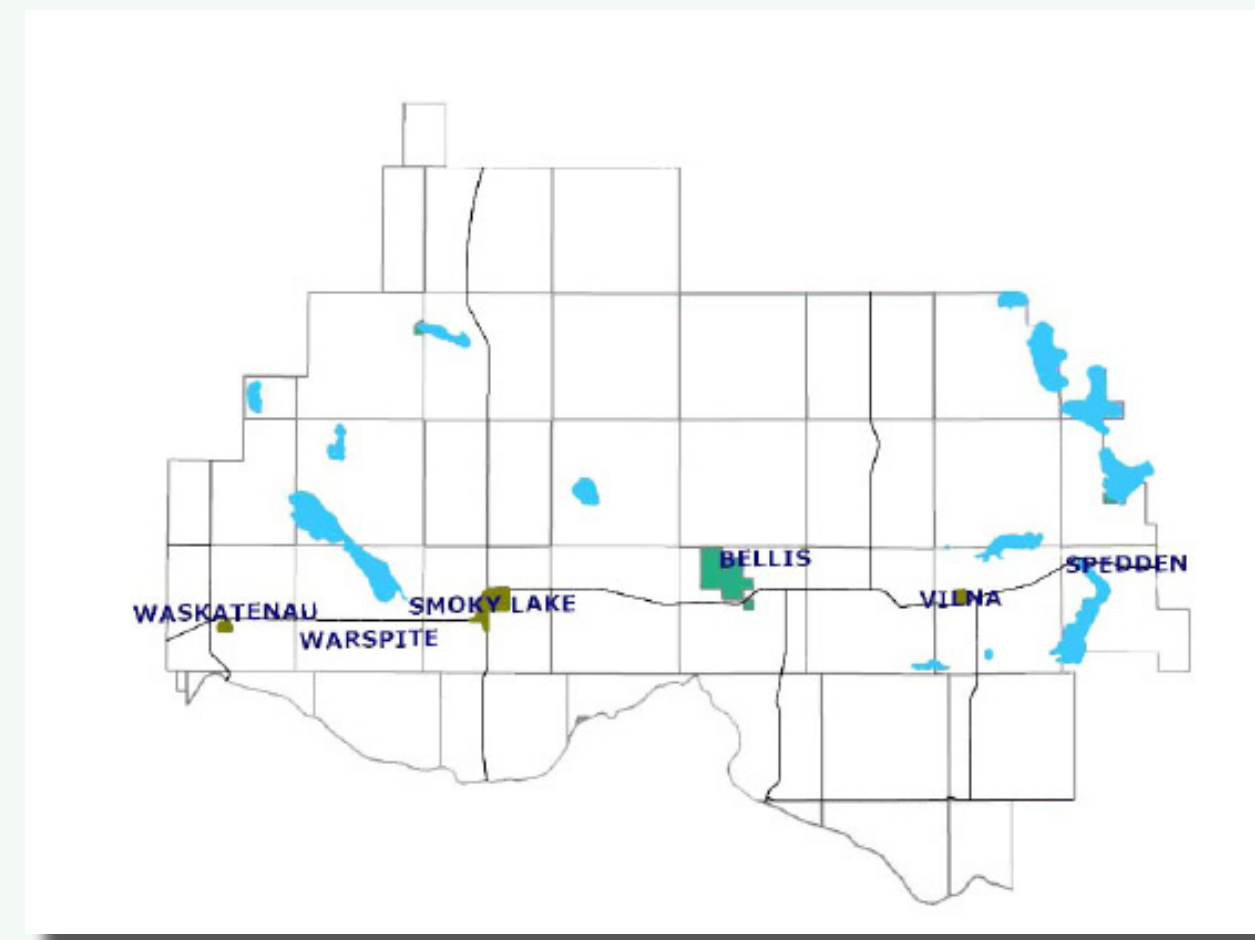
Introduction

Although the four municipalities have partnered in many projects in the past, in 2009, they embarked on their first project relating to heritage conservation.

The Smoky Lake Region Heritage Survey and Inventory Project was developed to produce an accurate and comprehensive record of the potential historic resources that were constructed prior to and including 1950. This project was proposed as a unique partnership with the Municipal Heritage Partnership Program (MHPP) who considered it a pilot regional project. Over the course of three years, 275 surveys and 93 Draft Statements of Significance were completed.

Smoky Lake County administered the project and the Smoky Lake Regional Heritage Board (County designated Board) was the liaison to the consultant.

Municipalities should have clear bylaws and policies in place that outline the process in which the municipality will receive and review applications to make changes to a designated site and what criteria will be used when deciding whether to approve or not to approve an application.



1.2 What is a Historic Place?

The spirit and character of our communities is largely defined by its unique history and heritage. All around us, historic places tell the story of the land, the people and the building of communities. These places showcase our historic time-line and demonstrate the places where we live and work ,and help us to better understand ourselves.

We value historic places for their association with our past, including:

- significant themes, activities, cultural practices or events;
- significant persons in our community;
- significant institutions in the municipality;
- significant buildings that embody distinctive characteristics of a style of architecture, craftsmanship, or represent high artistic value in the region;
- significant for the type of information in yields regarding the municipality's history; and,
- have a unique cultural, symbolic, or spiritual significance.

Historic places can be varied in scope, from a small outbuilding, an entire farmstead, or many acres in size when one considers the Victoria District National Historic Site of Canada, which is located within Smoky Lake County. What they all have in common is that members of the community, the province or the nation, consider them all to have heritage value because such sites are associated with our past in a very significant way. They tell a story...they are important elements in the overall development of our cultural and built landscape...they connect people to places...they create a sense of place that bonds the past with the future.

MHPP says...

KEY DEFINITIONS

HISTORIC PLACE: a structure, building, group of buildings, district, landscape, archaeological site or other place in Canada that has been formally recognized for its heritage value.

HERITAGE VALUE: the aesthetic, historic, scientific, cultural, social or spiritual importance or significance for past, present and future generations. The heritage value of an historic place is embodied in its character-defining materials, forms, location, spatial configurations, uses and cultural associations or meanings.

CHARACTER-DEFINING ELEMENTS: the materials, forms, location, spatial configurations, uses and cultural associations or meanings that contribute to the heritage value of a historic place, which must be retained to preserve its heritage value.

1.3 What is a Heritage Management Plan?

The purpose of the Heritage Management Plan is to provide a useful and proactive framework to encourage and facilitate heritage conservation activities in the Smoky Lake Region. This Plan is designed to guide future initiatives for the identification, stewardship, and management of heritage resources in the Region.

Heritage Planning is the process of involving the community to determine the local conversation goals based on an established set of values. The Smoky Lake Region Heritage Management Plan (HMP) was a result of a collaborative process involving many stakeholders including, elected officials, municipal staff, heritage non-government organizations, site owners and residents, and is designed to be a useful resource for many years to come.

Alberta's Municipal Heritage Partnership Program (MHPP) encourages communities to develop heritage management plans that will answer the following questions:

- Why local heritage should be conserved?
- What should be conserved?
- How can this be accomplished?

In the formation of the HMP, the Smoky Lake Region has relied on underlying principles suggested by MHPP. Such principles state that the HMP should be:

- both process and product-orientated;
- focused on a "values-based" approach;
- based on public engagement;
- communicate that it is not possible or desirable to conserve everything;
- an integral part of overall community planning system; and
- an open-ended, cyclical process.

DEFINING THE CONSERVATION DECISION-MAKING PROCESS

The goal of the Smoky Lake Region Heritage Management Plan is to define the conservation decision-making process. The *Standards and Guidelines for the Conservation of Historic Places in Canada* states that conservation activities can be seen as a sequence of actions:

- from **understanding** the historic place
- to **planning** for its conservation, and
- **intervening** through projects or maintenance.
-

Understanding Historic Places

In order to use a best-practice approach to heritage conservation, a good first step is to have a great understanding of the place, through research, investigation and documentation. Through the examination of its condition, evolution over time, and past and current importance to its community, the community can come to understand where the value of the historic place exists. The specific information collected will remain useful throughout the entire conservation process in assisting with making decisions related to interventions to the historic place in the future.

Planning for Conservation

Once a comprehensive understanding of a historic place has been completed, this information must be linked with potential interventions that respect its current heritage value. While planning, preferably engaging with potential partners and stakeholders, considerations must be given to a number of factors affecting the future of the historic place, including the needs of both the owner and users of the site; the greater community interest in the site; any potential environmental impacts; as well as resources available and any other external constraints that may impact the site.

Intervening on a Historic Place

Intervening on a historic place is considered the process that results in physical changes to the site's character-defining elements, in an effort to respect and protect its heritage value. Interventions are defined in three areas: preservation, rehabilitation, or restoration activities.



1.4 Benefits of Heritage Conservation

Most communities across Canada now embrace the four pillar model of sustainability, where environmental responsibility, economic health, social equity, and cultural vitality are all considerations that are in balance with every decision made in the community.



Heritage conservation is an integral part of community sustainability and the first guideline of sustainability is - use what already exists. Therefore, when considering the benefits of heritage conservation in a community, one can quickly see that there are many benefits in each of the four pillars of sustainability.

ENVIRONMENTAL SUSTAINABILITY

There are many strong arguments that heritage conservation contributes greatly to environmental responsibility. Heritage conservation promotes the reusing of existing resources through the rehabilitation of building materials. Heritage conservation also encourages the re-use and re-development of an existing and perhaps vacant building for a similar or entirely different use.

Heritage conservation reduces construction and demolition waste

- The majority of buildings are demolished before they are 30 years old.
- 35% of buildings are demolished due to area redevelopment, which can be attributed to a lack of effective planning.
- 22% of buildings are demolished due to buildings being no longer suitable for the required needs, which can be attributed to a lack of imagination in adaptive reuse ideas.
- If these buildings were refurbished for new uses, Canada's waste stream could be reduced by about 6%.

(Forintek Canada Corp., 2004)

Waste Facts

In 2000, 12% of Canada's waste disposal was from construction and demolition sources.

(Statistics Canada, 2005)

Depending on methodology, region and year of assessment, estimates of construction and demolition waste in Canada range from 10-33%, with a conservative estimate of about 20%.

(Heritage Canada Foundation, 2001)

When a heritage site is demolished, the stored embodied energy goes to waste

Embodied energy is the energy used in the life cycle of a building) and includes:

- initial energy - to acquire, process, manufacture and transport building materials, and construct the building
- recurring energy - to maintain and repair the building
- operating energy - to heat, cool, ventilate, and light the building; and
- demolition energy - to demolish and dispose of the building.

(Building and Environment, 1996)

ECONOMIC PROSPERITY

It has been proven that the economic health of a community is substantially bolstered through heritage conservation.

- Conservation projects create jobs in skilled labour and designing markets as well as increase local sales due to the construction materials purchased for the project.
- Rehabilitation of heritage buildings result in the municipality benefiting from increased property taxes and other revenues such as permit fees. What once was a vacant building and a liability to the municipality is now being used and paying taxes.

Heritage tourism

- Heritage tourism is a popular reason for choosing destinations for travel, and research has proven that heritage tourists spend 60% more and stay 60% longer than non-heritage tourists.
- Since heritage activities tend to appeal to older people, by 2025, travelers who seek heritage experiences in Canada are expected to grow from 8.3 million to 12.3 million in Canada. *(The Canadian Tourism Commission, 2003a and 2003b)*
- Tourism trends are shifting from active holidays to holidays as an experience. Travelers want an experience which provides new knowledge as well as authentic emotions. *(World Trade Organization, 2002)*

An investment in tourism economy

The Municipality of Port Hope, Ontario has demonstrated the power of heritage conservation in attracting tourism. The restoration of buildings in the downtown heritage district has made the downtown a magnet for antique stores and unique specialty shops. The tourism industry has since become one of the fastest growing industries in the municipality, with the Main Street being the key destination. *(University of Waterloo 2003)*

Property values

A study investigating almost 3,000 properties, of a wide variety of sizes and characteristics, in Ontario communities, found that:

- 59% of designated heritage properties had higher property values than the average when compared to surrounding market trends within the community.
- 15% had the same property values as the average.

Municipal support for rehabilitation and adaptive reuse of heritage buildings directly benefits a municipality

The City of Victoria, B.C. has implemented a tax incentive program for the residential conversion of heritage buildings that amounts to a tax exemption from one to ten years, based on the cost of the seismic upgrading required for the building. The program has stimulated:

- the creation of 263 new residential units downtown and \$32 million worth of investment in the substantial rehabilitation of 14 heritage buildings.
- the development of 70 units of affordable housing in a former hospital, built in 1908, through the adaptive reuse investment of \$1.6 million.
- property assessment increases that have resulted in a 60.3% increase in property taxes.
- \$55.8 million of private investment.
- the construction of new “loft-style” condominiums on adjacent vacant lots, which will lead to further increases in the municipal tax base.

(Plan Canada, 2003 and TIP Fact Sheet, 2006)

Investment in the rehabilitation of the historic Stanley Theatre in Vancouver, B.C. stimulated:

- a 21% increase in restaurants, cafes, and bars in the nearby area.
- a 9% increase in cultural establishments, such as the design sector.
- retail sale increases of 107.7% or \$112 million, which generated approximately an additional \$8 million in sales taxes and \$9 million in GST.
- real estate price increases of 72% and a doubling of condo prices, outstripping Vancouver residential market increases.
- Building permit increases from 1% to 16% of the permits issued in the general area.

(Ryerson University, 2003)



1.4 Benefits of Heritage Conservation (cont.)

The same study found that during periods of market downturn:

- 47% of designated heritage properties increased in value despite the downward trend of the market.
- 32% of the properties performed the same as the average.

(International Journal of Heritage Studies, 2000)

"Heritage conservation has been portrayed as the alternative to economic development, 'either we have historic preservation, or we have economic growth.' That is a false choice. In fact, heritage-based economic strategies can advance a wide range of public policy priorities."

- Donovan Rypkema, European Cultural Heritage Forum 2005

SOCIAL EQUITY

In 1996 the President's Council on Sustainable Development defined social equity as **"equal opportunity, in a safe and healthy environment."** Heritage conservation promotes social equity in that it provides an abundance of opportunity for public service and volunteerism, fosters a sense of place and pride in the community's uniqueness, and improves social responsibility in all ages.

Heritage conservation also supports social equity in that it facilitates neighbourhood diversity of both people and the properties due to the variety, size and cost of the housing types, and often promotes mixed use developments in urban centres. Furthermore, it is said that heritage conservation enhances the quality of life for citizens by creating safe and environmentally conscious living spaces that demonstrate pride of ownership and respect for traditional values.

When considering heritage conservation, there are a few social equity issues that historical organizations often need to consider. General consensus is that historical buildings and/or sites should be made accessible to everyone to demonstrate how the historic environment can contribute to life-long learning. In addition, when a community fosters a healthy historic environment, often what results is that historic buildings are being used in different ways, making them relevant to all sectors of the community.

Heritage conservation projects and activities can also be used as a tool to overcoming social exclusion and achieving broad social change in a community. These same projects

can also significantly enhance the social capital of local communities by providing a tangible link to the past and reinforcing the sense of community identity and pride.

CULTURAL VITALITY

The Urban Institute's Arts and Culture Indicators Project defines cultural vitality as **"creating, disseminating, validating, and supporting arts and culture as a dimension of everyday life in communities."** The benefits of heritage conservation while considering cultural vitality is that it promotes architectural diversity in the community and therefore offers unique places and spaces for artists, artisans, and cultural groups to use. This, in turn, encourages new cultural growth in the community. Furthermore, these heritage places often become focal points for community social events.

Heritage conservation contributes to a prosperous future in a community by working to rehabilitate heritage buildings and integrate modern development in heritage conservation areas to attract new residents and support the cultural-based tourism industry. It also serves to enhance the cultural capital in a community by continuing to develop expertise in artisan and traditional trades related to heritage conservation.

"Iconic cultural buildings can contribute to the economic, as well as cultural and social regeneration of an area, bringing in new money and creating jobs and opportunities for local people. A great building - whether a new one or a refurbished one - can put a place on the map and generate economic growth. It can become a symbol of an ailing community that it is not prepared to simply lie down and die."

"It is hard to underestimate the importance of outward design in a successful building. The presence of striking architectural landmarks on our landscape adds significantly to our cultural heritage and sense of place."

Davies, S. 2004. Regeneration and Renewal in the South West. Bathpool: South West Museums Libraries & Archives Council





2.1 Smoky Lake Region Context Paper

INTRODUCTION

This Municipal Historical Context Paper identifies local historical themes, events and trends, focusing on the settlement process and the development of building types, designs and construction to provide a framework for understanding the region's built heritage. We follow a selective thematic outline that focuses on the settlement process and the development of building types, designs and construction methods to provide an understanding of the built heritage of the Smoky Lake Region. Today, the Smoky Lake Region includes six urban communities; Waskatenau, Warspite, Smoky Lake, Vilna, Bellis and Spedden.

The context paper is not meant as a narrative history, but rather a framework to assist in identifying major themes and contextual information necessary for the on-going evaluation of buildings for the Smoky Lake Region Inventory of Historic Places, and concentrates on the settlement process through to World War II.

Understanding the importance of preserving the sites and the history of the people within the Smoky Lake Region in this research requires images and detailed documentation to enhance this work's value from the historical perspective.

Memory and Culture

Growing up with a strong sense of cultural history, we understand that what is ordinary today will be history tomorrow and should be documented before it is lost forever. (CDS Inc.)

One of the most striking features of the Alberta landscape, particularly in the Smoky Lake Region, is the prevalence of Eastern Rite Churches, historic farmsteads, community halls and old schools. The characteristic onion-shaped domes, old-style log houses, barns and community halls built by communities that were limited to available resources, skills and materials, resulted in a transformation of the Old World Byzantine style into what can be described as a warm and characteristic folk architecture that displays a rich diversity of expression in both form and detail. Some of these historic places are being demolished to clear agricultural land, or to provide opportunity for new construction. This creates a great need to preserve these structures or at



Photo Credit: CDS Inc



Holy Trinity Ukrainian Orthodox Church, Photo Credit: CDS Inc



Provincial Archives of Alberta Photo# G301: Gavinchuck

least document the existence of these buildings, since many of them are of considerable architectural value to the Smoky Lake Region.

When Ukrainian settlers arrived in the Smoky Lake Region, they did not try to duplicate their traditional village settlement patterns but rather farmed quarter-section homesteads a half-mile from their nearest neighbor. The result was village-like rural communities that appeared in a spatially extended form as a result of the homestead system. This resulted because of the chain migration and the fact that families and friends gravitated towards similar regions. The built heritage that resulted from these rural communities throughout the Smoky Lake Region, such as the Holy Trinity on the following page, is a very important part of the area's history.

This unique built heritage continues to evoke the presence of a remote but enduring past from which settlers arriving from their homeland derived the strength to sustain the hardships of their early years on the prairie. Protecting and preserving the historic built heritage of this region will transform the past into a record that is alive and meaningful for us today. Though this inventory of historic places will become even more valuable in time, the research and photographs assembled are already of immense importance as historical documents as, in some cases, some of the structures and interiors documented and photographed may no longer exist.

The importance of the early Byzantine churches to the built history of Canada and, in particular, as they relate to the Ukrainian Bloc Settlement can be best illustrated by noting that the Barich Ukrainian Catholic Church of St. Onufry (built in 1907 and rebuilt in 1914) has now been moved to the Canadian Museum of Civilization where it has become an important artifact illustrating the Ukrainian tradition of early Byzantine churches in Alberta. As such, it will be one of four churches in Canada's national museum and the only one from western Canada.

Modern ways of life have brought some dramatic social changes. Many diverse cultural communities are now merging together in our large urban centres. It is more common and accepted today for Alberta's youth to marry outside one's own culture or religion. Cities bring a diversity of people together, and cultural and community groups can become lost. Languages or customs may no longer be used except perhaps at Christmas and Easter. Change leads to assimilation of cultures and we are fortunate that historians have devoted

their time to projects that will capture the history of cultural change in Alberta that provides us with both a link to the past and a bridge to the future. What is recorded in the survey and inventory process, including documentation by photographs, will be altered or even lost through the inevitable erosion of time. The Smoky Lake Region was fortunate to have a resident photographer, Nicholas Gavinchuk, who documented the history of the district area through 1920 to 1968. His work is safely stored in the Provincial Archives of Alberta, and is a valuable resource in documenting the historic places of the Smoky Lake Region.

Many towns and farms have been abandoned due to falling grain prices and farm bankruptcies, and what were once thriving centres have been reduced to just a few buildings, a post office, or a small general store and a garage. In some cases, even these have closed, leaving the village with empty storefronts and a handful of homes.

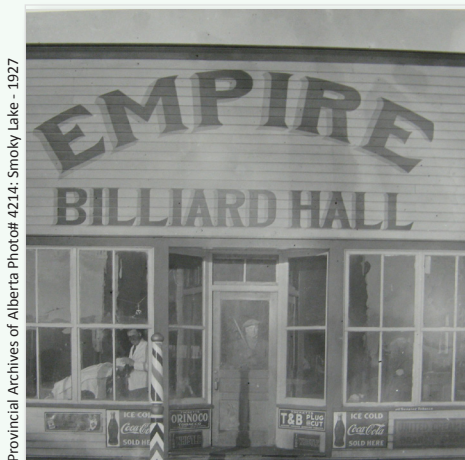
Change affects all family and social groups as well, and those most affected are Alberta's youth and the elderly. Children who grow up in rural areas either stay in their community or on the farm or, more commonly, they migrate to the city to further their education and find employment where they marry and raise their children in a new community that has many different cultural groups and customs. Each successive generation is one more step away from their rural roots and their traditional cultures.

The elderly move from the farm as well: into the homes of family members or to an assisted-living facility in the nearest town or city. When they pass on, there may be no one to replace them in their communities. Seniors have lost some of their important roles of helping to bring up children and being centrally involved in the community. Social changes have significantly affected society in Alberta, which once relied on its senior members to maintain and teach traditional cultural values and customs.

This documentation of the architecture and the portraits of our communities define a disappearing lifestyle in Alberta. The built heritage acknowledges the strength of these individuals who competed with nature to survive in their isolated communities, often in extreme circumstances. The reality of an image or a lifestyle, as portrayed by these isolated farmsteads, rural communities, and Byzantine churches, captures the beauty and strength inherent in these vanishing cultures.



Holy Trinity Russo Orthodox Church. Photo Credit: CDS Inc.



Provincial Archives of Alberta Photo # 4214; Smoky Lake - 1927



Photo Credit: CDS Inc.

"The objects or artifacts in portraits are often as important as the people portrayed. They give us a picture of a lifestyle, saying a great deal about how the owner lives--a wash basin, shoes by the door, a pot of flowers, an old wood stove or a bed with a rosary hanging beside it. These objects define a sense of what is important to the person living in this environment. Like the photograph of a church with other buildings and vehicles around it, the portrait's artifacts define and explain the lifestyle. It is amazing how facts or information is stored in one's childhood memories."

Semchishen, in his journal: 97/02/01

Indigenous Peoples

The people indigenous to the area currently known as the Smoky Lake Region, which includes the present day Town of Smoky Lake, the Villages of Vilna and Waskatenau, and the Hamlets of Warspite, Spedden and Bellis, included localized groups of aboriginal people falling under the general category "Plains Indians." These people inherited much of what we now consider Canada's Prairie Provinces, and their traditional culture was largely based on hunting large herds of bison that fed on native grasslands of present day Alberta, Saskatchewan, and Manitoba. Before facing European epidemics of disease in the 1800s, there were an estimated 33,000 Plains Indians, including Cree, Sarcee, and Blackfoot.

Small groups of nomadic hunters roamed the plains for thousands of years, migrating to follow season and food. But it was not until circa 1730 that horses (originally introduced by Spanish colonists to Mexico in the 16th century) had made their way north through a combination of trading and raiding between tribes. The introduction of horses from the south, in conjunction with contact with the fur trade from the east around the same time, had a dramatic impact on Aboriginal people. As the indigenous cultures became more enmeshed with the early European culture, their lifestyles changed dramatically, and by the mid-18th century, metal wares introduced by the Europeans had replaced indigenous stone pottery and arrowheads, and cloth had largely replaced animal skins for clothing. The early fur trade period also marked the beginnings of the Metis, the mixed-race descendants of European and Aboriginal people.



2.1 Smoky Lake Region Context Paper (cont.)

Infectious disease, introduced by Europeans, swept through indigenous populations in the 18th and 19th centuries, killing thousands. This, combined with other factors as the introduction of the alcohol trade by Americans in the 1860s and the decline of the buffalo due to over-hunting for the profitable fur trade, led to increasing challenges for indigenous people. In 1869-1870, the Dominion of Canada purchased Rupert's Land (from Ontario to the Rockies and north to the Arctic) from the Hudson's Bay Company, and subsequently formed the Northwest Territories, which make up much of present day Alberta, Saskatchewan, and Manitoba. From 1871 to 1877, the federal government negotiated a series of treaties with the Plains Indians to establish agreements for the use of the land. Following this, the indigenous people were relegated to reserves, where they attempted to adapt to other, primarily agricultural, ways of life.

Initial Establishment

The earliest settlement in the Smoky Lake region was a Protestant Mission founded in 1857 at Whitefish Lake (on the northeast edge of present day Smoky Lake Region) by Ojibwa minister Reverend Henry Bird Steinhauer, who lived most of his life there until his death in 1884. Of Ojibwa descent, Steinhauer was adopted as a young boy by Europeans. "He was educated as a teacher, minister, and agriculturist, and was well-versed in Ojibway, Cree, English, Hebrew, and Greek. He helped the Rev. James Evans perfect the Cree Syllabic alphabet and translated many English gospel songs into the Cree tongue."¹

Aside from Fort Chipewyan's establishment in 1788, the Whitefish Lake Mission "was Alberta's first continuous community dating from 1857."² Its purpose was to convert indigenous people to Christianity, and it was unique in that it was the first permanent aboriginal agricultural settlement in the west, it was not associated with the fur trade, and it was the first Protestant mission established and led by a person of Aboriginal descent.

In 1860, a second missionary named Thomas Woolsey arrived and established a Methodist mission at a site called Mission Hill, located on the northwest end of Smoky Lake, a lake named by the natives. Two years later, George McDougall (born in Kingston, Upper Canada in 1820) traveled west with his son, John, and convinced Woolsey to move the existing mission south to the river, where, "more game was available, and where the native populations were known to camp."³ This location was also situated along the 1,400 kilometre



Provincial Archives of Alberta Photo# A11878: Smoky Houses - 1941



Provincial Archives of Alberta Photo# A11863: Murphy House - 1930



Victoria Trail River Lot 3. Photo Credit: CDS

Victoria Trail that linked Fort Garry (present day Winnipeg) with Fort Edmonton. This marked the beginning of the Victoria Mission, located ten miles south of the current Town of Smoky Lake. In 1863, the first house was built - a one-room log cabin to house the McDougall family. By 1864, they had built a church, a stable, a house, and a schoolhouse which were surrounded by a palisade wall. Over the next several years their lives were immersed in missionary work with the indigenous people, including maintaining a vegetable garden and becoming involved with the annual bison hunt in fall.

In 1864, a Hudson's Bay Company trading post was established at Victoria, and that same year, the clerk's quarters was completed - a structure that still stands today, and marks Alberta's oldest building with its original footprint and in its original location. The trading post was strategically located between the major river and overland transportation routes, and was close to the mission where hundreds of Cree regularly camped. Though it competed with free traders and a post at Lac la Biche, Fort Victoria was initially successful, with indigenous people trading buffalo robes and dried meat for goods such as axes, traps, blankets, fabric, guns, and ammunition.⁴

Reverend McDougall convinced Métis from the Red River settlement to bring their families to Victoria and, in 1865, approximately 130 Métis people migrated west from Red River to settle the area east of the mission. They divided the land along the river into long, narrow lots perpendicular to the river - a centuries-old system brought to Canada from France and adopted by Métis Red River settlers. The new settlers farmed, fished, and hunted bison. They built their houses near the riverbank and planted gardens and small acres of grain nearby.

By the early 1870s, the Hudson's Bay Company post had expanded and included a stable, a trading shop, a dairy, a general store, the men's house, a blacksmith, and the clerk's quarters. Also by this time, church attendance at the Victoria Settlement was as high as 250 people, and around the same time the community expanded twenty kilometres west to Lobstick.

Despite this growth, there remained significant barriers to further expansion. A smallpox epidemic ravaged the west around 1870, affecting indigenous people and settlers alike. Nearly 40-percent of the aboriginal and Métis population died, as well as three members of the McDougall family, Georgiana, Flora, Anna (adopted native), and Abigail (John McDougall's wife).

The following year, George, his wife and son, John, left the area.

On the broader scale, by the mid-19th century there were still few prospects for settlement of the Canadian prairies. The Hudson's Bay Company owned the majority of land between Hudson's Bay and the Rocky Mountains, and opposed settlement that they felt would diminish their profits from the fur trade. In addition, there was inconclusive evidence as to the potential for the land's agricultural development, and few settlers were willing to risk the daunting 1000-mile journey west. In 1857, a "Select Committee of the House of Commons" debated the Northwest's agricultural potential, but came to no clear conclusion. Though some argued for settlement potential, others, such as arctic explorer Sir John Richardson, raised the issue of the short and dry growing season, and argued that inadequate transportation would limit activity to subsistence farming and make large scale export impossible. Though divided, the Committee did recommend that Canada annex available land for the purposes of settlement, and after Confederation in 1867, and the 1870 purchase of Rupert's Land from the Hudson's Bay Company, interest in settlement and the potential for associated exploitation grew. Following the transfer of Rupert's Land, the Dominion of Canada found itself in the position of needing to negotiate agreements with the approximately 35,000 indigenous people living in the annexed territory. This led to the negotiation of seven numbered Treaties, of which Treaty No. 6 covered the area that includes the present day Smoky Lake Region.

From a financial perspective, Canada was already spending more than 20 million dollars each year fighting indigenous peoples. The Treaties established reserves of land, the building of schools, supply of agricultural equipment, supplies and instruction, and the prohibition of the liquor trade in aboriginal communities, as well as hunting and fishing rights, and lump sum payments. In addition, the mostly Cree negotiators of Treaty No. 6 obtained a commitment from the government to supply medicine as needed, and provide support in the event of "pestilence" or "general famine."⁵

The Crown first dealt with those aboriginal groups most willing to negotiate, leaving more resistant groups increasingly isolated with fewer and fewer options. One of the principal signatories of Treaty No. 6 was Chief Pakan (born James Seenum around 1842) of Whitefish Lake (present day Whitefish Lake First Nation #128, located along the east border of Smoky Lake County). Chief Pakan was eventually converted to Christianity and was considered to



Provincial Archives of Alberta Photo G383: Smoky Bennett Buggy - 1935



Photo Credit: CDS Inc.



Provincial Archives of Alberta Photo G143: Auto & Wagon - 1927

have "remained loyal to the Crown" by not participating in the Northwest Rebellion of 1885. Other Aboriginal leaders, such as the Cree Chief Big Bear, were unsatisfied by the terms offered, and resisted the mounting pressure to sign the Treaty for as long as possible.

Despite resistance, Treaty No. 6 was signed in 1876. Indigenous peoples gradually left the area around the Victoria Settlement, moving to reserves established by the treaties, or following the dwindling buffalo south. The Métis settlers, who also participated in the traditional buffalo hunt, gradually left as well, many to Lac la Biche. As the demographics of the area shifted, the focus of the Victoria mission changed from missionary work with First Nations to work with settlers (European and Métis).

In 1872, the Dominion Lands Act was passed, which led to the survey of the annexed land using the US square system. The Act made certain sections of land available to persons over the age of 21, or heads of households who could prove cultivation and settlement after three years. Though settlement remained limited for the remainder of the 19th century due to restrictive immigration policies and semi-arid growing conditions, this marked the next phase of settlement in the region.

Transportation

Even before European settlers faced the challenges of making homes on the Canadian prairies, transportation was an important aspect of life. Early transportation to the region extended capacity for trade for the Hudson's Bay Company. Ships from England arriving at York Factory on the Hudson's Bay were unloaded of goods for inland trade. Large York boats carried these goods along various routes that led them to the South Saskatchewan River, the North Saskatchewan River, and Churchill River via the Sturgeon River.⁶

In the 1860s, land-transported trade increased to such a capacity that Fort Garry became the primary distributor to the west, after which Red River carts replaced the York boats as the new means of transportation. The two-wheeled wooden carts traveled in brigades of ten carts as they set out from Winnipeg to Fort Edmonton, distributing goods at various outposts along the route.⁷ Overland routes were important means of transporting people and goods in the early days but the lack of adequate transportation was a long-time deterrent to early settlement. The Victoria Trail, which runs along the banks of the North Saskatchewan River from Highway 38 (southeast of Red-



2.1 Smoky Lake Region Context Paper (cont.)

water) to the Victoria Settlement Historic Site, is the oldest road still regularly used in Alberta. The trail was originally used by aboriginal people and eventually became the main overland route linking Fort Garry (Winnipeg) and Fort Edmonton.⁸

The first European to travel the Victoria Trail was explorer Anthony Henday in 1754-1755, who traveled west to encourage western indigenous peoples to come to York Factory in Manitoba to trade. Once the Victoria Mission and Hudson's Bay post in Victoria/Pakan were established in the early 1860s, the trail developed from a walking and horse trail to one that carts and wagons could travel on.⁹ In 1867, a cart road from Fort Edmonton to Fort Victoria was built.

Early transportation was, "in the summer, a heavy box wagon drawn by oxen or heavy horses, with no springs to spare the human body, as they traveled on trails that bore no resemblance to the roads of today. In the winter cutters and bob sleighs took the place of wagons. Gradually the settlers hacked their way through bush and built corduroy roads (rails placed parallel to each other with dirt top) in places where muskeg and peatland made it impossible to travel."¹⁰

By the mid 1870s, the Hudson's Bay Company adopted a steamboat transportation system on both the North and South Saskatchewan River to relieve high costs associated with the Red River cart system. By 1875, the steamboat service extended to Edmonton.¹¹ The North Saskatchewan River itself was a key route for indigenous people, explorers, fur traders and missionaries, and once pioneer communities began to be established in the Smoky Lake district, the river continued to act as an important avenue for shipping and transportation. Early settlers would transport supplies by raft or boat from Edmonton and, up until the CNR line was built north of the river in 1918, a steam boat called "The City of Edmonton" regularly made two-week voyages from Edmonton to Pakan to transport grain and stock.¹² This included stops at Pine Creek, a settlement along the river just south of present day Waskatenau.¹³ It took two weeks to travel by steam boat from Edmonton to Pine Creek.¹⁴ However, the arrival of the steamboat was brief due to the advancement of the railway which led to the demise of the steamboat by the turn of the century.¹⁵

Early supplies also arrived by barge and stage coach, and an early stage coach



Kielbasa Canyon, Photo Credit: CDS Inc.



PAA Photo Off G163: CN Section Gang, Smoky Lake - c1927



Provincial Archives of Alberta Photo Off G282: Smoky Lake - 1933

was run between Fort Saskatchewan and Pine Creek by Mr. Rudd. Oxen were used to bring supplies from Fort Saskatchewan, Bruderheim and Edmonton, and after the CPR line was built through Lamont in 1905, some mail and supplies were brought from there.¹⁶

The area at the North Saskatchewan River where water crossings proved easier, and where George McDougall founded the Victoria Mission in 1862, is presently known as Metis Crossing. This had been an important meeting place for Aboriginal people since before European contact, as evidenced by archaeological remains dating back 6,000 years.¹⁷ River crossings developed as European settlement expanded, with ferry service starting near Pakan in 1892, and later at the Waskatenau crossing (Twp 58 RNG19) in the summer of 1919¹⁸, and the Warspite crossing (Twp 58 RNG18) ¹⁹ in 1920.²⁰

The Northwest Territories government established a Public Works department in 1897, which was responsible for trails and roads. When the province of Alberta was formed in 1905, responsibility for roads shifted to the new provincial government.²¹ However, early dirt roads were basic and "often in very poor condition, especially during wet weather."²² It was not until after World War I that the arrival of cars necessitated the development of better roads and highways. Higher grain prices during the 1920s were reflected in farmers' increased prosperity, and as cars became more common, full service garages began to appear in major service centres.²³

Once the annexed, land became available for settlement, increasing numbers of settlers began to arrive and claim land in the Smoky Lake Region. However, this happened more gradually than in other parts of Alberta and the prairies due to the delay in extending the railroad to the Smoky Lake area. It was not until 1904 that the Canadian Northern Railway was established from Saskatoon to Edmonton.²⁴ In 1906 the Canadian Northern Railway established in closer proximity to the Smoky Lake Region through Lamont County and south of the North Saskatchewan River, however it was not until 1919 that the railroad finally came through the Smoky Lake Region.

The 1918 arrival of the CNR line north of the North Saskatchewan River changed the landscape of the area dramatically. Originally surveyed in 1913, the outbreak of World War I in 1914 delayed the development of the line, and it was eventually resurveyed to its current position, forcing some communities to move existing buildings to the revised location of the new railway

stations.

The trestle near present day Waskatenau was engineered in 1919, and became a local landmark. “Now half of its original length, the gully at each end of the trestle was filled with soil in 1958, and the dam was abandoned since the trains no longer needed water and steam to power them.”²⁵

The CNR line was the life line to the creation of new communities. While the railway line was the catalyst for the formation of the present day communities of Warspite, Smoky Lake, Bellis, Waskatenau, Vilna, and Spedden, it also foreshadowed the eventual demise of previously vibrant communities that did not fall along the rail line. Victoria/Pakan’s previously strategic location (ten miles south of present day Smoky Lake along the North Saskatchewan River and Victoria Trail) suddenly put it off the beaten path and, once isolated, the community quickly declined. In 1921, the mission closed and, in 1922, the hospital was moved to Smoky Lake and the Victoria School eventually closed in the 1940s. Similarly, the Pine Creek Post Office and the McDonald General Store closed in 1920, after the railway inspired the formation of the Hamlet of Waskatenau around the new rail line. Waskatenau was later incorporated as a Village in 1932. The Veillette Post Office near present day Vilna had a similar fate, being moved to the Vilna townsite after the railway line arrived in 1919, thus leading to Vilna’s incorporation as a village in 1923.

The coming of the railway meant a dramatic change in the way of life of settlers, who were able to begin the transition from subsistence farming to an export market, producing increasing amounts and using the rail lines to transport grains and livestock to other parts of the country. The communities along the CNR line suddenly became important centers of business, and businesses ranging from grain mills to general stores to banks quickly developed.

Settlement

After the Dominion of Canada acquired Rupert’s Land from the Hudson’s Bay Company in 1871, a process was undertaken to survey the new land. The federal government passed the Dominion Lands Act the following year which led to a system that “divided the arable prairie lands into square townships, each comprising 36-sections of 640-acres, with the basic homestead comprising one 160-acre quarter section.”²⁶ The Hudson’s Bay Company retained approximately two sections in each township, and two sections per township were reserved for schools. The Dominion government granted odd-



numbered sections within a township as an incentive to CPR to build lines to encourage settlement.

As the survey process progressed, increasing numbers of settlers arrived and filed for the newly available homesteads. The development of the railroad determined, to a large extent, the areas that were settled first. Since the Canadian Northern Railway was not constructed south of the North Saskatchewan River (through Lamont County) until 1906, and the Canadian National Railway line north of the river was not completed until 1919, settlers were slow to arrive to present day Smoky Lake Region.

As settlers arrived and established their new homes on quarter sections in the area, they began to develop services to serve themselves and their immediate neighbours. Initially, people would use their homes to run stores and post offices, or to hold church services. Gradually, as services became necessary and/or resources became available, services were formalized and additional buildings such as churches, schools, and community halls were built. For example, when the first settlers passed away, a settler might donate part of their land to become the cemetery, and once materials and funds were found, a church might eventually be built nearby. As the nearby population grew, a school district would be formed and a one-room school built, or a community hall would be built near a church.

Rural Communities

When the Ukrainian settlers arrived in the Smoky Lake Region, they did not try to duplicate their traditional village settlement patterns but rather farmed quarter-section homesteads half-a-mile from their nearest neighbor. The result was village-like rural communities that appeared in a spatially extended form as a result of the homestead system. This resulted because of a chain migration, and the fact that families and friends gravitated towards similar regions.

The more complex rural communities usually contained a school, church, and a community hall, and sometimes offered the services of a blacksmith, implement dealer, miller, and a store (which could also contain a post office). These rural communities existed until towns and hamlets followed the railway throughout the region.

A good example of a rural community in the Smoky Lake Region is the Barich Corner north of Warspite where a post office, church, cemetery, and later



2.1 Smoky Lake Region Context Paper (cont.)

a hall were located. Other services began to emerge to serve the growing number of settlers in the area. Missions were established to educate the Ukrainian immigrants and school districts like Victoria School District #75 (1888), Edwand (1907), Kotzman and Ruthenia (1911), White Mud Creek (c1915) and White Earth (1919), were formed.

Ukrainian Settlement

One of the most predominant settler groups across all of East Central Alberta, including much of the present day Smoky Lake Region, were Ukrainian immigrants. During the 19th century, most of Ukraine was ruled by the Russian Empire, with the remainder falling under the rule of the Austro-Hungarian provinces of Galicia, Bukovina and Transcarpathia. Significant Ukrainian immigration to Canada began in 1891 and grew after 1896, when Canada began soliciting Eastern European immigrants for agricultural settlement.

Ukrainians had experienced oppression and economic hardship under Russian and Austro-Hungarian rule, and many took the opportunity of the Dominion Lands Act whereby land prices were as low as \$1 an acre, or a free quarter section homestead grant for a \$10 registration fee.²⁷ Many arrived in Canada with little capital and rudimentary farming techniques without the benefit of machinery. By 1914, block settlements in Alberta, Saskatchewan, and Manitoba had formed with immigrants gravitating towards each other in common areas based on past affiliations including family, language, religion, and village or district of origin. These communities worked to maintain their traditional language, cultural, and spiritual lives and, as such, have helped shape the rural and urban communities that have formed around them. In the Smoky Lake Region today, this takes the form of important historical resources such as schools, churches, stores, and community halls.

The first block settlement in East Central Alberta formed in 1892. By 1919, block settlements in the region covered over 2,500 square miles, and, by 1930, over 50,000 people of Ukrainian descent resided in the region.²⁸ Even immigrants arriving from the same area did not necessarily share a common ethnicity such as the many Polish immigrants or Polish-speaking Ukrainians that arrived from Galicia.²⁹

By 1914, 170,000 immigrants had arrived (mostly from Galicia and Bukovina), however, during World War I immigrant Ukrainians were considered “enemy aliens” by the government and immigration ceased almost entirely,



South Kotzman School, Photo Credit: CDS Inc.



Whitemud Creek School, Photo Credit: CDS Inc.



Gongos Ukrainian House, Photo Credit: CDS Inc.

despite the fact that over 10,000 Ukrainians were enlisted in the Canadian armed forces.

Agricultural Development

The evolution of agriculture is evident throughout the Smoky Lake Region’s built heritage, which reflects distinct cultural elements of immigrant settlers from areas as diverse as Central and Eastern Europe, Scandinavia, and the British Isles. Settlers would draw on their traditional knowledge to build their initial homesteads and, as resources became available, they would expand their operations to include additional buildings. As World War I demanded, and the expansion of the railways made possible the development of an agricultural economy, farmers made the transition from subsistence to commercial farming.

According to Orest T. Martynowych, author of *The Ukrainian Bloc Settlement in East Central Alberta 1890 – 1930*, three phases made up the development of Ukrainian farmsteads in East Central Alberta. The first involved the construction of a temporary dug-out shelter known as a “zemlianka” or “burdei.” In the first years after immigration (and up to around 1905-1910), men would often work off the farm (for example on the railway or in mines) in order to earn enough money to clear land, begin farm operations and build a house in order to fulfill the requirements of the Homestead Act.

Once there were enough resources (generally within the first three years), the second phase involved the construction of a permanent dwelling, generally a two-room, clay-plastered, log house that often had a thatched roof that could be built using only the most basic tools (e.g., saw, axe, a hammer).³⁰ In addition, specialized out-buildings were constructed as needed, including summer houses/kitchens, outhouses, animal shelters, and granaries.³¹

The third phase marked the move from subsistence to commercial farming. This occurred after 1917, and was facilitated by the wartime agriculture boom and the expansion of the railway, which made possible greater exportation. Ukrainian farmers expanded their land and production, and built larger, two-storey, homes. Farmers in northwestern Alberta (including the Smoky Lake Region) lagged behind other areas somewhat because of the later arrival of the northern railroad, their lack of capital, the need to clear trees off the land, and their reluctance to change their traditional subsistence farming practices.³²

Education

The earliest school in the region was built by the Methodist mission at Victoria/Pakan to serve the settlers in the area. As early as 1871-1872, there were 70 children attending the Victoria Mission School. As more settlers arrived, the mission schools could not accommodate the growing number of children, and the Northwest Territorial government began organizing school districts. Victoria S.D. No. 75 was organized in 1888 at Victoria/Pakan, with Lobstick S.D. No. 1433, Prosvischenia S.D. No. 1476, and Bavilla S.D. No. 1477 likely organized prior to 1905³³, marking the earliest school districts in the Smoky Lake Region.

“The terms of Confederation established education as a matter of provincial jurisdiction,”³⁴ and, in 1901, Northwest Territory legislation established a system that required all public schools to follow common curriculum and regulations.³⁵ When Alberta became a province in 1905, it inherited more than 500 school districts from the Northwest Territories.

Though the official language of the public education system was English, large numbers of non-English speaking immigrants were arriving to populate the area. As such, “a recognized purpose of schooling was to teach immigrants English and to socialize them into the predominantly Anglo-Saxon culture.”³⁶ Early Alberta was largely rural with an agricultural economy, and attendance at early schools was a challenge, as many children were required by their parents to help with work on the farm. In addition, Alberta experienced a shortage of qualified teachers, and many were ill-equipped to teach immigrant children English. Some students recalled being strapped for speaking Ukrainian in school or on school grounds. Although bilingual Ukrainian-English schools operated in Manitoba from 1897 and in Saskatchewan unofficially, they were not allowed in Alberta.

The majority of early schools in Alberta were one-room buildings, and, “in 1901 the territorial government issued a manual with building regulations and a plan for a standard one-room school.”³⁷ Schools were generally spaced at four-mile intervals, and served approximately 15 to 20 students, mostly in the lower grades.³⁸

As the number of settlers grew and children began to stay in school into higher grades, a second room was often added to the schoolhouse. “Teacherages were another feature of the school yard [and] by the 1920s the Department of Education was offering assistance to school districts that wished to build



Provincial Archives of Alberta Photo# G572: Smoky Lake School - 1957



Ruthenia School, Photo Credit: CDS Inc.



Chahor Church, Photo Credit: CDS Inc.

a teacherage on the school grounds. These were designed to be big enough to house two female teachers or a man and his family. They were generally frame structures 14 x 18 feet.”³⁹

When the railway came through the region in 1919, and new villages emerged around it, school districts had to be created for the new towns. For example, Smoky Lake S.D. No. 3880 was formed by changing the Toporoutz, Ruthenia, Kotzman and White Earth School District boundaries, and Vilna and Spedden School Districts were similarly formed.⁴⁰ As towns grew, so too did settlement in further outlying areas, which led to the formation of new school districts such as North Kotzman S.D. No. 3881, Volunteer S.D. No. 3933, Dickiebusch S.D. No. 3984, and Low Level S.D. No. 4024.⁴¹

As demand for further education grew, even two-room schools became over-taxed. A new provincial government in the mid 1930s introduced a centralized system for rural areas. “Under this the educational burden would be distributed to all districts in the area equally. Smoky Lake Division No. 39 was thus organized in 1939. It was not long before Bellis and Vilna joined the division. Waskatenau joined a few years later.”⁴² During World War II, it became increasingly difficult to find qualified teachers. Married women were encouraged to return to teaching, and more and more students had to be transported to central villages for school.⁴³

Religious Influence

It was religion that inspired many of the area’s earliest settlements, with missions forming to convert indigenous people to Christianity. Henry Bird Steinhauer founded the Whitefish Lake Mission in 1857, and George McDougall built a Methodist Church at the Victoria Mission in 1864, followed by a newer church at the same location built in 1906, which still stands.

Other early missions in the area included a short-lived Anglican mission started at Saddle Lake in 1881,⁴⁴ and a more permanent Roman Catholic mission established by the Oblates (French Catholic missionaries) established a few years later. The Oblates operated the Blue Quills Residential School, which began at Lac La Biche in 1862 and moved to Saddle Lake in 1898. In 1931, Blue Quills was relocated five kilometres outside of St. Paul. When the partnership between the churches and government ended in 1969, the remaining Canadian residential schools were quickly closed. This included Blue Quills, however, after the local Aboriginals protested, the school was eventu-



2.1 Smoky Lake Region Context Paper (cont.)

ally turned over to the First Nation, who has run it ever since (it is now the Blue Quills First Nations College in St. Paul).⁴⁵

As settlement expanded and more European settlers arrived, more religious traditions were reflected, and religion became an important part of community development, as well as social and spiritual support for the new arrivals. Often this meant forming congregations without a church or resident minister, and early services were often held in people's homes, in stores, or outdoors. As congregations formed and were able to gather their resources, new churches were built, often relying on donated materials and volunteer labour.

Because of the diversity of the immigrants who came to settle in the Smoky Lake Region, a variety of faiths remained represented in the area, including the Roman Catholic Church and the United Church (which formed the Methodist, Congregational, and Presbyterian Churches who joined in 1925). But there is perhaps no place of worship more distinct than the Ukrainian churches that dot the landscape across East Central Alberta.

When the first wave of Ukrainian immigrants arrived in the Smoky Lake Region, the Methodist mission at Pakan took an interest in converting the newcomers and, in 1901, Reverend Dr. Charles Lawford was appointed to provide medical services and open a second mission focused on the new immigrants. The Wahstao "light on the hill" mission, was thus founded in 1904 by Reta Edmonds and Jessie Munro for the purpose of working with Ukrainian women and children. Their mission was located fifteen miles east of Pakan, and they operated a school and boarding school.⁴⁶ As the Wahstao mission expanded, it was felt there was a need for a mission closer to Smoky Lake. Edith Weekly and Ella McLean oversaw the building of the Kolokreeka Mission and, by 1920, it operated as a boarding house for students attending high school in town.⁴⁷

Despite the determination of the Methodist Church when it came to converting the Ukrainian immigrants, the missionaries underestimated the loyalty of the new immigrants to their traditional faiths. Ukrainian immigrants arrived in Canada determined to maintain their rich culture, including strong religious ties.

Initially, few Ukrainian priests immigrated, leading the established churches to attempt to "fill the religious and social vacuum."⁴⁸ However, this began to



St. Volodymyr's Ukrainian Orthodox Church, Photo Credit: CDS Inc.



Holy Trinity Russo Greek Orthodox Church, Photo Credit: CDS Inc.



Dickiebush Church, Photo Credit: CDS Inc.

change around 1908, when Orthodox and Catholic priests began ministering in the Pakan area.⁴⁹ As Ukrainian immigrants became more established in the area, communities mobilized to begin construction on the iconic churches that dot the landscape in Smoky Lake Region today.

Even within the Ukrainian community, significant religious diversity existed. Galician Ukrainians practiced Eastern Rite Catholicism, while those from Bukovina were Orthodox. The Ukrainian Catholic Church became independent from the Roman Catholic Church in 1912. The Russian Orthodox Church quickly lost popularity after the Russian Revolution of 1917, and those who were unsatisfied with the Ukrainian Catholic Church founded the Ukrainian Greek Orthodox Church (now the Ukrainian Orthodox Church) of Canada.

The archetypal "Parkland house of worship is a prominent, domed, wooden Ukrainian Catholic church, sharing several hectares with a well kept cemetery and a basic, free standing bell tower."⁵⁰ The Byzantine Revival style brought to Canada by Ukrainian immigrants features characteristic elements such as "vertical emphasis, tiered log construction, octagonal onion-domes clad in silver-painted metal sheeting, and a cruciform plan. The interior contains decorations, furnishings, fittings, and fixtures typical of the period and style."⁵¹

Many churches in and around the region were decorated by artists, including the renowned artist Peter Lipinski. "His icons of Christ, the Blessed Virgin and the saints were usually created on canvas at his Edmonton home in winter, with additions and other designs painted directly on the tongue-in-groove siding of the church walls...Noteworthy are his ornamental borders, trompe-l'oeil effects and marbleization techniques."⁵² In 35 years, Lipinski painted more than 45 churches, with many of them located in the Smoky Lake Region.

By 1914, 170,000 Ukrainian immigrants had arrived. The immigrants' commitment to their traditional faiths reflected their solidarity as a community, and their ingenuity is evidenced by their accomplishments working with limited resources, skills, and materials. Writing about Dickiebush Church, Liz Bryan notes: "Amazingly, this intricate church was built by a local carpenter who could neither read nor write but who carried with him an image of churches he had seen in the old country."⁵³

Urban Development

As transportation through the area evolved, so too did the location, size, and composition of communities. When the CNR rail line came through the Smoky Lake district in 1919, villages sprang up around the stations almost instantly. "As the railway moved through an area, many of the tiny pre-railway settlements were abandoned and the buildings moved to a railway townsite. Some survived for a time because a post office was located in one of the stores, but most often, merchants in towns bypassed by a railway moved to one newly created by the railway, or to an inland town that had gained rail service."⁵⁴

This was true of communities throughout the district. Paken virtually disappeared in the years following the arrival of the railway at Smoky Lake and, similarly, existing services around present day Waskatenau and Vilna moved to the new railway town sites, and new services quickly sprang up.

The location of towns was determined by the railway company. The companies were given public lands to help subsidize railroad construction, which they then sold as farm land or lots. "A prospective route was first surveyed and potential town sites identified. Then, the detailed route was determined by surveyors who plotted the line in terms of natural features best suited for trains...Stations were "arbitrarily" sited every ten to twenty miles on the basis of the perceived economic potential of the area and its likely traffic. Finally, the town site was surveyed and lots were sold."⁵⁵

The surveys followed a handful of common plans, for example the T-plan, which had the main street running perpendicular to the rail line and "Railway Avenue." This explains why so many towns in Alberta and across the prairies share a similar structure. "Since about three-quarters of all towns incorporated in Alberta were established and laid out by the railway companies, railways were the most powerful influence on town location in the province."⁵⁶

The driving force in the development of towns was the colonial capitalist market economy, and it was in the best interest of the railway companies to help make towns important centres of business and commerce that would draw as many people as possible. The railways facilitated this by using a variety of land development policies to encourage settlement, such as selling lots to lumber yards or banks, or for hospitals, schools, or hotels at reduced rates. Or, in some cases, the railway would use prime land to open their own



PAA Photo# G19: Building the Brick Factory, Smoky Lake - 1925



Provincial Archives of Alberta Photo# G341: Smoky Main Street - 1935



Vilna Municipal Building, Photo Credit: CDS Inc.

lumberyards.⁵⁷

Each town was equipped with a siding for a grain elevator, which supported the growing agricultural export economy. The elevators, with their company logo emblazoned alongside the names of the community in which they were located, gave towns one of their fundamental characteristics and reason for existence."⁵⁸ In addition, national bank branches arrived in towns, often in association with railway company interests. "The CNoR, for example, gave its banker, the Bank of Commerce, first choice of lots in CNoR towns."⁵⁹

But not all town development was driven by corporate interests. Entrepreneurial citizens took leaps of faith to move to the new town sites to build and operate independent businesses such as food stores, hotels, hardware stores, blacksmith shops, garages, clothing stores, etc. Main Street grew up to provide a range of services, most of which were independently owned and operated.

Municipal Government

"As development in the area continued it became apparent that assistance from the government was necessary to provide the homesteaders with easier access to hospitals, schools, and markets for their products."⁶⁰ The Smoky Lake Improvement District No. 30-N-4 was formed in 1912-13 for the purpose of coordinating and funding Public Works. "The area included in this district encompassed ranges 16, 17, 18, and townships 58, 59, and 60, with the southern boundary being the North Saskatchewan River."⁶¹ Six councillors were elected to representing designated areas of the district, and financial assistance in the form of grants and a tax levy of approximately \$5 led to the development of roads in the area.

Development proceeded more quickly after the coming of the railroad in 1919 and, in 1920, the region became the Municipal District of Smoky Lake. It was divided into 20 school districts, each of which elected a board of trustees responsible for building a school and hiring a teacher.⁶² Taxes were increased in order to accommodate the development.

By 1939, the landscape of the area had changed, with greater populations forming in urban centres, increased use of motor vehicles, and the expanding importance of education. That year the rural school district boards were dissolved and a single body known as the Smoky Lake School Division No. 39

2.1 Smoky Lake Region Context Paper (cont.)

was formed.⁶³ This area was divided into seven divisions with one elected official in each. In 1961, the area was restructured again and the County of Smoky Lake was formed.

Settlement of the Town of Smoky Lake and Area

During the last decades of the 19th century the Victoria Settlement prospered, with agriculture rising in prominence. In 1873, Magnus Cromarty brought the first horse-powered thresher to the area, and the same year the Hudson's Bay Company built a gristmill three kilometres northeast of the trading post. Farming was starting to replace the fur trade in the district.

The earliest school in the region was built by the Methodist mission at Victoria/Pakan to serve the settlers in the area. As early as 1871-72, there were 70 children attending the Victoria Mission school and, in 1888, the first school district in the area was formed (Victoria S.D. No. 75).⁶⁴ In 1884, the land around the settlement was surveyed and, in 1886, a telegraph office was opened. In 1887, the Pakan post office opened and was named after the local indigenous Chief Pakan to distinguish the community from the capital of British Columbia.

In 1899, the first 30 Ukrainian families arrived in the Smoky Lake district and, after the land north of Pakan was surveyed into quarter sections in 1902, many Ukrainians began to file for homesteads. By 1906, there were about 250 Ukrainian families homesteading in that area.

With the arrival of the first wave of Ukrainians to Victoria/Pakan, the Methodist mission "saw new opportunities and in 1901 appointed Rev. Dr. Charles Lawford as missionary and medical doctor at Pakan."⁶⁵ At the time, the nearest hospital was eighty-five miles away, and the area Lawford served was more than 1,200 square miles.⁶⁶ He traveled the early roads, often by foot or ox cart, to reach homes throughout the area. He also conducted church services at Pakan, and often in people's homes. Dr. Lawford was instrumental in the planning and building of the first hospital in the district, the George McDougall Hospital, which was opened in Pakan in November of 1907.⁶⁷

The influx of new settlers caused Pakan to become a commercial centre, and new buildings were constructed, including a steam powered flour mill (1905), a new Methodist Church (1906), the George McDougall Hospital



PPA Photo# G113: Smoky Lake Town Across from Elevator - 1927



Smoky Lake Ortona Hall, Photo Credit: CDS Inc.



PPA Photo# G265: Smoky Lake Market Square - circa 1933

(1907), and a Ukrainian Methodist Church (1911-12). By the beginning of World War I, Métis settlers were leaving the area for Lac la Biche, and their river lots were sold to Ukrainian farmers. Pakan reached its peak in 1914, at which time it had a population of 120 people.

A small number of immigrants began to settle the land north of Pakan (close to present day Town of Smoky Lake) around 1899⁶⁸, though it was not until a survey of the area north of Victoria/Pakan was completed in 1902 that large numbers of settlers began to arrive. One of the first to settle in the area was Stefan Dwernichuk, who arrived from Austria in 1889. By 1907, he had opened a store and post office named after the Bukovynian village of "Toporoutz." It was located near the Russo-Orthodox cemetery and church of the same name, which was established in 1903. Dwernichuk also served as one of the first councilors for the district. This area was known as Barich and was the location of a rural community consisting of a church, cemetery, a post office, and later a community hall.

Other services began to emerge to serve the growing number of settlers in the area. The Kolokreeka Mission was established by Methodist missionaries to educate Ukrainian immigrants, and school districts were formed—Edwand in 1907, and Kotzman and Ruthenia in 1911. In addition, Wasyl Chahley built a general store in 1917, and Andrew Shymko, Fred Dymtrow, and Joseph Jarema organized the first flour mill in 1916. However, services remained limited, and before the construction of the railroad through the region in 1918, settlers traveled to Pakan, Lamont, or Mundare for major purchases.⁶⁹

As rumours of the coming railroad grew, businesses at the site of present day Town of Smoky Lake began to open and, "by October of 1917 it was designated a Hamlet."⁷⁰ The town site of Smoky Lake grew rapidly after the arrival of the railroad in 1919. There were already three general stores, the Standard Bank, a flour mill, a cinema, a pool hall, a dance hall, a telephone office, and a garage by 1919, as well as plans for the construction of grain elevators and the train station. The town continued to expand and, in 1922, the Hamlet of Smoky Lake was incorporated as a Village. Its first councilors were William Czumer, Nick Gavinchuk, and Kosma Chernochan.⁷¹ Gavinchuk was a photographer whose photographs and movies document the history of the district.

With the arrival of the railway, Pakan (located ten miles south of the Town of Smoky Lake) declined quickly. In 1921, Pakan was removed from the Methodist Church's list of missions and, in 1922, the George McDougall Hospital was moved to Smoky Lake followed by Dr. Lawford, who eventually discontinued his work as hospital superintendent and opened a drug store and medical office in Smoky Lake where he worked until the age of 82.⁷² The building, built in 1922, still stands on Wheatland Avenue, and has been used as a drugstore and various other commercial uses.

Settlement of the Hamlet of Warspite and Area

As the Victoria settlement grew, Métis settlers gradually expanded west along the North Saskatchewan River. By 1873, "people were settled along the river as far as twelve miles upstream, to what was later known as the Lobstick Settlement. Land surveying was yet to come."⁷³ When the land west of Victoria/Pakan was to be surveyed in 1896, the system of one-by-one mile sections was planned until the Métis settlers resisted. Their protest, along with support from MP Frank Oliver, led to the continuation of the river lot system (long narrow strips at right angles to the river approximately the same size as quarter sections). J.E. Woods completed the survey of Lobstick settlement in November of 1896, including 18 river lots TWP58 RNG18 W4.⁷⁴

Early Métis at Lobstick included settlers of Cree, British, and Scottish descent, including Norn, Whitford, Howse, Favell, Cromarty, Thomson, Anderson, Cardinal, Nelson, and Sinclair, all who settled at the southernmost portion of the lots, closest to the river. The first white family to settle at Lobstick was J. Watts, and his wife and daughter, who arrived from Ontario in 1903.⁷⁵ By 1904, the land north of the river lots was surveyed in square sections.

The first church in the area was an Anglican church built on river lot 4 in 1899, and constructed of squared logs by Henry Nelson and Benjamin Sinclair. A manse built on the site was home to Rev. Horne and later Rev. Wm. Farnham.⁷⁶ Nelson also built the first Lobstick School out of logs in 1905. It was located one mile east of the church, but was only used for five years. In 1911, a larger school was built two miles further north to accommodate the growing population.⁷⁷

In 1907, the North Bank Post Office was opened nearby and operated until 1914 by Henry Anderson. The post office moved over time to follow the settlement. It eventually operated from George Pawluk's store, which was across from the Parham farm, where it was operated until 1952. Another



PAA Photo# G142: Gavinchuck Car on Warspite Bridge - 1927



Warspite United Church, Photo Credit: CDS Inc.



Warspite Commercial Building, Photo Credit: CDS Inc.

post office (known as Smoky Lake Centre) was opened in 1914, but in 1916 it was renamed Warspite and was eventually moved eastward along the planned rail line, to "where a small community was growing into what became the Hamlet of Warspite a few years later."⁷⁸

Not all services were available in the immediate vicinity. For example, the closest doctor remained Dr. Lawford at Pakan, however a nucleus of a community formed near present day Warspite. In 1915, two more school districts (Ralstin and Brighton) were formed in the area. Stefan Slemko opened his first store near to the Ralstin School, and Fletch Chambers opened a blacksmith shop in 1917.⁷⁹

After the railway came through the district in 1919, a CNR station was built at Warspite in 1920, and new businesses emerged. John MacDonald and son, Lawrence, had a store that also housed the post office. A store was run by Nick Feniak and William Tomkow. Otto Hellum moved his blacksmith equipment to the new hamlet; and Wm. Andrusiak built and operated a pool hall that was converted to a hotel around 1925.⁸⁰

St. Anthony's Roman Catholic Church, which had originally been built in 1910 southeast of Waskatenau, was demolished and rebuilt in Warspite in 1921 to serve the larger Catholic population. Father Boniface would come from Fort Saskatchewan to serve both Warspite and Pine Creek.

Six miles north of Warspite, the rural community of Barich developed, and remains an important example of the area's surviving built heritage. The Chahor Saint Peter and Paul Russo Orthodox Church was built on 4-acres of land donated by Gawril Semeniuk, and based on a blueprint by Gora Purich. Rev. John Wasil painted icons inside the church, which was completed and blessed by Rev. John Puchalsky in 1920.⁸¹

The first Barich Post Office (named after Ukrainian village of Baruz) was located nearby on the farm of John Holup, who acted as postmaster for a short time in the early 1920s. In 1930, Ilko Luciw built a store on Ilko Mazurek's land, which he eventually moved across the road to Joe Roskewich's farm. Luciw took over the Barich post office in 1935.⁸²

In 1932, one acre of land was purchased for \$10 from Ilko Mazur (a.k.a. Mazurek), and constructed a hall for the community of Barich (northeast of



2.1 Smoky Lake Region Context Paper (cont.)

Waskatenau, SE 15 60 18 W4). The hall, known as The Ukrainian Farmers' National home of Taras Schevchenko or Barich Hall, burned down in July of 1933, six months after it was completed. A second hall was completed in December of the same year, and still stands today.

Both halls were built with support from community members in the form of membership fees (\$10 of goods or labour), volunteer work, fundraising, and donations of materials. The first hall was constructed of lumber, but the second hall was built of pink, grey, and white fieldstone, along with concrete and a cedar shingle roof. The hall served many functions, including a Ukrainian "chitalnia" or reading room, and for concerts, weddings, dances, political meetings, and elections.

Settlement of the Village of Waskatenau and Area

The area closest to present day Waskatenau was not initially available for homesteading. The approximately twelve square miles of land seventeen miles west of Fort Victoria, and north of the river, was home to the Cree band of Chief Muskegwatic, or "Bear's Ears," which was known as Washatanow, or Hollow Hill Creek. After the signing of the treaties, it was surveyed in October of 1886 by John C. Nelson and established as reserve land in May of 1889.⁸³ The band, which had only 40 members in 1890, shrank further after the death of Chief Muskegwatic and, in 1896, they were persuaded to move to land adjacent to Saddle Lake Reserve, which was sixty miles east. The former reserve reverted to the government of Canada and was surveyed into quarter sections, named the district of Pine Creek, and made available for settlement in 1904.⁸⁴

John Brereton, who was born in 1887 on the Washatanow Reserve, described the amalgamation with Saddle Lake as follows: "The agents bothered us a great deal trying to change our reserve. They went as far as taking our livestock away from us. We have papers regarding the Washatanow Reserve. How it was transferred over here and how we were cheated into it by the agents...Finally it was transferred here to Saddle Lake and extended to this reserve."⁸⁵

The first settlers to the area included Bob Cunningham, J. Watt and family who settled ten miles southeast of present day Waskatenau in 1903, and F.O. Henry who filed for the first homestead (NW 34-58-19-4) in 1904. Around the same time, the Victoria Trail was straightened and a bridge was con-



Highland Hall, Photo Credit: CDS Inc.



MacDonald General Store, Photo Credit: CDS Inc.



Whitemud Creek School, Photo Credit: CDS Inc.

structed over Waskatenau Creek near the homestead of Ara Elsey, which also became a stopping place for people traveling along the Victoria Trail.⁸⁶

Henry opened the area's first post office out of his home in 1907, and also had a general store and eventually a telephone pay station.⁸⁷ Samuel McDonald arrived from Ontario in 1906, not long after the land was opened up to settlers. He built a log house by Pine Creek just north of the Victoria Trail, on the eastern end of the former reserve. This was completed in 1908, and the following year Sam and his wife, Janet, opened the McDonald General Store in their house. In 1913, McDonald took over the post office and sub-land agency.

In 1917, the original McDonald house was improved with the addition of a verandah and cedar siding, and the family prospered until 1919 when the railway line was built several miles to the north. By 1920, McDonald closed the Pine Creek Post Office and the general store, and activity moved away from the river to the railway line. The original McDonald homestead was designated a Registered Historic Resource in 1994.⁸⁸

By 1912, nearly all homesteads in the area had been claimed.⁸⁹ The first settlers who came into Waskatenau were mostly Americans. Some came from Eastern Canada, the British Isles, Ireland, and from European countries like the Ukraine, Poland, Germany, and Holland.⁹⁰ Unlike some other areas of the Smoky Lake Region, which became home to a concentration of immigrants from the same area, settlers in the Waskatenau area arrived from places as diverse as America, Scandinavia, the British Isles, and Eastern Europe.

Significant numbers of Ukrainian immigrants did not settle in the area around Waskatenau until closer to World War II, when an "influx of Ukrainians began to buy the homesteads of the original settlers. They came from Ukrainian settlements in other parts of Alberta, other prairie provinces or immigrated from the Old Country."⁹¹ The earliest Ukrainian settlers to the area included Wasyl and Anna (Kostiuk) Zinyk, who settled in the Ukrainian bloc settlement in Edna-Star before eventually moving to the Waskatenau area in 1924.⁹² Early buildings were plastered with clay and straw, and whitewashed inside and out. Zinyk also constructed a clay oven known as a pyetz (or peeche).

Dr. T.W.E. Henry, a brother of Jack Henry (who first opened the Pine Creek Post Office), came to the Pine Creek area from Ireland in 1911. Before that

time, anyone needing a doctor would have to ride to Pakan for Dr. Lawford. There was also a doctor in Edna-Star from 1901, and a hospital in Lamont from 1912, but the river was a barrier. Waskatenau Doctors included Dr. Lawford, who came to Victoria (Pakan) in 1900 prior to the hospital being built in 1907, and Dr. Alton came to Waskatenau in circa 1920, and moved to Lamont in 1924.⁹³

The first church in the Pine Creek area was the Anglican Church built in 1910, and was located just southeast of present day Waskatenau. Reverend Buchanan made regular visits, however the congregation gradually shrank and it eventually merged with the Waskatenau United Church, with the Anglican Church being sold to Greek Orthodox families in 1941.⁹⁴

Father Boniface, a Franciscan priest, was appointed in 1909 to administer the territory of Redwater and surrounding areas as far east as Smoky Lake. He arrived at the Pine Creek Post Office in September of 1909, and held mass in the home of Sam and Janet McDonald. The initial gathering was the “nucleus” of St. Anthony’s parish. Father Martin was tasked with organizing a new church, which was built southeast of Waskatenau in 1910. When the railroad arrived in 1919, the decision was made to demolish the church and rebuild in Warspite, where a concentration of Catholics lived. Parish men began construction in 1920, hauling lumber from twenty miles north. St. Anthony’s Church was opened in 1921.⁹⁵

Early settlers had traveled to Pakan for the occasional church service at the Methodist Church that had opened in 1906, and once schools were in operation (e.g., Riverland, Clodrod, Brighton, and Sprucefield) Sunday services were held in schools. Once the railroad was built, church services were held in Waskatenau, outside, or in the barbershop or stores. In 1920, plans began to build a church. The first church built in present day Waskatenau was the Methodist Church, constructed in 1920, and became the United Church in 1925. The church is still in use today.⁹⁶

One of the earliest schools in the area was White Mud Creek School District (No. 2407), which was organized in 1911. It is located northeast of the Village of Waskatenau. The one-room school was built sometime after 1911 on the property of the first postmaster in Barich, John Holup (NE 1 60 18 W4). Because of difficulties securing a teacher, no classes were held until 1915, when Mr. Munroe came as the first teacher. Over the next few years,



Provincial Archives of Alberta Photo# G429: Waskatenau Hall - 1939



Waskatenau Masonic Temple, Photo Credit: CDS Inc.



Provincial Archives of Alberta Photo# A13820: Waskatenau Hotel - 1935

the class continued to grow. In 1919-20, the school was relocated to Metro Predy’s section of land (NE 35 59 18 W4). It took 16 horses and two days to move the building. Metro Pedry, a nephew, attended White Mud Creek School and eventually taught there from 1946 to 1949. By 1921, the school had 61 students. Martin Yasinsky built an additional room and a teacher’s shack (teacherage), both which opened in 1923. Until 1939, the school was closed on most Ukrainian church holidays, however this practice was discontinued after the school district joined the Smoky Lake School Division. In 1943, one of the rooms closed and the school returned to a one-room school until students began traveling to a centralized school in Smoky Lake in 1952. The school and schoolyard were eventually sold to Mr. William Forst. The land is now owned by John Forst, and the teacherage and well are still on the site.⁹⁷

Once the railroad came through the area in 1919, a village formed around the station at present day Waskatenau. The combination of the rail line and the nearby ferry crossing quickly led it to become a service centre for surrounding agricultural communities. Waskatenau’s first store was opened in 1919 by Denny Campo, on the homestead of Mr. McNee, who also opened a grain crushing mill. A post office was opened by Ira Fetterly in the same year, with mail hauled from Fort Saskatchewan, and the Standard Bank opened a branch out of a tent.⁹⁸ The first church Methodist Church was built in 1920.

Growth happened quickly, with an incredible 40 buildings being constructed within three years. By 1929, “Waskatenau had a population of 275, and mostly Anglo-Saxons. It had a hardware store, four general stores—one of them a farmers’ co-operative, two barber shops, one pool hall, a bank, a meat market, two confectionery shops, two garages, five grain elevators, one bakery, two lawyers, one doctor, two churches, and a four-room school, a high school, a skating rink, and a community hall.”⁹⁹

Existing buildings were also moved to the new town site, including Calob New’s Clodfod Post Office, which was originally one-and-a-half-miles west of Waskatenau, and the Waskatenau School, which was moved to the new town and used until a new school was built in 1922.¹⁰⁰ The hamlet was subdivided in 1922, and was within the Municipal District of Unity No. 577. On April 16, 1932, the hamlet was allowed to withdraw from the municipality and become a Village.¹⁰¹



2.1 Smoky Lake Region Context Paper (cont.)

Settlement of the Hamlet of Bellis and Area

Further east of Pakan, settlement progressed more slowly, with the land south of the North Saskatchewan River being claimed by settlers first. One of the very earliest settlers to the east of Pakan was a trapper named Joe Krupka who, in 1896, settled on land north of present day Bellis (what came to be known as the North Bellis school district) and eventually began to farm it.

Mikita Sullowan was also one of the earliest settlers to claim land north of the river south of present day Bellis. He first settled south of the river in 1898, but eventually relocated to a larger, less forested piece of land on the north-side (SE 2 58 15) where the Shandro Bridge is today (as of 2004 this property was owned by Victor Kusick).¹⁰² This area became known as Wasel. Sullowan owned the first store in the area, which was built on his farm, and also acted as Wasel's first postmaster. Mail was initially brought from Whitford, but was often delayed during winter if the river could not be crossed safely. Mail service became more reliable after a ferry started to run in 1909. Mail was taken from the Wasel post office to Hamlin and Sacred Heart at Saddle Lake to the east, and from Saddle Lake north to Stry.¹⁰³

"By 1900 the land suitable for farming south of the river had been taken up and homesteaders started to take up land on the north-side of the river."¹⁰⁴ Over the next several years, settlers claimed land further north of the river and began to develop rural communities. Other early settlers in the Wasel/Bavilla area included William Hawrelak and Mr. Erukurk (1900), Mr. Ungeran and Mr. Pasichnyk (1901), Mr. Hnatyshen (1902), and Mr. Fushley (1904).¹⁰⁵ By 1905, they had established one of the earliest school districts in the county (Bavilla S.D. No. 1477),¹⁰⁶ with the first Bavilla school being built in 1906 (NW 1 58 15). It eventually burned and was rebuilt at SW 11 58 15. The Victoria District #75 was the earliest, with it been organized in 1888.

Early settlers also took up land in the area of Provischenia, including Mike Repka, Nick Weranka, Mr. Halisky, and T. Billar in 1900. Before the first school was built, classes were held by missionaries at the nearby Wahstao Mission, which was founded in 1904. The first one-room school was built in the Wahstao area in 1905 (SW 33 58 15). A two-room school was built in 1935, and eventually moved to Bellis in 1949.¹⁰⁷

In the first decade of the 20th century, settlers arrived and continued to settle in the area near present day Bellis, including Irondale (Bill Comrie and



Bellis Heritage Corner, Photo Credit: CDS Inc.



Dickiebush Church, Photo Credit: CDS Inc.



Bellis Fire Hall, Photo Credit: CDS Inc.

Arthur Hencher (1902), A.V. Dowe (1906), Wm. McCormick (1909), Mr. Kupchenko (1911); in North Bellis settlers included Bill Danyluk (1903), Bill Dan-chuk and Andy Koshman (1906); Low Level settlers included Metro Skoreyko, Pete Skoreyko, and George Skoreyko (1901); and then settlers in Dickiebush, settled slightly later because of more heavily wooded land, included Elia Taschuk (1903), Michael Chibuk (1905), Tom Marniuk (1906), John Tchir (1907), and Bill Sybulka (1908). The first one-room school in the Dickiebush area was built in 1920 on NW-23-59-15-W4. It burned in 1928, and a second structure with a teacherage was subsequently built of lumber. It was then moved to Bellis in 1945.¹⁰⁸

There are many important churches still standing in and around the area. One of the earliest churches was the Wasel/Wasil Ascension Russo-Greek Orthodox Church (NW-1-58-15-W4), which was built in 1912. It is adjacent to a cemetery and bell tower, and is a surviving example of the distinctive Ukrainian churches in the region. The Sts. Peter and Paul Russo-Orthodox Church, also known as "Dickiebush," which is located south of present day Bellis and Vilna (NE-27-58-15-W4) is another early church with regional significance. Built between 1909 and 1914, Dickiebush is "an excellent example of the Byzantine Revival style brought to Canada by Ukrainian immigrants. The design of the church includes features characteristic of the style such as vertical emphasis, tiered log construction, octagonal onion-shaped domes clad in silver-painted metal sheeting, and a cruciform plan."¹⁰⁹ It was built by Steve Rosychuk who based the plans for the church on the memory of a church he had seen in the Ukraine.¹¹⁰ As was common with other churches of the time, there is also a cemetery situated on the church site. The Dickiebush Church was designated a Provincial Historic Resource on June 15, 2003.

Early settlers arriving near to where present day Bellis is situated include Harvey Fasanko (1903), Sam Tannas (1906), Mr. Rybak (1910), Mr. Parker, Mr. Russel, and Mr. Halisky (1910-11). The first school was built in 1916, and called Yuma school (SE-28-59-15-W4). It was moved to Bellis in 1921, at which time an additional room was added. Following a fire in 1927, a second school was built in 1928, and stood until a newer school was built in 1956.¹¹¹

An important surviving example of an early homestead in the Bellis region is the Shupenia house located south of Bellis (SW-17-59-15-W4) on land originally claimed by Wasyl Maskalyk in 1908. The large Maskalyk family emigrated from Austria (Austria having Ukrainian ethnicity) in 1902, taking up four

quarters of the same section and working together to assist in the building of original sod homesteads.

The original Bellis town site was planned on SE-36-59-15-W4, but local farmers tried to convince the Canadian Northern Railway to build the town site on its present site two miles away, where Phillip Shulha and Bill Ungurian had agreed to donate portions of their land. The first public building in Bellis was a store and an International Harvester Company implement shop built by William Comrie in 1918, and sold to Nick Repka who became first postmaster.¹¹²

After the arrival of the railroad in 1919, “Bellis became a prosperous booming town north of Vegreville.”¹¹³ Robert Weder built a flour mill in 1917, and other early businesses included a hardware store opened by Weder’s son, a blacksmith shop, a Bank of Commerce, and a hotel. Although Bellis prospered initially, the growth in nearby Smoky Lake and Vilna, combined with the opening of the CPR line south of the river through Willingdon and Andrew in 1928, shifted the focus of some settlers and took business away from Bellis.

Settlement of the Village of Vilna and Area

Zenobius W. Mikitka arrived from Austria and settled first in Mundare before buying a homestead at Stry, south of present day Vilna and west of Saddle Lake Reserve, in 1905. He built a two-storey building and, in 1910, opened a store and post office, and became the first postmaster. He named the area Stry after a place in Austria where his father had lived. The same year, work began on a Catholic Church and cemetery near Mikitka’s store. Father Philip Ruh designed the log church—St. Michael’s Parish, a mud plastered structure that was completed at Stry in 1913.

Another early settler in the Stry area was John Wowk. The first school at Stry was built on the northwest corner of his land (across from Mikitka’s land) in 1914, by Mr. Hrudey and Mr. Holowaychuk. Hrudey and Holowaychuk were also responsible for the construction of The Holy Eucharist Ukrainian Catholic Parish on the same site (NE-22-58-13-W4), which was built in response to the growing number of Ukrainian settlers. Work began on the new church in 1934 with labour and supplies donated by parishioners. The altar was built and decorated by Mr. Wanat, and the tetrapod was built by Nestor Chmilar. The painted banners on either side of the altar were completed by noted



Meronyk Ukrainian Homestead, Photo Credit: CDS Inc.



Vilna Pool Hall, Photo Credit: CDS Inc.



Oughton Stone Barn, Photo Credit: CDS Inc.

Alberta church painter, Peter Lipinski (1888-1975).

Though church services were being conducted shortly after the central nave was serviceable, the design of the building, and the domes, was complex and the structure was not completed until 1944. The original church was converted into a parish hall and functioned as such until a new hall was built in 1957, at which time the log structure was dismantled.¹¹⁴

The area around present day Vilna was opened up for settlement in 1907, and settlers, many of whom were from Central Europe, soon began to arrive. That same year, Treffle and Esther Veillette settled about two miles east of the current town site and opened the Veillette post office and store on their farm, which was the first public building erected in the area. In 1919 they sold it to Harold Southwell, who moved the post office to what would soon become the town site of Vilna. It was located in what is now the Politylo Store. Southwell held the office of postmaster until 1935.

Important examples of early homesteads still standing today in the Vilna area include the Goruk Farm, the Matwychuk House, the Meronyk Ukrainian Homestead, the Malysh House, the Oughton Stone Barn, the Repka House, the Sereda House, and the Shupenia House, as well as many others.

Jimmy Wright owned the quarter section where the Village of Vilna is today. When the Canadian National Railway came through in 1919, Wright sold his land for the town site, which the CNR named Vilna, after a town in Poland (the name also means “peace” or “freedom”).¹¹⁵ When the railway was completed in 1919, a hamlet soon began to form.

That year, Harold Southwell purchased the Veillette Post Office from Treffle and Esther Veillette and moved to the new town site, and Z.W. Mikitka moved from Stry to the new town site and built a store where the hotel now stands. Mr. Mikitka was Vilna’s first Mayor. His councilors were Harry Rosychuk, who had one of Vilna’s first stores, and Steve Pawluk, who built a poolroom in 1920. The Vilna Pool Hall has been provincially designated by the Province of Alberta and is on the Alberta List of Historic Places.

Growth happened quickly and, by 1920, Vilna had a hardware store, bank, butcher shop, hotel, rooming house, grain elevator, dance hall, and pool hall. That same year a flood occurred in Vilna causing pools of water and hollows

2.1 Smoky Lake Region Context Paper (cont.)

in the streets. Gravel was obtained with permission from the railway to fill in spots, especially where the water tower now stands and also where Mr. Politylo's store now stands.¹¹⁶ Unlike many other towns of the same era, Vilna never experienced a major fire and, as such, many of its original buildings remain intact. Vilna continued to grow and was incorporated as a Village in 1923.

The Stry School was built in 1920, and Mr. Crawford was the first schoolmaster. Two additional rooms were added by 1932. The building has been moved twice, and currently stands on skids on the south-side of Vilna. As the population grew, additional buildings were added—a building now referred to as the “Orange Bowl” was constructed in 1940, a two-storey building was constructed in 1951, and a new elementary school was built in 1957. In addition, the rural schools of Bavilla and Stry were moved to the Vilna school grounds when more accommodation was needed.

The first hospital in Vilna was opened in 1925 by the Sisters of Service. “In 1925, three Sisters set up the Vilna General Hospital in a former bank building, and three years later built Our Lady's Hospital, a 14-bed facility, which they managed and staffed until 1970.”¹¹⁷ Doctor W. Eadie was the Village's first resident doctor.

As with other communities in the region, the Village of Vilna is home to several churches representing different faiths. The Sacred Heart Roman Catholic Church was completed in 1927, with the priest being Father W. McPhee and the first baptized child being Josephine Mikitka. The original church burned down in 1953, and a second church was built north of the hospital.

The Vilna United Church was built by Harry Ford in 1929, followed by a church hall in 1938, and the Vilna Pentecostal Church was built in 1940. The Ukrainian Greek Orthodox Church in Vilna was built in 1952, organized by an active group of parishioners who also converted the former Errol School into a parish hall. One of the most unique aspects of the hall is a plaster outdoor oven called a “peeche” that was built by Mr. Borosuk.

Settlement of the Hamlet of Spedden

During the time of missionary work being done in the Saddle Lake area south of present day Spedden during the early as the 1880s, an Anglican mission and a subsequent Catholic mission were established. Father Merer visited



Spedden Livery Barn, Photo Credit: CDS Inc.



Spedden Barber Shop, Photo Credit: CDS Inc.



Spedden Old Blacksmith Shop, Photo Credit: CDS Inc.

the Saddle Lake Catholic Mission in 1886, and returned to stay in 1888, at which time the first lean-to church was constructed. In 1890, a chapel dwelling and a school were built, followed by the Sacred Heart Church around 1904¹¹⁸, which was the closest church for early settlers.

Most of the settlers that came to Spedden were of Ukrainian origin, and included Tady Iwanyshyn, Mike Iwanyshyn, Theodore Iwanyshyn, Mr. Brown, Mr. Flack and his two sons - Winfred and Aden, Thomas Watt, Mr. Anning, Mr. Taylor and Mr. Valette (1912). Pioneers of 1913 included John Leskiw and his two sons, Steve and Severko, Kondrat Stelmaschuk, Harry and William Fedechko, Leo Filewich, Dmetro Habiak Sr., Steve Dumka, Wasyl Meda, John Matwychuk Sr., Sylvestor Boyko, Harry Yacyshyn Sr., John Rachynski, John Pacholek, and Dmetro Hopchyn. Others that followed not long after included Efram Skuba, Mikita Buoy, Dan Lewicky, Sam Prytulka, Alex Wanchuk, Wasyl Syroid, Louis Kuzma, DS Woodlock, Zacharko Boyko, John Lobay, John J. Leskiw, and Jack Leskiw.

From Century of Progress: “The first Ukrainian church in our community, of Greek Catholic origin, was at Veillette, named after the postmaster of the local post office. This is just a small church about five miles northwest of Spedden [SE-12-60-13-W4]. The building of this church was organized in 1916, but it took several years for its completion. All the material and labour was donated by the faithful members. The Basilian Fathers from Mundare served the parish. Services were not frequent because of transportation. In 1954, the name Veillette was changed to Sokal—a name of a Ukrainian county from which the majority of the people in the vicinity came from.”¹¹⁹

Before the railroad arrived, Vegreville was the closest town. Travel by foot or horseback was common over roads that were basic trails. The first post office was called Cache Lake, the hills north of the lake were called Cache Hills, and the first postmaster in 1918 was Mike Iwanyshyn. The name Cache Lake was changed to Spedden in 1919, during the year the CNR track was laid. A workman named Mr. Spedden passed away while working on site and the Hamlet of Spedden was named in his honor. Spedden was initially the end of the railway line, until it was extended to St. Paul (circa 1920).¹²⁰

The first general store was built in Spedden in 1919. The owner was Onufry Shankovich, who later sold it to Morris Rosenberg. This building, with additions, still stands in Spedden across the street from the post office.¹²¹ Al-

though rural school districts were formed nearby (Cache Lake S.D. No. 3285 in 1915, Ashmont S.D. No. 3336 in 1916 and Sokal S.D. No. 3886 in 1919), the Spedden School (S.D. No. 4320) was not erected until 1928.

It was common for church services to be held in homes, or in the school once it was built. It wasn't until 1934 that the Ukrainian Greek Catholic church was built in the Hamlet of Spedden. The Ukrainian Greek Orthodox Church was constructed in 1943, but destroyed by fire in 1958. A new church was built to take its place in 1961.



Provincial Archives of Alberta Photo# G593: Smoky Lake Esso - 1947



Provincial Archives of Alberta Photo# G96: Alberta Provincial Police Residence, Smoky Lake - 1927



Provincial Archives of Alberta Photo# G571: Tractor Sunk on Street, Smoky Lake - 1947

2.1 Smoky Lake Region Context Paper (cont.)

¹ *Spedden School, "Spedden 1912 – 1967," in Century of Progress: an historical study of the Waskatenau, Smoky Lake, Warspite, Bellis, Vilna and Spedden school communities*, (The County of Smoky Lake No. 13, 1967), 2.

² Ibid.

³ <http://www.culture.alberta.ca/museums/historicsiteslisting/victoriasettlement/schoolprograms/teachersresources.aspx>

⁴ Ibid.

⁵ <http://www.thecanadianencyclopedia.com/index.cfm?PgNm=TCE&Params=A1ARTA0003983>

⁶ Leslie J. Hurt, *Historic Sites Service Occasional Paper No. 7*, June, 1979, 61.

⁷ Ibid.

⁸ <http://www.kalynacountry.com/Victoria-Trail>

⁹ Ibid.

¹⁰ Waskatenau School, "Waskatenau 1867-1967," *Century of Progress: an historical study of the Waskatenau, Smoky Lake, Warspite, Bellis, Vilna and Spedden school communities*, (The County of Smoky Lake No. 13, 1967), 6.

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2.2 Heritage Resources within Smoky Lake Region

NATIONAL HISTORIC RESOURCE



VICTORIA SETTLEMENT NATIONAL HISTORIC SITE

Victoria Settlement is a large, rural cultural landscape in Alberta. It is characterized by farmlands organized in long narrow river lots running back from the North Saskatchewan River for about 19 kilometres in length, as well as others organized in 800 square metre sections. This area was designated because of its cultural landscape through highly visible physical attributes, represents an exceptional illustration in one concentrated area of major themes in Prairie settlement, including the development of the fur trade, the establishment of the Metis river lot systems, the arrival of missions, prairie agricultural development, and the establishment of eastern European immigrants at the beginning of the 20th-century.

PROVINCIAL HISTORIC RESOURCES



CANADIAN NORTHERN RAILWAY STATION Railway Drive, Smoky Lake

Designated January 19, 2007

Built in 1919 for the Canadian Northern Railway Company using a variation of the typical "Third Class Freight and Accommodation" Plan #100-72. It is apparently the only example of this plan of station left standing in Alberta.



RIVER LOT 3 Victoria Settlement, Pakan

Designated May 09, 2001

Four log structures (house, summer kitchen, barn and storehouse) represent an intact homestead configuration of Metis settlement in Victoria Settlement. This relatively complete homestead configuration is unique for Victoria Settlement and all river lot communities in Alberta.



FORT VICTORIA Victoria Settlement, Pakan

Designated June 15, 1976

Clerk's Quarters is an excellent example of a mid-nineteenth century Hudson's Bay Company post-on-sill or Red River frame wood structure. It was the centre of the Company's activity and interaction with aboriginal traders and the local Metis settlers.



RUSSO GREEK ORTHODOX CHURCH OF ST. PETER AND ST. PAUL - LSD 9 27-58-15 W4

Designated July 15, 2003

Church is prominently located atop a hill near Bellis. This Byzantine Revival style church retains its historical association with the adjacent community hall and cemetery. There is strong structural and artistic evidence of the Bukowinian culture that prevailed in the area.



MCDONALD STOPPING HOUSE 19176 Victoria Trail

Designated March 01, 2011

Provision of structural evidence of the settlement of the Pine Creek District, early in 20th century. Also important in its relationship to the Victoria Trail connecting Victoria Settlement with Fort Saskatchewan, as many travellers from 1909-1919 made stops here.



VILNA POOL HALL AND BARBERSHOP 5024- 50 Street, Vilna

Designated April 02, 2009

Significance lies in its association with the 1920's agricultural service centre of Vilna, and as structural evidence of one of the standard features of rural villages in Alberta in early part of the century, a pool hall and barber shop and confectionery, and a place where men from the entire district would gather.

MUNICIPAL HISTORIC RESOURCE

ANDERSON HOUSE
18167 Victoria Trail
 Designated April 15, 2010

This house, approached as it is from the east along a long straight stretch of the tree-lined Victoria Trail, is one of the most memorable landmarks on this drive. The image is truly evocative and emblematic of the region's history.



HIGHLAND HALL AT BARICH
SW 15-60-18 W4
 Designated April 15, 2010

Significance lies in its association with the Ukrainian cultural practice, and its ability to convey the legacy of Eastern European/Canadian Ukrainian construction. As a variation on the common Ukrainian national hall, this hall is of unique construction with its fieldstone walls.



STRY UKRAINIAN CATHOLIC CHURCH
13249 Twp Rd 584
 Designated as an RHR April 08, 2005

Its significance lies in its association with the early Ukrainian immigrants in the district. The church is an important structure to the parishioners and regional population and contributes to the historical continuity of the other buildings in the area and the collection of Ukrainian-Canadian churches in east-central Alberta.

FORMERLY: REGISTERED HISTORIC RESOURCES*

OUR LADY OF ATONEMENT ROMAN CATHOLIC CHURCH - 4904 - 50 Street, Smoky Lake
 Designated as an RHR April 11, 1994

Built in 1927 according to the cruciform plan. It is significant that it is one of the few Roman Catholic Churches designed with onion domes characteristic of Byzantine architecture and eastern rite churches.



METRO SEMAKA RESIDENCE
SW 32-58-15 W4

Designated as an RHR October 15, 1996
 Original homestead of Metro Semaka and family. Semaka has worked for several years in the coal mines around Lethbridge, so when he applied for his homestead, he had sufficient money to have a larger and better furnished home than most of his neighbours.

*** Registered Historic Resources (RHR)**

The Government of Alberta has discontinued the RHR designation and although existing RHRs can access technical advice from the department, as of 2009 the sites were no longer eligible for funding through the Alberta Historical Resources Foundation. Furthermore, the RHRs are not listed on the Alberta or Canada Registers of Historic Place. Because the Municipal and Provincial Historic Resources designation is the only means of providing protection, the Metro Semaka Residence and the Our Lady of Atonement Roman Catholic Church in Smoky Lake should be reviewed and considered for Municipal Historic Resource designation.

2.3 Current Legislative Framework

FEDERAL GOVERNMENT'S ROLE

THE HISTORIC PLACES INITIATIVE

Federal, Provincial, Territorial and local governments, recognize the value historic places contribute to our communities. Since 2001, the Government of Canada began the development of a nation-wide initiative to help recognize and conserve Canada's historic places. What materialized is a partnership between the the Federal government and the Provinces / Territories called the Historic Places Initiative.

The Historic Places Initiative has developed two core programs: The Canadian Register of Historic Places (CRHP) and the Standards and Guidelines for the Conservation of Historic Places in Canada.

- **The Canadian Register of Historic Places (CRHP)** provides a single on-line source of information about of all places that have been municipally, provincially and / or nationally designated based on heritage values and significance.
- **The Standards and Guidelines for the Conservation of Historic Places in Canada** is a pan-Canadian benchmark for heritage conservation that offers results orientated guidance for decision making when planning for, intervening on and using historic places. The intention of the document is to establish a consistent set of conservation principles and guidelines that can be used as a minimum standard across Canada.

PROVINCIAL GOVERNMENT'S ROLE

ALBERTA HISTORICAL RESOURCES ACT

The primary legislation which allows municipalities to both designate and regulate historic resources is the Alberta Historical Resources Act (HRA). This includes the protection of individual resources, such as a building, and also areas, such as an historic residential or commercial district.

Designation as Municipal Historic Resource

26 (2) *A council of a municipality, after giving the owner 60 days' notice, may by bylaw designate any historic resource within the municipality whose preservation it*

considers to be in the public interest, together with any land in or on which it is located that may be specified in the bylaw, as a Municipal Historic Resource.

The legislation clearly provides for the municipality has the ability to designate any site that council considers to be of public interest. Although the legislation implies that it is the municipal council that initiates the process, most often it the landowner that seeks to have the site designation, or a collective agreement of both parties.

Once the bylaw is enacted, the owner must seek permission from the municipal council, or a person designated by council, to make any changes to the protected historic fabric of the resource.

26 (6) *Notwithstanding any other Act, no person shall*

- (a) *destroy, disturb, alter, restore or repair an historic resource that has been designated under this section, or*
- (b) *remove any historic object from an historic resource that has been designated under this section, without the written approval of the council or a person appointed by council for the purpose.*

Designation as Municipal Historic Area

Similarly, the HRA allows municipal council to designate an area of the municipality that has historic significance to the municipality and is of public interest to preserve.

27(1) *If it is of the opinion that the preservation of the historical character of any part of the municipality is in the public interest, a council may by bylaw*

- (a) *designate that part of the municipality as a Municipal Historic Area, and*
- (b) *prohibit or regulate and control the use and development of land and the demolition, removal, construction or reconstruction of buildings within the Municipal Historic Area.*

Act Requirements for Compensation

Section 28 of the Historical Resources Act requires that the municipal council compensate the owner of the site if the economic value of the site is decreased as a result of it's designation as a Municipal Historic Resource or a Municipal Historic Area.

- 28(1) *If a bylaw under section 26 or 27 decreases the economic value of a building, structure or land that is within the area designated by the bylaw, the council shall by bylaw provide the owner of that building, structure or land with compensation for the decrease in economic value.*
- 28(4) *The council may, with the agreement of the owner, provide the compensation under subsection (1) by grant, tax relief or any other means.*

MUNICIPAL GOVERNMENT ACT

The Municipal Government Act (MGA) and is the legislative framework for municipal planning, one that can be used by a municipal council to support the protection of historic resources. The municipality can use land use bylaws, municipal development plans, area structure plans, and area redevelopment plans to incorporate policies and strategies in support of historic preservation.

Municipalities may develop their own incentive plans and compensation packages for encouraging owners of potentially designated buildings to participate in historic preservation.

PROVINCIAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES

When resources in Alberta are designated as a Provincial or a Municipal Historic Resources they are entered into and collectively form the Alberta Register of Historic Places.

The Alberta Register is administered through Alberta's Historic Places Designation Program. This program's mandate is to identify, evaluate and designate sites as Provincial Historic Resources, update and maintain the Alberta Register of Historic Places, as well as submit eligible sites for listing on the Canadian Register of Historic Places.



2.3 Current Legislative Framework (con't)

LOCAL GOVERNMENT'S ROLE

The four municipal governments that are located in the Smoky Lake Region are Smoky Lake County, Town of Smoky Lake, Village of Waskatenau and the Village of Vilna and each have their own autonomy and have the power to enact their own bylaws, including statutory and non-statutory planning documents.

The responsibility to conserve historic places is primarily placed on the landowner, however local governments also play a significant role. Local governments have the ability to significantly contribute to the success of heritage conservation through regulating alterations to heritage properties, creating incentives to encourage conservation and enacting zoning guidelines that support conservation. Therefore, as part of this Plan, recommendations for policies and procedures that encourage and support conservation activities in the Smoky Lake Region.

SMOKY LAKE REGION STRATEGIC PLAN

The four municipalities participated in developing the Smoky Lake Region Strategic Plan, "Looking Forward to our Future", which was adopted by the Joint Municipalities Committee in 2007.

The goal of the Regional Strategic Plan was to:

"...establish a vision to guide the development of the Region. It includes strategies, goals and actions aimed at fulfilling this vision. It recognizes that while we want to develop the economy of the Region, we want to do so in a manner that assures our rural and small town character, protects our environment, and preserves our historical and cultural assets."

Preservation of the diverse historic fabric found throughout the Smoky Lake Region is also included in the vision for the Region:

"...Smoky Lake Region is an attractive, prosperous community that treasures its blend of rural and small town lifestyles, with strong values placed on economic development, social, environmental protection and historic preservation."

One of the priorities developed in the Strategic Plan is to "Protect the Region's Natural and Historic Assets". The Region is described as being blessed with unique natural environmental features, and rich cultural and historic assets.

The desired outcomes are:

- That the historical and ecological areas of the Region are protected.
- That land use designations are in place to ensure their preservation in the future.
- That the Region has become recognized for its commitment to historical, cultural and ecological preservation.
- That businesses are respectful of the cultural and ecological heritage in the Region.

The activities to achieve the outcomes are:

- Develop an inventory of the Region's cultural and historic assets.
- Adopt municipal policies that commit to the preservation of these resources and assets. Designate protected land in municipal land use plans.
- Support the development of tourism products to improve awareness and visitation of the Region's cultural and historic assets.
- Adopt a policy that encourages private landowners to protect important and sensitive ecological resources and cultural and historic assets.
- Seek alliances with organizations to protect and preserve historic resources. Work with the province to preserve provincial assets.
- Create public education kits on natural and historic assets.

The Plan goes onto identify the following Performance Indicators:

- Updated inventories of ecological, historical and cultural assets;
- Number of significant heritage and ecological sites identified for protection;
- Maintenance of a current land use plan that recognizes and protects natural and historic resources and assets; and
- Number of sites that have applied to the Alberta Historical Resources Foundation for funding to restore / preserve a historical site.

LAND USE PLANNING DOCUMENTS

Smoky Lake County Municipal Development Plan

The Municipal Government Act requires that municipalities over the population of 3,500 adopt a Municipal Development Plan (MDP), to outline a broad set of goals, objectives and policies about the long-term development that is desired by the community. The main focus of the MDP is to assist Council - and Council's approving authorities - in achieving and maintaining orderly and efficient land use and development. Smoky Lake County adopted its first MDP in 2002 and is currently in the process of developing a more thorough MDP. The other three municipalities are not required by the MGA to have an MDP and do not have one at this time.

In the draft Smoky Lake County MDP:

GOAL 1.5.16: Identify and promote significant cultural and heritage resources within the County.

3.1 Cultural Landscapes

Smoky Lake County includes unique natural features and rich landscapes. Important cultural and historic sites are located throughout the Region. There are also a range of organizations dedicated to the preservation of historic assets which provide support to the County. (e.g., Smoky Lake Regional Heritage Board).

Smoky Lake County places high value on the County's significant cultural landscapes. The County supports the UNESCO World Heritage Committee definition of Cultural Landscapes:

"Cultural Landscapes represent the combined works of nature and man. They are illustrative of the evolution of human society and settlement over time, under the influence of physical constraints and/or opportunities presented by their natural environment and of successive social, economic and cultural forces both external and internal." (UNESCO/ICMOS, 1995,np)

OBJECTIVE 3.1.1: Identify significant cultural landscapes throughout the County

Policy 3.1.1.1: The County will prepare a Heritage Inventory.

Policy 3.1.1.2: The County will consider preparing a Heritage Plan.

Policy 3.1.1.3: The County will require Heritage Resource Impact Assessments to be included with proposed subdivision and development applications in locations where the proposal may impact significant cultural landscapes.

Policy 3.1.1.4: The County will encourage the use of historic resources to promote tourism, where appropriate.

Policy 3.1.1.5: The County will require that proposed subdivisions and developments on the "main streets" of urban areas protect built heritage and enhance the historic significance and character of these areas.

OBJECTIVE 3.1.2: Preserve recognized historically significant built features, landforms, vegetation and patterns of spatial organization.

Policy 3.1.2.1: The County will require that proposed subdivisions in significant cultural landscapes, including but not limited to the Victoria District, retain the recognized historically significant patterns of spatial organization.

Policy 3.1.2.2: The County will require that future subdivisions and developments in significant cultural landscapes, preserve existing vegetation.

OBJECTIVE 3.1.3: Preserve recognized historically significant views.

Policy 3.1.3.1: The County will require that proposed subdivisions and developments in significant cultural landscapes, including but not limited to the Victoria District, preserve recognized, historically significant views.

OBJECTIVE 3.6.1: To support and promote cultural tourism initiatives within the County.

Policy 3.6.1.1: The County will encourage the utilization and / or development of cultural, historic and recreational resources to promote tourism, where appropriate.



2.3 Current Legislative Framework (con't)

OBJECTIVE 3.8.3: To ensure that resource extraction and resource processing developments generate a low net negative impact on working landscapes and cultural landscapes.

Policy 3.8.3.1: Developers will be required to contact the Heritage Branch of the Alberta Government in order to determine if a Heritage Impact Assessment (HIA) is required.

Policy 3.8.3.2: If an Impact Assessment (HIA) is required and the HIA identifies the presence of heritage resources then the developer will be required to take appropriate mitigating measures, to the satisfaction of the appropriate provincial agency, prior to development approval.

5.1 Victoria Overlay

The Victoria overlay identifies that area within the County identified as the Victoria District National Historic Site of Canada. The Victoria District is of national historic importance because of its cultural landscapes and highly visible and intact physical attributes. The Victoria District represents an exceptional illustration in one concentrated area of major themes in Prairie settlement. Smoky Lake County recognizes the significance of this unique cultural landscape.

OBJECTIVE 5.1.1: To ensure that development within the Victoria District Overlay does not negatively impact the unique cultural landscape.

Policy 5.1.1.1: The County shall not support resource extraction development proposals in areas that are known to possess unique historical and/or scientific or environmental features that would be disturbed or destroyed by resource extraction.

Policy 5.1.1.2: The County will circulate development and subdivision applications to the Heritage Branch of the Alberta Government in order to determine if a Heritage Impact Assessment (HIA) is required as part of their application for subdivision or development.

Policy 5.1.1.3: If an Impact Assessment (HIA) is required then the developer will be required to prepare a HIA for review by the Province and the County.

Policy 5.1.1.4: If the HIA identifies the presence of heritage resources then the developer will be required to take appropriate mitigating measures, to the satisfaction of the appropriate provincial agency, prior to subdivision or development approval.

Policy 5.1.1.5: The County will not support development proposals in locations within the Victoria Overlay that are known to possess unique historical and/or scientific or environmental features that would be disturbed or destroyed by the proposed development.

Smoky Lake County Land Use Bylaw #1102-02

The County's Land Use Bylaw is in the final stages of a major amendment, and the proposed sections related to heritage conservation are below.

3.4 Referral of Applications

Historical Resources

1. Historical or archaeological sites identified pursuant to the Alberta Historical Resources Act shall be protected in accordance with Provincial legislation and regulations.
2. In addition to any sites identified in (1) above, an application for a development permit which may impact on any historical or archaeological site identified pursuant to (1) above within the County will be submitted to the Smoky Lake Regional Heritage Board and Alberta Culture and Community Spirit for comment.

Heritage Overlay

3. All subdivision proposals and all applications for discretionary development permits within the Heritage Overlay shall be forwarded to the Smoky Lake Regional Heritage Board for comment.

8.4 Victoria Agricultural District

1. The general purpose of this District is to recognize the historic value of the area near the Victoria Trail in the County. Subdivision and development proposals within this use area must be compatible with and/or increase the historic value of the Victoria Trail.

Lot Area – Country Residential uses

- 7.a Residential subdivision and development in the Victoria District must be designed to preserve working and cultural landscapes.
- 9.d Decisions on all applications for development permits will be made by the Development Authority bearing in mind the historical nature of the area and of the Victoria Trail within the District. Tourist-related developments, which

maintain and enhance the historic nature and the historical interpretation of the District, will be encouraged. Conditions of approval for development which may increase the use of the Trail by heavy equipment or trucks will be designed to limit the use of the Trail by the equipment or trucks, if possible.

8.12 Victoria Commercial (VC) District

1. The general purpose of this District is to control development in the vicinity of the Victoria Trail in order to ensure that future commercial development in this area is compatible with significant cultural landscapes in the Victoria Trail area.

Landscaping and Architectural Controls

- 4.3 The Development Authority may require the submission of a landscaping plan and information about the appearance or the proposed development with applications for development permits in this District in order to ensure that:
 - the development is similar in character and in appearance to development on adjacent sites; and
 - the development will be buffered, to the satisfaction of the Development Authority from the Victoria Trail and adjacent properties.

9.2 Heritage Area Overlay

1. The Heritage Area Overlay is not a District. Rather, it provides regulations in addition to the requirements of the underlying Land Use Districts within this Bylaw.

The Purpose of the Heritage Area Overlay is to identify culturally significant landscapes within the County where either: there are federally, provincially or municipally recognized landscapes, structures and / or special patterns of organization

Development in these areas may require additional information to be submitted by the applicant in order to ensure the suitability of potential development sites.

Regulations

- 4.1 Application requirements - The Development Authority shall require that any proposal for development within the Heritage Area Overlay area be accompanied

by:

- (a) A Historical Resources Impact Assessment (HRIA) The HRIA and/or mitigative studies will be paid for by the developer undertaking or proposing to undertake the activity. The HRIA must be undertaken by professional private-sector historians, archaeologists or palaeontologists and must be reviewed by Alberta Culture and Community Spirit.

A development permit will not be approved until the Development statutory receives comments from Alberta Culture and Community Spirit indicating that in their opinion, an activity will or will likely result in the alteration, damage or destruction of an historic resource.

- (b) If the development is adjacent to the North Saskatchewan River other significant body of water, then a flood susceptibility analysis, a bank stability analysis or both, prepared by registered professional engineers may be required.

The reports should assess the suitability of the subject site and the proposed development from the points of view of flood susceptibility and/or bank stability. Further, if a development is approved after such an analysis is provided, the Development Authority shall require that any recommendations of the analysis be implemented by the landowner/ developer and registered against the title of the subject lands so as to warn future landowners of the engineering requirements for development

- 4.2 When considering an application for a development permit for new construction of a principle building in the Heritage Overlay Area the development authority will consider the following:
 - a) The architectural compatibility of a new development with neighbouring properties;
 - b) The compatibility of the development with the Victoria Trail or another effected streetscape;
 - c) The adequacy of buffering and/or landscaping as required between new development, abutting properties and the Victoria Trail or another effected streetscape;
 - d) Any other matter Council feels is necessary to ensure the overall compatibility of the structure with adjacent properties; and
 - e) Advice of the County's Heritage Advisory Board.



2.3 Current Legislative Framework (con't)

- 4.3 When reviewing an application for a development permit for a demolition, or removal of a principle building in the Heritage Overlay Area:
- The structural condition of the building as determined by a qualified professional;
 - The reasons for the proposed demolition;
 - The proposed new development for the site (if applicable);
 - The historical significance of the building;
 - The architectural significance of the building;
 - The potential negative effects on the recognized Heritage Sites and/or the impacted streetscape; and
 - Advice of the Heritage Advisory Board.

Smoky Lake County Victoria District Area Structure Plan

Over recent years, Smoky Lake County has seen more pressure for subdivision of land adjacent to the Victoria Trail, residential development along the North Saskatchewan River as well as gravel extraction within the County's Victoria District and the Victoria District National Historic Site (different boundaries). This has fueled a healthy debate in how to balance the rights of landowners while protecting the public interest to preserve the historically significant sites and landscapes.

In the fall of 2011, County Council initiated the development of a Victoria District Area Structure Plan, which will focus on determining the appropriate uses and the regulations of the lands within the Victoria District. This District offers a nationally unique and significant set of heritage values and requires different land use planning considerations than the remainder of the land within the County. It is anticipated that the Victoria District Area Structure Plan will be in completed by 2013.

Town of Smoky Lake Land Use Bylaw 011-06

The Town of Smoky Lake is currently reviewing their Land Use Bylaw adopted in 2006. Their current LUB does not provide for designation of heritage districts or development related to historic properties. However, the Town is in the process of drafting a Municipal Development Plan which will consider heritage policies, and is considering the establishment of a Business Revitalization Zone.

Village of Waskatenau Land Use Bylaw 628/2010

The Village of Waskatenau amended their LUB in 2010 and although the bylaw does not specifically allow for the creation of historic districts, there are a couple of opportunities for discretion relating to the conservation of historic sites:

2.5 Permission for Demolition

- In addition to the requirements of Section 2.4 of this Bylaw, an application for a development permit for the demolition of a building shall include the following information:
 - the alternatives to demolition if the building is of historic or architectural value

7.11 Direct Control

- This district is intended to enable specific developments to occur in areas of unique character or circumstance, under the direct control of Council.

Village of Vilna Land Use Bylaw 392-98

The Village of Vilna's Land Use Bylaw was adopted in 1998 and makes no reference to a heritage district or conservation of historic sites.

Village of Vilna Main Street Development Bylaw 413-00

In 2000, when the Village of Vilna was participating in the Alberta Main Street Program, the Village did enact Bylaw 413-00, in which the purpose was to recognize that any development on Vilna's Main Street be sensitive to the historical interest of the Vilna Main Street Project.

- "Main Street Zone" will be defined as 50th Street

- Any application for Development submitted to the Development Officer which is located within the Main Street Zone, must be given to the Vilna Main Street Advisory Board for review.

Since the wrap-up of the Vilna Main Street Project in 2005, the Vilna Main Street Project

Advisory Board has not been active to review any development permit applications. Although this Bylaw provides some broad awareness of the appreciation of Vilna's Main Street, the Bylaw really does not offer any guidelines for decision-makers to use in formulating decisions regarding interventions or treatments to existing buildings on Main Street.

Smoky Lake County - Smoky Lake County Region Heritage Board Bylaw 1236-11

Smoky Lake County took the initiative in 2006 to establish a Smoky Lake Heritage Board to manage the heritage that belongs to the citizens of Smoky Lake County. Council amended the initial bylaw in 2010 to provide more clarity to the reader, and again in 2011 to incorporate a name change.

3. Purpose and Mandate of the Board

- 3.1 To manage aspects of the survey, identification, evaluation, designation, preservation, restoration, planning, financing and development of the heritage of Smoky Lake County.
- 3.2 To advise Smoky Lake County Council on all policy and regulatory matters relating to the heritage and heritage resources of the County.
- 3.3 To stimulate in the general public an appreciation and knowledge of heritage and heritage activities, and encourage, promote and advocate for the preservation and safeguarding of the integrity of landscape heritage, ecological heritage, cultural heritage events and built heritage in the Smoky Lake County.

4. Function

- 4.1 Provide services and support, both expert and financial, to historical and heritage organizations and individuals to increase their capacity to contribute and encourage private initiative and investment in the heritage of the Smoky Lake County.
- 4.2 Serve as a focal point for volunteer historical and heritage interests in the Smoky Lake County.
- 4.3 Encourage and assist private owners to protect and restore designated heritage assets through projects, expert advice, recognition of initiative,

conservation advice, and advocacy of public policies to provide incentives of all kinds including tax rebates and deferrals, financial inducements, grants, building codes, services of the public works department and infrastructure. The Board shall not, implicitly or explicitly, commit the County to any expenditures.

- 4.4 Work with the private sector to promote economic development based on the heritage resources of the Smoky Lake County.
- 4.5 Act as a resource and advisor to Smoky Lake County Council and may be requested by other municipal councils to advise on all matters relating to heritage. Any efforts provided to other municipal councils shall be at no cost to Smoky Lake County.
- 4.6 Seek out expert talent and skills to apply to heritage issues as they may arise.
- 4.7 On behalf of the Smoky Lake County Regional Heritage Board, and with the full knowledge of the County Council and Administration solicit, apply for and receive grants or donations from foundations, other orders of government, the private sector and individuals to carry out specific projects and to support historical and heritage organizations.
- 4.8 Ensure that any privately donated funds received are applied to the specific purpose designated by the donor.
- 4.9 Assist in defining, identifying, evaluating and designating historical and heritage assets for inclusion in County, Provincial, National and Global inventories of heritage assets.
- 4.10 Publicly acknowledge the efforts of individuals, groups and businesses who have worked on and supported:
 - 4.10.1 The preservation and promotion of the County's heritage.
 - 4.10.2 Significant contributions to the restoration of the heritage of the County.
- 4.11 Serve as an advocate respecting heritage issues within the Smoky Lake County and Province.
- 4.12 Provide advice to increase public knowledge and awareness of the heritage of the Smoky Lake County through education and promotion.
- 4.13 Invite, hear and consider representations by individuals and community groups on matters of the Smoky Lake County heritage.



2 background

smoky lake heritage management plan

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3.1 Our Vision of Heritage Conservation in the Smoky Lake Region

ENGAGING THE YOUTH

In May of 2010, the grade six students of the H.A. Kostash school participated in a “Get an Historical Perspective” day with staff from Community Design Strategies Inc. and architect, Stanley King, who has engaged youth in architecture since the early 1970s. The event engaged the students in learning about the history of the Smoky Lake Region.

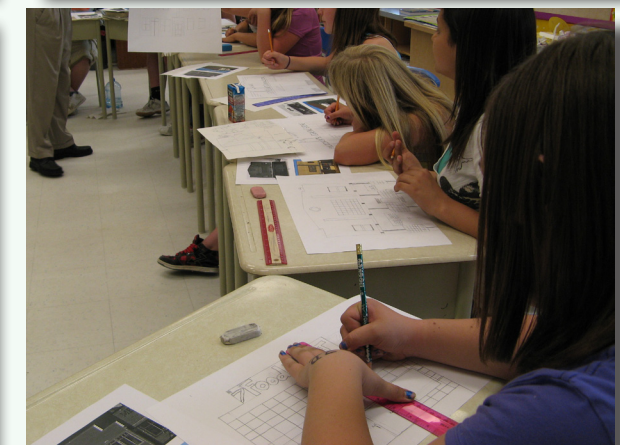
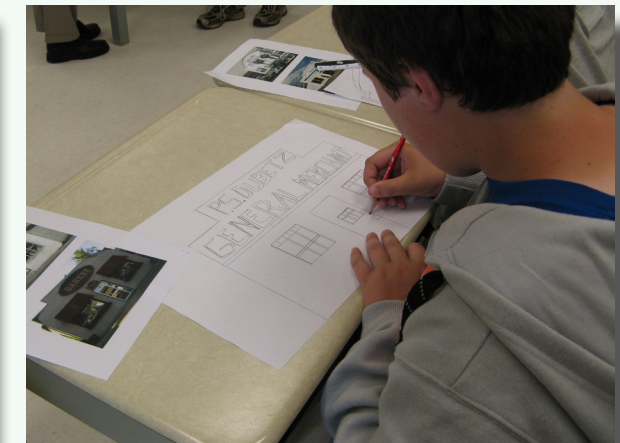
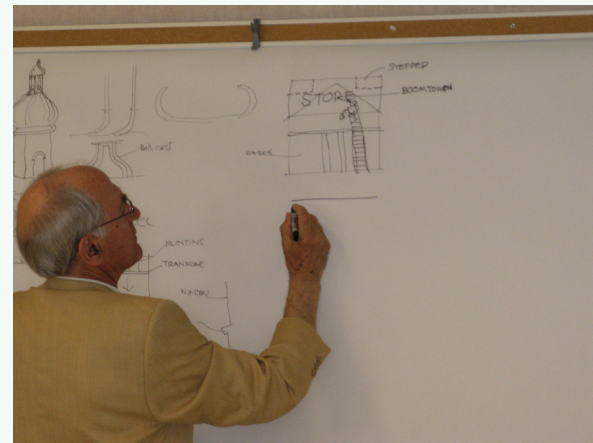
Graphically Learning About their Regional Architecture

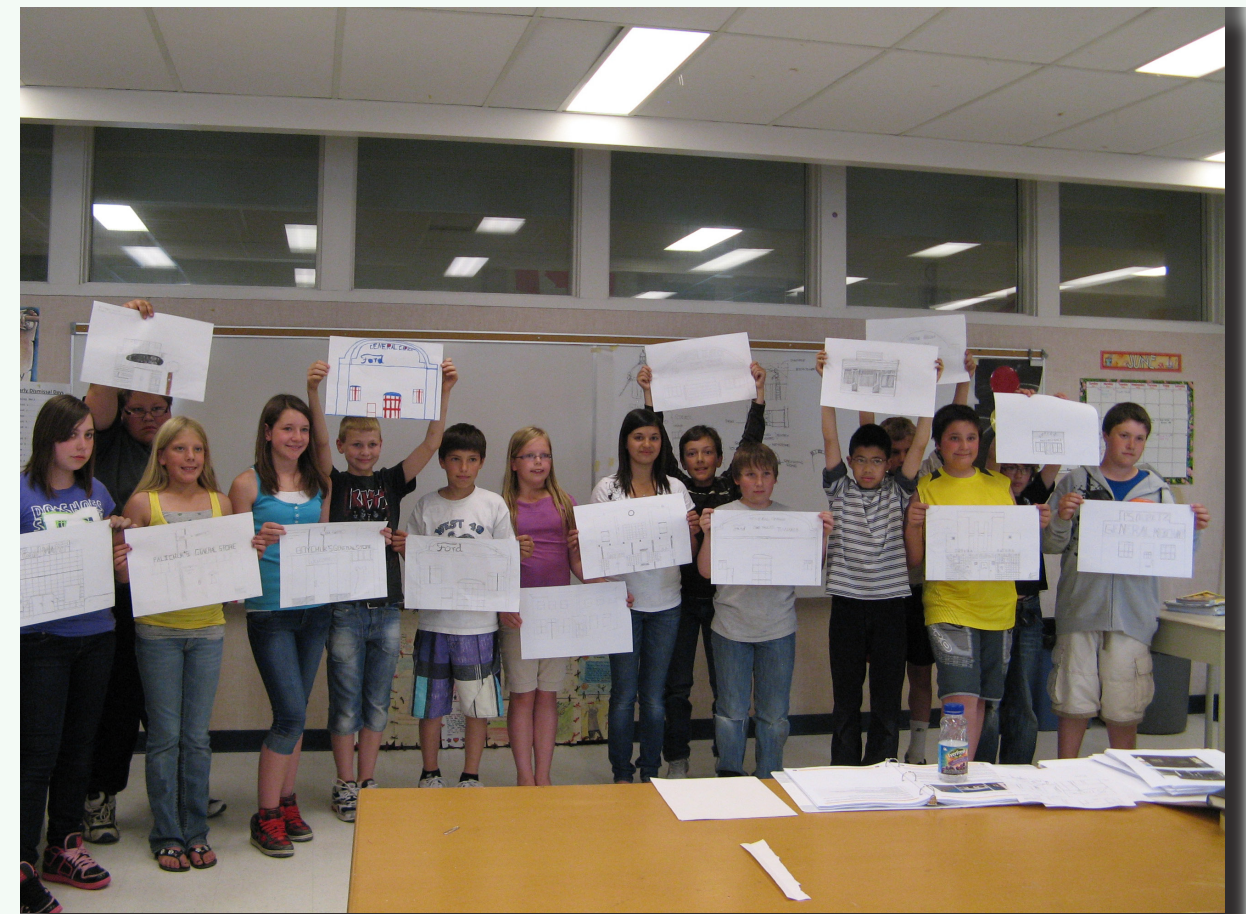
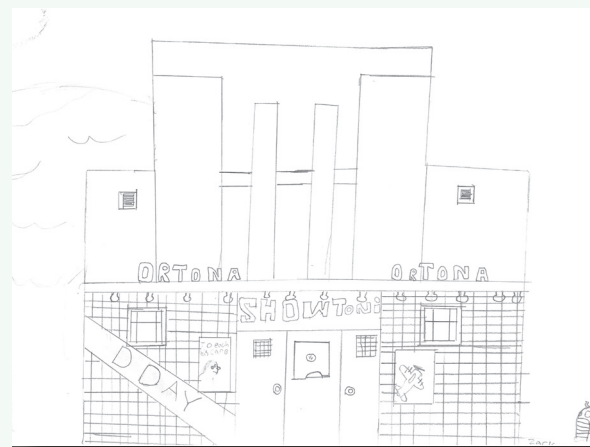
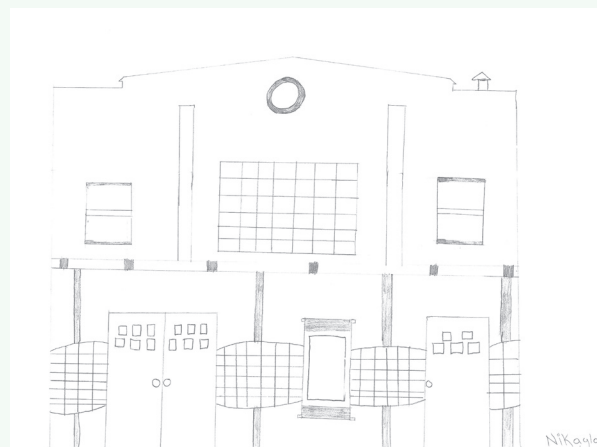
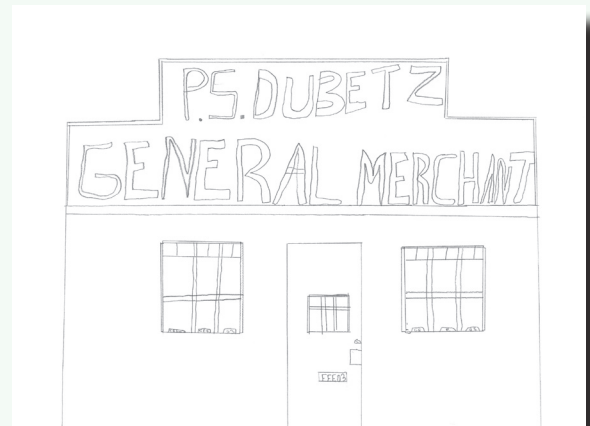
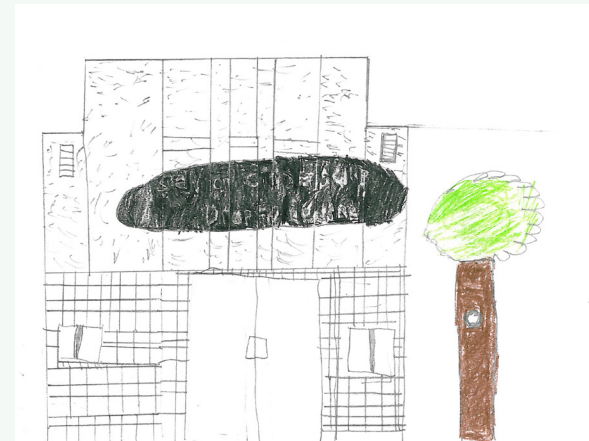
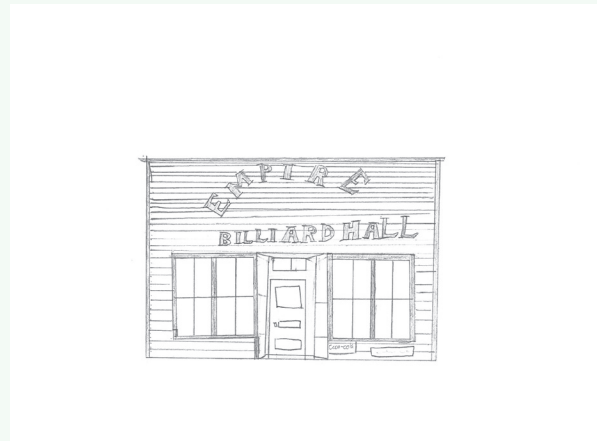
The students learned about their regional architecture, types of buildings, and architectural details. As Stanley King drew on the whiteboard to graphically describe the buildings and character-defining elements, the students watched carefully and then, with their pencils and sketchbooks in hand, copied what Stanley King had drawn. The students then toured the main street of Smoky Lake and compared archival photographs with what exists today. They did not realize the changes and preferred their main street buildings as they existed many years ago.

Returning to the Classroom to Begin Building Rehabilitation

After the students toured Smoky Lake’s main street with Stanley King and staff from Community Design Strategies Inc., they returned to their school and, remembering what they had learned about character-defining elements while drawing architectural details from the whiteboard, they selected their favourite building, picked out the archival photographs for reference, and quickly got to work to rehabilitate the building they had selected. As they worked through their drawings, Stanley King, Merinda Conley, Robert Earley, and Brianna Nadin watched carefully, and helped them where necessary. However, they were so focussed and intent to return their building to its original state that they really didn’t need help.

Overall, fifteen drawings were completed. Some of their favourite buildings included Tommy Ford’s General Garage, the Ortona Theatre, the Red and White General Store, P.S. Dubetz General Store, and the Empire Billiard Hall. The students were very proud of their drawings and every building was displayed at the public Open Houses throughout the Region.





3.1 Our Regional Vision of Heritage Conservation in the Smoky Lake Region (con't)

A STRATEGIC PLANNING SESSION

On February 10, 2012, invited members from the County and its hamlets, municipalities, Victoria District, Victoria Home Guard, and the Smoky Lake County Regional Heritage Board, participated in a strategic planning exercise regarding the future conservation of heritage in the Smoky Lake Region. The purpose of the session was to create a vision of how the Smoky Lake Region wishes to ensure the conservation of their historic resources. In exploring the kind of activities they could envision doing if heritage management and regional protection legislation was successfully in place, undertaking a SWOT analysis, and then analyzing the results of the SWOT (strengths, weaknesses, opportunities and threats) in the form of strategies that take advantage of the opportunities, various goals and objectives developed under four specific areas of focus:

- **Structure and Governance**
- **Heritage Policies**
- **Incentives**
- **Awareness and Education**

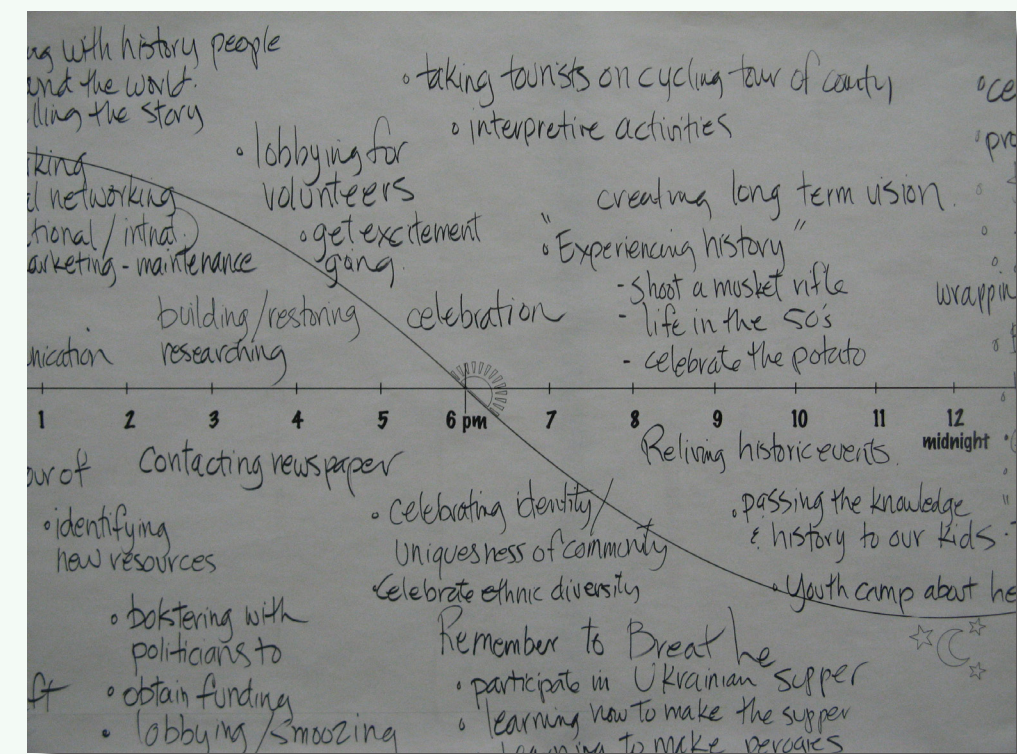
The session also provided those attending with an overview of what a heritage management plan is, the structure of the Heritage Management Plan itself, and a review of the legislative framework and tools to help with protection.

Overall, the session was an opportunity for key decision-makers to learn and understand what a Heritage Management Plan is, and how such a document can help protect the heritage places they deem significant in their municipalities, and in the Smoky Lake Region as a whole. It gave them an opportunity to become engaged, to share ideas with their colleagues, to take the next step in planning the future outcome of how they wish to manage their historic resources, how their strategies fit within specific objectives, and how such objectives help identify very specific long-term goals for heritage conservation.

TAKING THE NEXT STEP WITH ACTIONS AND TIMELINES

Following the strategic planning session, the Smoky Lake County Regional Heritage Board reviewed the results of the session under the four specific areas of focus, considered the priorities based on the rating of strategies and objectives, and identified tasks, responsibilities, and timelines to ensure a comprehensive overview and thorough consideration of realistic and feasible outcomes.

The involvement of the Smoky Lake County Regional Heritage Board was, at this point, critical to ensure their leadership and support for the goals, objectives, and strategies that developed. In addition, it is through their leadership that carries these initiatives further in terms of identifying how such objectives can be carried out, by whom, and by what target date. Acknowledging the commitment in terms of human capacity and time represents a strong, determined, and respectful character of the Smoky Lake County Regional Heritage Board, and not only displays their willingness to respect the outcome of consensus, but their trust in the process, and the value it provides in presenting their case to the Joint Council as a representative whole.



3.2 A Day in the Life of Conserving our Regional Heritage

Timeline Activities Displayed as a Word Cloud

This graphic represents the repetition of words from an Activity Timeline exercise that represents what the participants would envision themselves doing during a typical day of the week or weekend, and during any season, if they were engaged in conserving their heritage in the Region.



March 2012

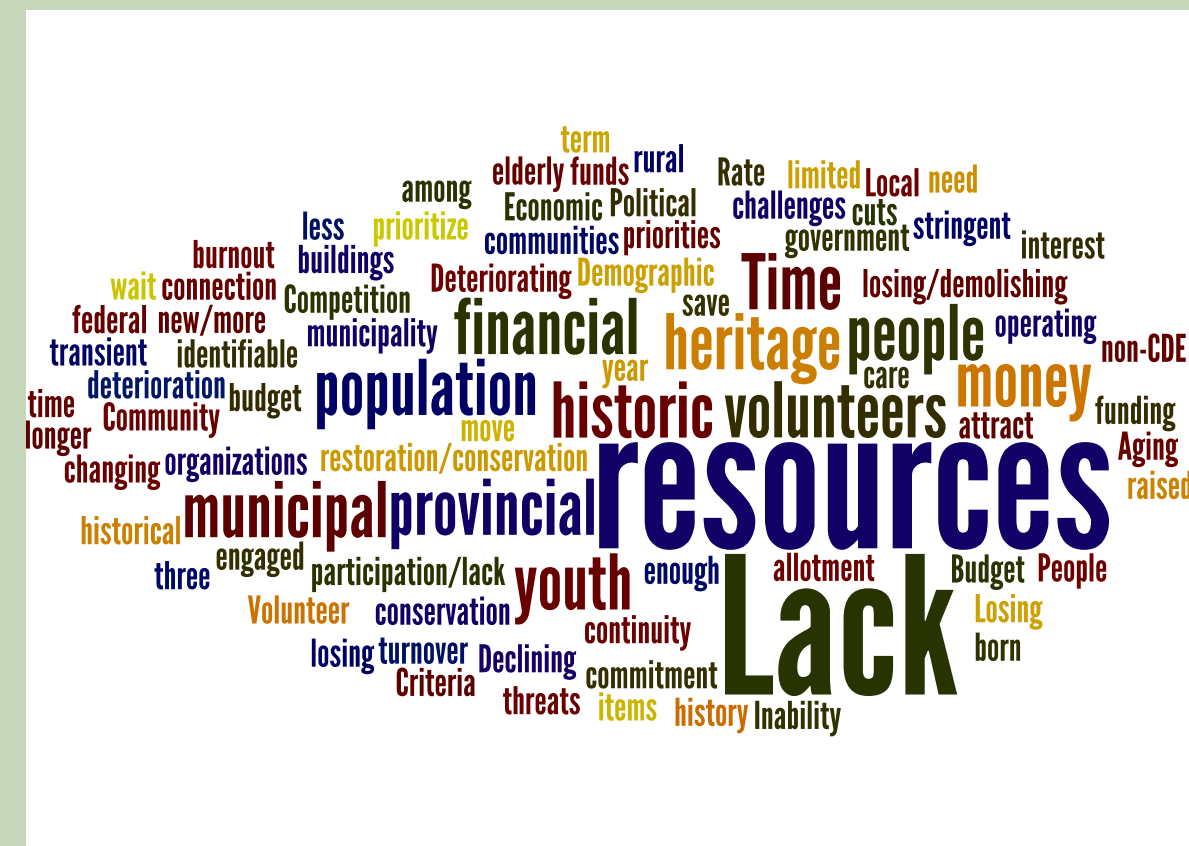
OPPORTUNITIES

Our best prospects, our competitive advantage, good matches with what we have to offer, our chances to improve our performance regarding our heritage in the Smoky Lake Region.



THREATS

Our competitive behaviour, new product or service, our demographics, elements in the environment that could cause problems in protecting our heritage in the Smoky Lake Region.



This graphic represents the repetition of words from an SWOT exercise that represents what the participants felt were the Opportunities and Threats in the Smoky Lake Region in terms of conserving the Region's historic places.

3.4 Work Plan Session - In Summary

STRUCTURE AND GOVERNANCE

GOAL: *The four municipalities and volunteer groups will collaborate to structure their planning, operations, and initiatives to acknowledge the vital role that heritage plays in our community and economy.*

Objectives:

1. Adopt the new Heritage Management Plan to implement a consistent approach across municipalities to incorporate heritage decisions into their ongoing planning and operations.
2. Pursue economic opportunities to fund the implementation of the Heritage Management Plan.
3. Develop a more effective volunteer base and public involvement.
4. Celebrate and communicate the importance of all heritage work to date to those in leadership roles, stakeholders, and the general public, in order to sustain the momentum of the Heritage Management Plan.

HERITAGE POLICIES

GOAL: *The four municipalities will develop heritage policies that will increase the profile of heritage conservation in Smoky Lake Region.*

Objectives:

1. Celebrate heritage conservation in Smoky Lake Region.
2. Increase the profile of heritage within the Region and facilitate potential financial support through various sources.
3. Maintain, update, and review the Inventory and Register of Historic Resources to ensure that important resources are identified and recorded.
4. Support and encourage heritage conservation in the Region.

INCENTIVES

GOAL: *The four municipalities will pursue creative initiatives to fund, recognize and celebrate local heritage conservation.*

Objectives:

1. Establish municipal incentives that encourage landowners to designate and restore heritage resources within the Smoky Lake Region.
2. Promote and encourage applications to existing provincial heritage conservation incentive programs.
3. Support and encourage partnerships between all levels of government, and local organizations, to further heritage conservation in the Smoky Lake Region.
4. Collaborate with federal and provincial programs that support and promote heritage preservation at the municipal level.

AWARENESS AND EDUCATION

GOAL: *The four municipalities will strive to conserve and collect historical resources in the Smoky Lake Region, and engage and interpret both within and outside the community.*

Objectives:

1. Engage and integrate heritage conservation into the broader community.
2. Collect, preserve, and make accessible historical images, collections and information.
3. Interpret, make accessible, and promote Smoky Lake Region's heritage resources outside the Region.
4. Engage all levels of government and community members for the conservation of historic sites in the Smoky Lake Region.

3.4 Work Plan Session - In Detail

STRUCTURE AND GOVERNANCE

GOAL: *The four municipalities and volunteer groups will collaborate to structure their planning, operations, and initiatives to acknowledge the vital role that heritage plays in our community and economy.*

Objective #1: Adopt the new Heritage Management Plan to implement a consistent approach across municipalities to incorporate heritage decisions into their ongoing planning and operations.

Possible Strategies / Activities:

1. Each municipality adopt the *Heritage Management Plan* to increase long-term political support for heritage conservation.

TASKS NECESSARY TO COMPLETE STRATEGY / ACTIVITY	PERSON RESPONSIBLE	TARGET DATE
Present the <i>Heritage Management Plan</i> at Joint Municipalities Meeting and have it endorsed by Joint Council.		
Ensure each municipality has copy of final <i>Heritage Management Plan</i> .		
Have the <i>Heritage Management Plan</i> placed on each of Council’s next Meeting Agenda to be adopted.		
Report the adoption of the <i>Heritage Management Plan</i> to Smoky Lake County, managing partner for the Project.		
Attendance by the Heritage Board at Joint Municipalities Meetings to report on initiatives and encourage support for the continued implementation of the <i>Heritage Management Plan</i> by all municipalities.		
Review of the <i>Heritage Management Plan</i> by each Council to evaluate progress and consider new initiatives.		

2. Each municipality adopt the *Inventory of Historic Places* for their respective municipality.

TASKS NECESSARY TO COMPLETE STRATEGY / ACTIVITY	PERSON RESPONSIBLE	TARGET DATE
Adopt the <i>Inventory of Historic Places</i> that is provided in the <i>Heritage Management Plan</i> , in bylaw or policy.		



3. Include the *Heritage Management Plan* as part of the Council Orientation package.

TASKS NECESSARY TO COMPLETE STRATEGY / ACTIVITY	PERSON RESPONSIBLE	TARGET DATE
Include the <i>Heritage Management Plan</i> and <i>Municipal Inventory of Historic Places</i> as part of Council Orientation.		
Provide advice and guidance to Council.		
Arrange for MHPP to make presentation at Joint Municipalities Meeting		

4. Municipalities to implement the use of templates given in the *Heritage Management Plan* to provide guidance and consistency region-wide.

TASKS NECESSARY TO COMPLETE STRATEGY / ACTIVITY	PERSON RESPONSIBLE	TARGET DATE
Provide a half-day workshop for CAOs / Development Officers / Heritage Board to become familiar with <i>Heritage Management Plan</i> , designation and conservation process, and how to use templates provided.		
Provide advice and guidance to CAOs / Development Officers regarding heritage conservation.		
Utilize the templates provided in the <i>Heritage Management Plan</i> .		

5. The *Heritage Management Plan* will be considered and integrated as part of the development and use of other land use planning documents.

TASKS NECESSARY TO COMPLETE STRATEGY / ACTIVITY	PERSON RESPONSIBLE	TARGET DATE
Forward a copy of the <i>Heritage Management Plan</i> to any municipal planner, Subdivision Authority and planning consultant, to be considered in any drafts of planning documents.		
Refer to the <i>Inventory of Historic Places</i> when considering Development Permit Applications and Subdivision Applications, and if there is a potential impact to a heritage resource, refer applications to the Heritage Board for comment prior to making a decision.		
Respond to referral requests from any of the four municipalities, using the Resource Evaluation forms, Statements of Significance (from the Inventory Report), and photographs on file for the subject site, to determine if the proposed application has any potential for negative impacts to the historic integrity of the resource.		

STRUCTURE AND GOVERNANCE (cont'd)

GOAL: *The four municipalities and volunteer groups will collaborate to structure their planning, operations, and initiatives to acknowledge the vital role that heritage plays in our community and economy.*

Objective #2: Pursue economic opportunities to fund the implementation of the Heritage Management Plan.

Possible Strategies / Activities:

1. Pursue a joint project with the Joint Economic Development Initiative (JEDI) Committee.

TASKS NECESSARY TO COMPLETE STRATEGY / ACTIVITY	PERSON RESPONSIBLE	TARGET DATE
Identify opportunities that could create a partnership between the Heritage Board and the JEDI Committee.		
Make a presentation to the JEDI Committee promoting heritage conservation as an economic driver.		
Hold a work session / meeting to strategize on potential projects and choose a project to partner on.		
Apply for Travel Alberta grant dollars to assist in the funding of promotions targeted to residents outside of the Region.		

2. Consider the allocation of new budgetary dollars for the implementation of strategies within the *Heritage Management Plan*.

TASKS NECESSARY TO COMPLETE STRATEGY / ACTIVITY	PERSON RESPONSIBLE	TARGET DATE
Prepare a Heritage Financial Strategy (detailed alternatives and action steps for implementation) and present to Joint Municipalities for consideration.		
Survey the Region’s residents to gauge support of funding heritage conservation projects through tax incentives, grant programs, or other sources.		

3. Empower persons and organizations to pursue existing grant programs, and potential partnership opportunities.

TASKS NECESSARY TO COMPLETE STRATEGY / ACTIVITY	PERSON RESPONSIBLE	TARGET DATE
Create an information package of existing provincial grant programs.		



Promote an Information Session / Open House as part of Annual General Meeting of the Heritage Board to provide an opportunity for residents to learn about heritage conservation.		
Encourage and assist persons and organizations in the preparation of funding applications to existing grant programs.		
Assist the Heritage Board Society to submit application for federal charitable tax status.		

4. Increase the profile of heritage conservation in municipal service delivery and promote heritage as an economic driver rather than a “soft-service.”

TASKS NECESSARY TO COMPLETE STRATEGY / ACTIVITY	PERSON RESPONSIBLE	TARGET DATE
Prepare a presentation to demonstrate the economic benefits of heritage conservation.		
Make a presentation to Joint Municipalities Meeting.		
Include presentation material in Council Orientation packages.		

Objective #3: Develop a more effective volunteer base and public involvement.

Possible Strategies / Activities:

1. Establish new Heritage Board Committees to help establish a strong volunteer base.

TASKS NECESSARY TO COMPLETE STRATEGY / ACTIVITY	PERSON RESPONSIBLE	TARGET DATE
Advertise the recruitment for Heritage Board Committee members for specific projects (i.e. marketing, fundraising, construction, etc.).		
Send specific letters of invitation to other organizations in the Region.		
Make presentation to other organizations to increase interest in heritage conservation.		
Produce media releases in local newspapers about heritage conservation activities.		

STRUCTURE AND GOVERNANCE (cont'd)

GOAL: *The four municipalities and volunteer groups will collaborate to structure their planning, operations, and initiatives to acknowledge the vital role that heritage plays in our community and economy.*

2. Clarify to individuals and organizations the role and mandate of the Heritage Board and how it integrates with other heritage organizations in the Region.

TASKS NECESSARY TO COMPLETE STRATEGY / ACTIVITY	PERSON RESPONSIBLE	TARGET DATE
Develop an information brochure about the Smoky Lake County Regional Heritage Board, clarifying role and mandate.		
Develop a separate page on the www.smokylakeregion.ab.ca website promoting the Smoky Lake County Regional Heritage Board.		
Develop a separate page on all municipal websites promoting the Smoky Lake County Regional Heritage Board.		

3. Use the Victoria District Area Structure Plan to further engage the public in heritage conservation.

TASKS NECESSARY TO COMPLETE STRATEGY / ACTIVITY	PERSON RESPONSIBLE	TARGET DATE
Ensure that Municipal Planning Services (2009) Ltd. has a copy of the Heritage Management Plan to consider during the drafting of the Victoria District Area Structure Plan.		
Hold additional public engagement sessions during the development of the Victoria District Area Structure Plan to encourage wide-spread consensus, with the desire to create a leading-edge Area Structure Plan that allows a balance between development activity and heritage conservation activities.		
Advocate heritage conservation when attending Victoria District Area Structure Plan public engagement sessions.		



Objective #4: Celebrate and communicate the importance of all heritage work to date to those in leadership roles, stakeholders, and the general public, in order to sustain the momentum of the *Heritage Management Plan*.

Possible Strategies / Activities:

1. Celebrate the completion of the *Heritage Management Plan* to continue the momentum of the last three years and spur implementation.

TASKS NECESSARY TO COMPLETE STRATEGY / ACTIVITY	PERSON RESPONSIBLE	TARGET DATE
Draft a media release announcing the completion of the <i>Heritage Management Plan</i> and distribute to newspapers both in the region and across Alberta.		
Post the media release on all municipal websites.		
Utilize any social media tools used by the municipalities.		
Consider developing other creative low-cost projects to engage public in heritage resources in Region (calender, coloring book, posters, puzzles, etc.)		

2. Communicate the importance of the *Heritage Management Plan* to those in leadership roles in heritage and community organizations to further implementation of the *Heritage Management Plan* into the future.

TASKS NECESSARY TO COMPLETE STRATEGY / ACTIVITY	PERSON RESPONSIBLE	TARGET DATE
Host an event to present the <i>Heritage Management Plan</i> to the regional organizations and the public.		
Specifically invite heritage organizations, such as the Victoria Home Guard, Friends of the Vilna Pool Hall Society, Friends of Fort Victoria Society, Victoria Settlement, seniors citizens organizations, Legions, Lions Clubs, and Museums, to attend event.		

HERITAGE POLICIES

GOAL: The four municipalities will develop heritage policies that will increase the profile of heritage conservation in the Smoky Lake Region.

Objective #1: Celebrate heritage conservation in the Smoky Lake Region.

Possible Strategies / Activities:

1. Recognize an owner’s initiative to designate their building as a historic resource.

TASKS NECESSARY TO COMPLETE STRATEGY / ACTIVITY	PERSON RESPONSIBLE	TARGET DATE
Draft a media release to profile each of the historic resources already municipally designated to date.		
Draft a media release when any historic resource is officially designated.		
Host a ceremony at the historic resource and acknowledge the owner’s initiative to designate site.		
Develop a commemorative plaque program, which would have a Smoky Lake Regional Heritage Board commemorative plaque placed on each of the buildings municipally designated in the Region.		

2. Recognize an owner’s investment when a heritage conservation project has been initiated and completed on a designated historic resource.

TASKS NECESSARY TO COMPLETE STRATEGY / ACTIVITY	PERSON RESPONSIBLE	TARGET DATE
Draft media releases prior and during the course of any heritage conservation project.		
Celebrate the completion of the heritage conservation project with a ribbon-cutting ceremony.		
Acknowledge volunteers and financial contributions to the project through media releases, and letters from Heritage Board and Council.		



Objective #2: Increase the profile of heritage within the Region and facilitate potential financial support through various sources.

Possible Strategies / Activities:

1. Provide information on grant funding available.

TASKS NECESSARY TO COMPLETE STRATEGY / ACTIVITY	PERSON RESPONSIBLE	TARGET DATE
Obtain information regarding specific programs (i.e. Alberta Historical Resources Foundation, MHPP, Community Facility Enhancement Program etc.) that heritage conservation projects may be eligible to access funding.		
Develop information brochure summarizing funding opportunities.		
Post link on www.smokylakeregion.ab.ca website about funding opportunities.		
Post link on all municipal websites about funding opportunities.		

Objective #3: Maintain, update, and review the Region's Inventory and Register of Historic Resources to ensure that important resources are identified and recorded.

Possible Strategies / Activities:

1. Prioritize sites for future designation within each of the four municipalities.

TASKS NECESSARY TO COMPLETE STRATEGY / ACTIVITY	PERSON RESPONSIBLE	TARGET DATE
Complete a <i>Site Evaluation Criteria Rating Form</i> for each site listing on each <i>Inventory of Historic Places</i> .		
Present a prioritized list of potential sites, identified on the <i>Inventory of Historic Places</i> , to each respective municipal council.		
Endorse and give direction to pursue the municipal designation of specific sites.		

2. Facilitate the municipal designation of heritage resources in the Smoky Lake Region.

TASKS NECESSARY TO COMPLETE STRATEGY / ACTIVITY	PERSON RESPONSIBLE	TARGET DATE
Meet with prioritized site owners and discuss the opportunities of designating resource.		
Encourage and assist site owners to complete and submit applications for Municipal Historic Designation.		

HERITAGE POLICIES (cont'd)

GOAL: The four municipalities will develop heritage policies that will increase the profile of heritage conservation in the Smoky Lake Region.

Complete a detailed Historic Resource Integrity Review to ensure Statement of Significance is accurate at time of the designation bylaw presentation.		
Make recommendations to municipal Council for municipal designation.		

3. Complete a Historic Resource Integrity Review of each site on each of the four *Municipal Inventory of Historic Places*.

TASKS NECESSARY TO COMPLETE STRATEGY / ACTIVITY	PERSON RESPONSIBLE	TARGET DATE
Develop a rotation for the Historic Resource Integrity Review to take place (i.e. urbans one year, rural sites the next), with the goal to have each building reviewed every two years.		
Conduct a site visit, and using the Historic Resource Integrity Review checklist supplied in the Heritage Management Plan , determine if the Character-Defining Elements for each resource still exist.		
Submit recommendation for any resources that should be removed from any of the Municipal Inventory of Historic Places .		
Amend the Municipal Inventory of Historic Places .		

4. Investigate and identify new sites worthy of being recognized as historic resources.

TASKS NECESSARY TO COMPLETE STRATEGY / ACTIVITY	PERSON RESPONSIBLE	TARGET DATE
Complete a Heritage Resource Integrity Review on all sites identified on the Places of Interest List , or any other new site submitted for review.		
Group heritage resources into appropriate Category, based on the total scored in the Heritage Resource Integrity Review .		
Contract heritage consultant to draft Statements of Significances on highest scored historic resources.		



Objective #4: Support and encourage heritage conservation in the Region.**Possible Strategies / Activities:**

1. Develop policies that will encourage heritage conservation.

TASKS NECESSARY TO COMPLETE STRATEGY / ACTIVITY	PERSON RESPONSIBLE	TARGET DATE
Research other examples of heritage policies from other municipalities across Canada.		
Draft policies to meet context of Smoky Lake Region.		
Present to Joint Municipalities County for endorsement.		
Adopt in each municipality.		

2. Adopt policies and / or bylaws that encourage protection of historic resources and heritage districts.

TASKS NECESSARY TO COMPLETE STRATEGY / ACTIVITY	PERSON RESPONSIBLE	TARGET DATE
Adopt the <i>Standards and Guidelines for the Conservation of Historic Places in Canada</i> .		
Develop policies, regulations, or guidelines in statutory plans, zoning and heritage district overlays to identify special areas and sites that require heritage conservation and protection.		
Consider re-districting Municipal Historic Resources to Direct Control in the Land Use Bylaws, allowing Council more discretion regarding variances to regulations.		
Amend Land Use Bylaws to incorporate heritage conservation policies and regulations.		
Develop Urban Design Guidelines to conserve existing historic Main Street areas and ensure infill development is sensitive and in character.		

3. Place a high priority on preventing the demolition of historic resources and any inappropriate alterations.

TASKS NECESSARY TO COMPLETE STRATEGY / ACTIVITY	PERSON RESPONSIBLE	TARGET DATE
Identify all policies, programs and incentives that could prevent historic resources from being demolished.		
Investigate enforcement options and disincentives to prevent demolition or willful neglect.		
Investigate the possibility of requiring justification, timelines, and development permits for new development prior to demolition permits being issued for heritage resources, to prevent mediocre development or land being left vacant.		

HERITAGE POLICIES (cont'd)

GOAL: The four municipalities will develop heritage policies that will increase the profile of heritage conservation in the Smoky Lake Region.

Develop stronger maintenance regulations to enable the municipality to enforce repairs on Municipal Historic Resources.		
Ensure that lost historic resources are commemorated through incorporation into new development, when appropriate.		

4. Municipalities become active stewards of their local heritage.

TASKS NECESSARY TO COMPLETE STRATEGY / ACTIVITY	PERSON RESPONSIBLE	TARGET DATE
Identify all current and potentially publicly-owned sites listed on all the <i>Municipal Inventory of Historic Places</i> .		
Survey and identify potential needs of the Region in terms of buildings.		
Evaluate potential adaptive reuses of historic buildings to accommodate community need.		
Engage the community and stakeholders to explore potential community or regional projects.		
Select a site to pursue municipal designation and initiate a municipally-driven heritage conservation project.		
Encourage community organizations to use fundraising dollars to contribute to project.		
Encourage community organizations to access Summer Temporary Employment Program (STEP) to hire students to participate in heritage conservation projects.		
Dedicate municipal dedicate staff resources to manage heritage conservation projects.		



INCENTIVES

GOAL: *The four municipalities will pursue creative initiatives to fund, recognize and celebrate local heritage conservation.*

Objective #1: Establish municipal incentives that encourage landowners to designate and restore heritage resources within the Smoky Lake Region.

Possible Strategies / Activities:

1. Complete a Heritage Financial Strategy to determine appropriate municipal incentives for the Region.

TASKS NECESSARY TO COMPLETE STRATEGY / ACTIVITY	PERSON RESPONSIBLE	TARGET DATE
Survey and analyze other municipalities across Canada in terms of their best practices for providing municipal incentives for heritage conservation.		
Explore the feasibility of creating a land bank where historic resources facing demolition can be relocated.		
Explore the feasibility of developing storage facilities for significant architectural remnants that have been or may be salvaged from demolitions, so that they may be incorporated into new development in the future.		
Explore the benefits of waiving Development Permit fees on designated heritage resources.		
Survey local residents to gauge support.		
Consolidate information gathered and prepare alternatives for Council consideration.		
Present alternatives to Council and work them through incentive solutions for their Region.		
Develop a bylaw to be adopted by each of the four municipalities to implement a regional incentive program.		

2. Create a Regional Heritage Grant Program that financially supports sites that are Municipal Historic Resources.

TASKS NECESSARY TO COMPLETE STRATEGY / ACTIVITY	PERSON RESPONSIBLE	TARGET DATE
Investigate other municipal heritage funds across Canada.		
Develop a Heritage Grant Program, including the funding, and distribution of dollars.		
Adopt a bylaw in each municipality to create a Regional Heritage Grant Program		

INCENTIVES

GOAL: The four municipalities will pursue creative initiatives to fund, recognize and celebrate local heritage conservation.

Advertise the Heritage Grant Program as a potential recipient for corporate and individual contributions.		
Manage the Heritage Grant Program, applications, and monitoring of projects.		

Objective #2: Promote and encourage applications to existing provincial heritage conservation incentive programs.

Possible Strategies / Activities:

- 1. Promote and encourage applications to existing Alberta Culture and Community Services’ Heritage Partnership Program, which is managed by the Alberta Historical Resources Foundation.

TASKS NECESSARY TO COMPLETE STRATEGY / ACTIVITY	PERSON RESPONSIBLE	TARGET DATE
Assist site owners to apply and access monies through the Historic Resource Conservation category, which funds conservation of provincial and municipal historic resources as well as funds architectural / engineering services, feasibility studies, reports and plans.		
Assist site owners to apply and access monies through the Transportation / Industrial Artifact Conservation category, which funds the preservation or restoration of transportation and industrial artifacts that have a distinctive and significant connection to Alberta’s history.		
Apply and access monies through the Heritage Awareness category, which funds tangible initiatives that promote awareness of Alberta’s history and those that have a lasting impact, such as innovative educational programs, interpretative programs, and projects that encourage public involvement.		
Apply and access monies through the Publications category, which funds initiatives to document Alberta’s history by assisting with the publishing costs of books, brochures, pamphlets and other printed documents.		
Apply and access monies through the Research category, which supports research that will produce new understanding or add to the knowledge base of Alberta’s history.		



Objective #3: Support and encourage partnerships between all levels of government and local organizations, to further heritage conservation in the Smoky Lake Region.

Possible Strategies / Activities:

1. Create partnership between Chamber of Commerce and Smoky Lake County Regional Heritage Board.

TASKS NECESSARY TO COMPLETE STRATEGY / ACTIVITY	PERSON RESPONSIBLE	TARGET DATE
Encourage participation of Chamber of Commerce at Heritage Board meetings.		
Create an information package for Chamber of Commerce to provide to businesses, showing the importance of heritage as an economic driver in the community.		
Give a presentation at a Chamber of Commerce meeting in each community to increase heritage awareness and support.		

2. Create partnership between Smoky Lake County Regional Heritage Board and other heritage organizations across the Region.

TASKS NECESSARY TO COMPLETE STRATEGY / ACTIVITY	PERSON RESPONSIBLE	TARGET DATE
Invite representatives from all heritage organizations to a meeting to explore partnerships.		
Identify potential opportunities to work together on heritage projects.		
Identify potential opportunities to work together on fundraising projects.		
Undertake a joint heritage project and / or fundraising event that benefits multiple organizations.		

INCENTIVES

GOAL: The four municipalities will pursue creative initiatives to fund, recognize and celebrate local heritage conservation.

Objective #4: Collaborate with federal and provincial programs that support and promote heritage preservation at the municipal level.

Possible Strategies / Activities:

1. Encourage the Government of Alberta to increase its annual budget towards heritage conservation grant programs.

TASKS NECESSARY TO COMPLETE STRATEGY / ACTIVITY	PERSON RESPONSIBLE	TARGET DATE
Draft letter to be used by municipalities.		
Issue letter from each municipality to the Minister of Culture and Community Services, AUMA, and AAMD&C.		
Campaign all municipal organizations and Alberta municipalities to submit letter of support.		

2. Identify what forums exist to enable municipalities and provincial government to encourage the federal government to develop a federal heritage incentive program.

TASKS NECESSARY TO COMPLETE STRATEGY / ACTIVITY	PERSON RESPONSIBLE	TARGET DATE
Submit resolutions to Federation of Canadian Municipalities to encourage the federal government to develop a federal heritage incentive program.		



AWARENESS AND EDUCATION

GOAL: *The four municipalities will strive to conserve and collect historical resources in the Smoky Lake Region, and engage and interpret both within and outside the Region.*

Objective #1: Engage and integrate heritage conservation into the broader community.

Possible Strategies / Activities:

1. Create a Regional Archive List of historical assets to be accessed by multiple organizations.

TASKS NECESSARY TO COMPLETE STRATEGY / ACTIVITY	PERSON RESPONSIBLE	TARGET DATE
Collect a listing of artifacts, historical images, collections, and information from each heritage organization.		
Consolidate the separate listings into one Regional Archive List.		
Analyze Regional Archive List to see if there is historical or cultural gaps in collection.		
Complete Regional Archive List for distribution to all heritage and cultural organizations in the Region.		

2. Engage the community to participate in heritage activities.

TASKS NECESSARY TO COMPLETE STRATEGY / ACTIVITY	PERSON RESPONSIBLE	TARGET DATE
Distribute an information package to all residents.		
Invite new residents to attend heritage meeting or event.		
Encourage residents to volunteer on Heritage Board or Committee(s)		
Develop a list of local trades persons and encourage them to learn about heritage conservation opportunities.		

AWARENESS AND EDUCATION (cont'd)

GOAL: *The four municipalities will strive to conserve and collect historical resources in the Smoky Lake Region, and engage and interpret both within and outside the Region.*

3. Create display material and /or booth for promotional use.

TASKS NECESSARY TO COMPLETE STRATEGY / ACTIVITY	PERSON RESPONSIBLE	TARGET DATE
Produce backdrop / display materials of heritage sites.		
Produce print material (pamphlets, brochures, walking/driving tour booklets) to have on display.		
Offer to work Trade Shows in Edmonton with Agricultural Society in exchange for display of heritage material.		
Have display booth and promotional materials available at municipal offices and visitor information centres.		

Objective #2: Collect, preserve and make accessible historical images and information.

Possible Strategies / Activities:

1. Create an Oral History Program to engage long-time community members and capture history.

TASKS NECESSARY TO COMPLETE STRATEGY / ACTIVITY	PERSON RESPONSIBLE	TARGET DATE
Hire and train students to interview and record oral histories.		
Interview and record oral histories of members in each community.		
Document oral interviews and submit to Regional Archives.		

2. Maintain and retrieve copies of archival photos of buildings of interest.

TASKS NECESSARY TO COMPLETE STRATEGY / ACTIVITY	PERSON RESPONSIBLE	TARGET DATE
Make photos available to use during <i>Resource Integrity Reviews</i> and planning decisions.		
Maintain and update the digital filing system of all heritage photos on the County server.		
Draft a media release to solicit photos of buildings identified as part of the <i>Survey and Inventory of Historic Places</i> project.		



3. Launch the Smoky Lake Region Heritage Inventory website, which show photos and text information of all inventoried sites.

TASKS NECESSARY TO COMPLETE STRATEGY / ACTIVITY	PERSON RESPONSIBLE	TARGET DATE
Complete testing of the Heritage Inventory website		
Launch website officially		
Draft media release of Heritage Inventory website.		

Objective #3: Interpret, make accessible, and promote our heritage resources outside the Smoky Lake Region.

Possible Strategies / Activities:

1. Develop a self-guided walking / driving tour for the Region's historic resources.

TASKS NECESSARY TO COMPLETE STRATEGY / ACTIVITY	PERSON RESPONSIBLE	TARGET DATE
Submit a grant application to Travel Alberta to develop a brochure to promote a self-guided walking / driving tour to visitors from outside the Region.		
Identify which designated historic resources are to be included on the brochure.		
Produce a brochure that guides a traveller to visit historic resources across the Region and interpret each site.		
Distribute brochures to visitor information centres across Alberta.		
Display brochures at trade show booths attended by Joint Economic Development Initiative Committee, and the Smoky Lake Agricultural Society.		

2. Market the Smoky Lake Region as a heritage destination.

TASKS NECESSARY TO COMPLETE STRATEGY / ACTIVITY	PERSON RESPONSIBLE	TARGET DATE
Use existing District Marketing Organizations (DMOs), like Alberta's Lakeland, Kalyna Country, Alberta HUB and market the Region as a place to experience heritage.		
Submit new pictures and provide new content for DMOs to create new advertisements and promotional information in their magazines and websites.		

AWARENESS AND EDUCATION

GOAL: *The four municipalities will strive to conserve and collect historical resources in the Smoky Lake Region, and engage and interpret both within and outside the Region.*

3. Develop web-based and social media tools to promote the Region’s historic sites.

TASKS NECESSARY TO COMPLETE STRATEGY / ACTIVITY	PERSON RESPONSIBLE	TARGET DATE
Create a new “heritage” page and provide content for regional website: www.smokylakeregion.ab.ca		
Provide content to all municipalities to promote on municipal websites.		
Create a facebook page/group promoting heritage in Smoky Lake		

4. Create a Regional Interpretation Program.

TASKS NECESSARY TO COMPLETE STRATEGY / ACTIVITY	PERSON RESPONSIBLE	TARGET DATE
Update regional website and municipal websites with designated sites information.		
Apply to Alberta Historical Resources Foundation’s Heritage Preservation Partnership Program: Heritage Awareness for grant dollars to implement a Regional Interpretation Program.		
Develop interpretation plaques for all designated sites.		
Produce brochures and information booklets.		

Objective #4: Engage all levels of government and community members for the conservation of historic sites in the Region.

Possible Strategies / Activities:

1. Engage youth to learn about the heritage of Smoky Lake Region.

TASKS NECESSARY TO COMPLETE STRATEGY / ACTIVITY	PERSON RESPONSIBLE	TARGET DATE
Deliver a presentation to the high school social studies classes about heritage conservation.		
Request there be youth representation on the Heritage Board.		
Develop research projects that could be incorporated into their studies.		
Host a Heritage Fair and invite all schools in Region.		



2. Develop a volunteer recognition program.

TASKS NECESSARY TO COMPLETE STRATEGY / ACTIVITY	PERSON RESPONSIBLE	TARGET DATE
Provide tokens of appreciation for volunteers.		
Place media release or advertisement in local newspapers, recognizing volunteers.		
Host a Volunteer Appreciation Night.		

3. Encourage Heritage Board members, Councillors, CAOs and Development Officers to learn about heritage conservation.

TASKS NECESSARY TO COMPLETE STRATEGY / ACTIVITY	PERSON RESPONSIBLE	TARGET DATE
Attendance at Alberta Culture and Community Service's MHPP's Annual Forum		
Investigate other workshops / events hosted by the National Trust Foundation and consider attendance.		
Investigate other workshops / events hosted by Heritage Canada and consider attendance.		

5. Develop program to provide heritage awareness to municipal staff and Council.

TASKS NECESSARY TO COMPLETE STRATEGY / ACTIVITY	PERSON RESPONSIBLE	TARGET DATE
Organize a tour (on-site or virtual) of all heritage resources in the Region.		
Deliver a presentation to Joint Municipalities on heritage conservation initiatives in the Region.		
Deliver a presentation to staff at Annual Safety Meeting about heritage conservation initiatives in the Region.		

3.5 Recommendations

STRUCTURE AND GOVERNANCE

Short-term (1 year)

- ☐ Each municipality adopt the *Smoky Lake Region Heritage Management Plan*.
- ☐ Each municipality adopt their community's *Municipal Inventory of Historic Places*.
- ☐ Each municipality adopt the *Standards and Guidelines for the Conservation of Historic Places in Canada*.
- ☐ Each municipality adopt the Smoky Lake County Regional Heritage Board Bylaw.
- ☐ Town of Smoky Lake designate Our Lady of Atonement Roman Catholic Church, currently an unprotected Registered Historic Resource, as a Municipal Historic Resources.
- ☐ Heritage Board establish Committees.

Mid-term (2-3 years)

- ☐ Amend Land Use bylaws to support heritage conservation.
- ☐ Develop Urban Design Guidelines for historic Main Streets.
- ☐ Designate as Municipal Historic Resources, the sites that are designated as Provincial Historic Resources.

Long-term (4-5 years)

- ☐ Develop a Cultural Management Plan for the Smoky Lake Region.

HERITAGE POLICIES

Short-term (1 year)

- ☐ Develop a Communication Plan to promote Region's heritage resources through print material, web-based, and social media tools.
- ☐ Develop a Volunteer Recruitment and Appreciation Program.

Mid-term (2-3 years)

- ☐ Develop an Oral History Program.
- ☐ Develop a Regional Archive List.
- ☐ Develop an Interpretative Plaque Program.

Long-term (4-5 years)

- ☐ Develop a Youth Heritage Program.
- ☐ Initiate a municipally-driven heritage conservation project.



INCENTIVES**Short-term (1 year)**

- ☐ Undertake a Heritage Financial Strategy.

Mid-term (2-3 years)

- ☐ Establish a Heritage Grant Program.

AWARENESS AND EDUCATION**Short-term (1 year)**

- ☐ Host an Open House to present the Heritage Management Plan.
- ☐ Deliver presentation to Chamber of Commerce, Joint Economic Development Initiative Committee, and heritage organizations.

Mid-term (2-3 years)

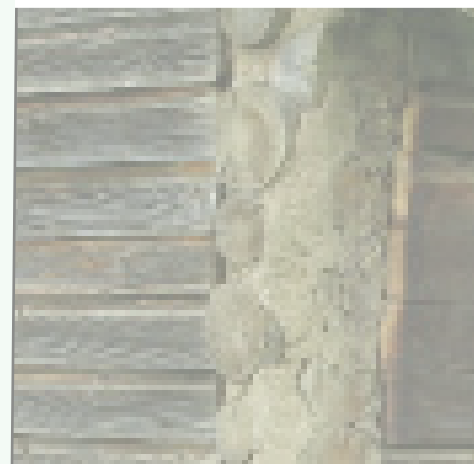
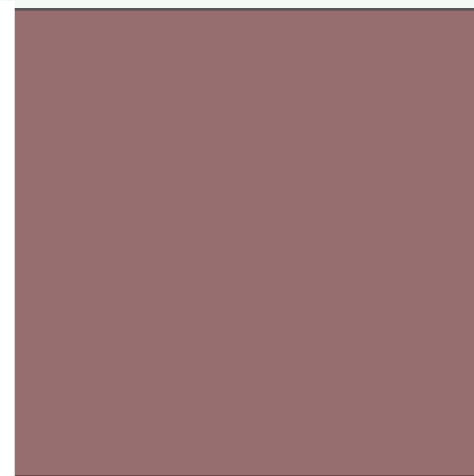
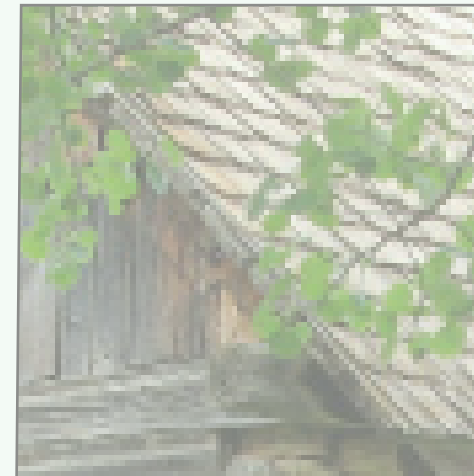
- ☐ Create information packages for distribution.
- ☐ Encourage volunteer and staff development in heritage conservation.

Potential Risks to Implementation**Funding Resources**

Currently, the Smoky Lake Region heritage conservation program relies entirely on provincial grants programs. Should funding for these programs be cut or significantly decreased, it would literally halt any heritage conservation activities in the Region. Financial incentives are integral in encouraging the designation of historic resources in Smoky Lake Region given the 'compensation clause' in the Alberta Historical Resources Act. The Region will work to encourage the federal government to establish incentives at the national level and will aim to provide appropriate incentives municipally.

Staffing Resources

The Smoky Lake Heritage Management Plan is a very progressive, and will require additional dedication of staff resources, rather than additional money, in order to implement many of the initiatives. If additional staff resources cannot be made available, the actions in the Plan will take longer for volunteers to accomplish, and risk being completed at all.



4.1 Identifying Heritage Resources

HERITAGE SURVEY

A Heritage Survey is a primary step towards the preservation of historic resources. Surveys are conducted to gather and record information associated with heritage resources and includes two stages: fieldwork and research. The fieldwork requires the visual inspection and documentation of a site and is supplemented by the research of historical documentation.

When a survey is conducted of a potential historic resource, it does not impose any restrictions on the resource, nor is there any limitation of what can be surveyed.

As a precursor to the development of the Heritage Management Plan, Smoky Lake County, Town of Smoky Lake and the Villages of Waskatenau and Vilna completed a Heritage Survey which involved the surveying of 280 heritage sites across the Region.

As such, the four municipalities have created a baseline of standardized documentation with relevant information about each potential heritage resource. This was done through the hiring of a heritage professional to work with the Smoky Lake Regional Heritage Board to:

- conduct tours of the communities and rural areas to identify potential heritage resources;
- take pictures of the place, both in digital and black and white;
- determine the location of the place (municipal address, legal land description, etc.);
- determine the current use and owners of the place;
- determine the proper coding for the architectural details of the place;
- study municipal records, newspapers and history books to find out the age of place or who is associated to them; and
- talk to people in the community.

The information collected was then documented on a Alberta Site Form provided by the province.

For more detailed information for conducting a Heritage Survey, reference the Alberta MHPP's *Creating a Future for Alberta's Historic Places: Identifying Historic Places* handbooks.

MHPP says...

Why do a heritage survey?

- It lays the foundation for continued heritage preservation;
- Promotes public awareness and fosters grassroots support for heritage preservation; and
- Offers municipalities a planning tool for managing and preserving historic places.

How can we use a heritage survey?

1. Development and Management tool

- records historic and existing land uses
- exhibits street and subdivision density, development and patterns
- identifies sensitive areas and helps to guide future development
- demonstrates construction patterns, practices and elements
- offers new opportunities for public awareness of local heritage
- informs the tourism industry
- fosters business development

2. Preservation tool

- helps to set municipal goals for preservation planning
- provides for the evaluation of existing resources
- facilitates planning for the

maintenance, alteration or demolition of resources

- identifies potential historic districts, areas or streetscapes
- identifies resources and areas that are potentially of social importance

3. Resource for public & private research

- informs the development of walking and driving tours
- provides for the identification of potential historic districts
- provides information to property and business owners
- creates educational resources for schools and local museums
- provides a resource for historical and genealogical researchers

Alberta

SITE FORM

Heritage Survey

Key

H s 0390534

Site Name

OUR LADY OF ATONEMENT ROMAN CATHOLIC CHURCH

Other Name(s)

Site Type

1603 CHURCH

Legal Description

5 LSD

6 Quarter

7 Section

8 Township

9 Range

10 W-M

11 Lot

12 Block

13 Plan

14 Metes & Bounds

15 Address

4904-50 STREET

16 Number

17 Street

SMOKY LAKE

18 Avenue

19 Other

SMOKY LAKE

20 Town

SMOKY LAKE

21 Near Town

22 County

SMOKY LAKE

NTS

23 Grid / 24 Letter / 25 Number

26 Name

UTM

27 Zone

28 Easting

29 Northing

30 Datum

31 Coordinate Determination

32 Latitude

N54.11440

33 Longitude

W112.47600

34 Datum

NAD83

35 Coordinate Determination

GPS

Image 1

36 Negative

09-R0138-26

37 Other

38 View

NW CORNER

39 Date

NOV. 12 / 09

40 Source

R. EARLEY
CDS INC.



Visual Description

41 Style

42 Plan Shape

1217

43 Storeys

1502 1708

44 Foundation

1807

45 Superstructure

3001

46 Superstructure Cover

2303 2405

47 Roof Structure

3203 3304

48 Roof Cover

3409

49 Exterior Codes

1101 3118 3131 3503 3505 3508
3603 3703 3705 3708 3712 3716
3803 3905 4003 4105 4305 4405
4504 4603 4702 4906 5001 5201
5305 5405 5502 5602 5702 5808
5902 5922 6025 6102 6206 6326
6413 6505 6610 6702 6802 6906
7002 7103 7202

50 Exterior

BELIEVED TO BE THE ONLY ROMAN CATHOLIC CHURCH IN CANADA BUILT IN A BYZANTINE STYLE WITH THE ONION DOMED ROOF. ADDITIONAL METAL CHIMNEY ON REAR LEFT. ONION DOMED CUPOLA LOCATED DIRECTLY OVER FRONT CENTRE. FIXED

51 Interior

WINDOW PANES INCORPORATE A STAINED GLASS CROSS. ENTRY DOOR TRIM OUTSIDE STRUCTURAL OPENING HAS A DECORATIVE BRICK ARCH AT HEAD AND SIDES.

52 Environment

BUILDING IS LOCATED IN A RESIDENTIAL AREA ON A LARGE LANDSCAPED LOT FACING EAST TOWARDS HIGHWAY 855 (50 STREET)

53 Condition

EXCELLENT (SEPTEMBER 2009)

54 Alterations



4 tools for protection

smoky lake heritage management plan

Example Survey Site Form

76

Key **H S 0390534**

Description **BEGAN IN 1927 & COMPLETED 1929** Date (dd/mm/yyyy) **11/19/29** Code **K**

Usage **CHURCH** Date (dd/mm/yyyy) **11/19/29** Code **K**

Owner **LE DIOCESE DE SAINT PAUL**

Image 2

Negative **09-R0138-28**

Other

View **SW CORNER**

Date **NOV. 12/09**

Source **R. EARLEY CDS INC.**

Image 3

Negative **09-R0138-27**

Other

View **NE CORNER**

Date **NOV. 12/09**

Source **R. EARLEY CDS INC.**

Text Fields

Architect

Builder **CHARLES GORDON**

Craftsman

History **ROMAN CATHOLIC SERVICES HAD BEEN PRESENT IN SMOKY LAKE AREA AS EARLY AS 1920-23, THANKS TO FATHER HUGHES, WHO CELEBRATED MASS IN VARIOUS HOMES. FROM 1923-26 SERVICES WERE HELD AT THE HOME OF MR AND MRS. FRANK ECKESS IN SMOKY LAKE. IN 1926, FOUR SISTERS FROM THE ORDER OF ATONEMENT CAME TO THE AREA TO DO MISSIONARY WORK AMONG THE UKRAINIAN CATHOLIC, POLISH AND OTHER CENTRAL EUROPEAN SETTLERS. OUR LADY OF ATONEMENT ROMAN CATHOLIC CHURCH WAS BUILT IN 1927 AS PART OF THE ECUMENICAL MOVEMENT STARTED BY FATHER WATSON AND SISTER MARY LURANA WHITE, WHO WERE FOUNDERS OF THE ATONEMENT AT GRAYMOOR, NEW YORK. IT WAS BUILT ON LAND PURCHASED FROM MRS. BOROSZAK. THE BUILDER WAS CHARLES GORDON, A WELL KNOWN CONTRACTOR. HE WAS ASSISTED BY MANY OF THE PARISHONERS. THE IMPETUS FOR THE CONSTRUCTION OF THIS CHURCH CAME FROM THREE FRANCISCAN SISTERS OF THE ATONEMENT, AN ORDER CENTRED IN NEW YORK STATE. IN 1926, THE SISTERS HAD BEEN INVITED TO UNDERTAKE WORK AMONG THE UKRAINIAN SETTLERS OF SMOKY LAKE BY ARCHBISHOP HENRY O'LEARY OF EDMONTON, AND ONE OF THEIR FIRST ACTIVITIES WAS TO PURCHASE LAND AND RAISE MONEY FOR THE CONSTRUCTION OF THIS CHURCH. THE BYZANTINE DESIGN OF THIS CHURCH IS UNUSUAL FOR A ROMAN CATHOLIC CONGREGATION AND REFLECTS THE SLAVIC BACKGROUND AND RELIGIOUS TRADITIONS OF MOST OF THE PARISHONERS. THEN NOTED PAINTER PETER LEPINSKI ALSO PAINTED THE ICON OF OUR LADY OF ATONEMENT IN INTERIOR OF THE CHURCH. THE CHURCH HAS PLAYED AN IMPORTANT ROLE IN THE SPIRITUAL AND SOCIAL LIFE OF THE COMMUNITY. IT IS TREATED AS A SHRINE AND HAS BEEN THE LOCATION FOR AN IMPORTANT ANNUAL PILGRIMAGE. (1)**

(1) REGISTERED HISTORIC RESOURCE DESCRIPTION Date (dd/mm/yyyy)

Status **ACTIVE** Date **30/09/2009**

Form Completed By **CDS INC.** Date **20/03/2010**

Office Use

Priority

Geo Code

Borden Number

Register



4.2 Evaluating Heritage Resources

HERITAGE INVENTORY

A Heritage Inventory is a list of resources that are historically significant and that have retained the physical features necessary to communicate that significance. Creating a Municipal Heritage Inventory is a logical next step following the primary collection of information and the documentation work done in creating a Municipal Heritage Survey.

Individual Statements of Significances are produced during the Municipal Heritage Inventory and are a provincial mandatory requirement in order to designate a historic resource, even if the resource is only to be designated as a Municipal Historic Resource.

When evaluating potential resources to be considered for the Municipal Inventory, there are three major steps to assess: the eligibility; significance; and the integrity. The following is a summary of the evaluation process required when considering each site. For more detailed information, reference the Alberta MHPP's *Creating a Future for Alberta's Historic Places: Evaluating Historic Places: Eligibility, Significance and Integrity* handbook.

STEP ONE: Eligibility Assessment

1. Resource description
2. Is the resource is a Type 1 Exclusion and ineligible resource type?
 - Buildings, structure or objects outside municipal jurisdiction
 - Buildings, structures or objects that are situated in an historical park or village
 - Small movable objects
 - Reconstructions
 - Human remains
3. Does the resource qualify for a Type 2 Exception?
 - Cemeteries
 - Birthplaces or graves
 - Resources primarily commemorative in nature
 - Resources that have been moved
 - Resources achieving significance in last 50 years

STEP TWO: Significance Assessment

1. Significance Criteria
 - Theme / Activity / Cultural Practice / Event
 - Institution / Person
 - Design / Style / Construction
 - Information Potential
 - Landmark / Symbolic Value
2. Identify the context of the resource.
 - Explain the role of the resource in relation to broad historic trends, drawing on specific facts about the resource and its community.
 - Briefly describe the history of the community where the resource is located as it directly relates to the resource. Highlights any notable events and patterns of development that affected the resource's history, significance and integrity.
 - Discuss how the resource compares with others of the same or similar period, and identify characteristics or associations in each area of significance to show how it is unique, outstanding or strongly representative of an important historic context.
3. Municipal Significance
 - Theme / Activity / Cultural Practice / Event
 - Significant Association
 - Institution / Person
 - Individual Significance
 - Association Significance
 - Design / Style / Construction
 - Style / Type / Method of Construction
 - Work of a Master
 - High Artistic Value
 - Information Potential
 - The Natural Environment
 - Completely Excavated Sites
 - Landmark / Symbolic



4.2 Evaluating Heritage Resources (cont.)

STEP THREE: INTEGRITY ASSESSMENT

1. Define the **Character-Defining Elements** that are visible for the period of significance, considering:
 - Theme / Activity / Cultural Practice / Event OR Institution / Person
 - Design / Style / Construction
 - Information Potential
 - Landmark / Symbolic Value
2. Consider which **Aspects of Integrity** are retained to communicate its historic significance.
 - Location
 - Design
 - Environment
 - Materials
 - Workmanship
 - Feeling
 - Association
3. To complete the **Integrity Assessment**, consider the resource's significance and character-defining elements, determine which aspects of integrity are most important to the resource.
 - Theme / Activity / Cultural Practice / Event - *Would the resource as it exists today be recognizable to a contemporary of the important theme, activity or event it is associated with?*
 - Institution / Person - *Would the resource as it exists today be recognizable to a contemporary of the important institution or person it is associated with?*
 - Design / Style / Construction - *Does the resource retain most of the physical features that mark it as:*
 - the embodiment of a type, period or method of construction, or
 - a representative of the work of a master, or
 - having high artistic value?
 - Information Potential - *Does the resource retain its potential to yield specific data that addresses important research questions?*

- Landmark / Symbolic Value - *Does the resource retain its ability to convey its landmark or symbolic value?*

FINAL RECOMMENDATION

Once the evaluation of the resource has been completed, a decision needs to be made whether it is appropriate to:

- place the resource on the Municipal Heritage Inventory and monitor the site according to municipal heritage policies; or
- place on the Municipal Heritage Inventory and recommend to designate as a Municipal Historic Resource; or
- remove a resource from the historic resources management process as it does not possess enough significance or integrity to warrant placing on the Municipal Heritage Inventory.

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

If the resource is to be placed on the Municipal Heritage Inventory and / or to pursue designation as a Municipal Historic Resource, a Statement of Significance is required to be produced.

In basic terms, the Statement of Significance explains why the resource is important or significant to the municipality, and which principle features of the resource must be retained in order to preserve its heritage values. The three primary sections included in the Statement of Significance are the:

- description of the resource
- heritage value
- character-defining elements.

Description of Resource

The purpose of this section is to generally describe the resource in two or three sentences, painting a picture of what the resource consists of, as well as its extent and any principle contributing resources.

Our Lady of Atonement
Roman Catholic Church
4904 50th Street, Smoky Lake



RESOURCE EVALUATION	
Site Name	Our Lady of Atonement Roman Catholic Church
Other Names	
Civic Address	4904 50th Street - Lot 3; Block 6; Plan 4324TR
STEP ONE: ELIGIBILITY ASSESSMENT	
Description	<p> Begun in 1927 and completed in 1929, Our Lady of Atonement Roman Catholic church was constructed according to the cruciform plan and was designed with onion domes characteristic of Byzantine architecture and eastern rite churches. There is a large central dome over the nave, as well as smaller dome on the front axis which houses the bell. The church houses an icon of "Our Lady of Atonement", painted by noted Ukrainian-Canadian church artists Peter Lipinski. </p>
Excluded Type	<input type="checkbox"/> Type 1 <input type="checkbox"/> Type 2
Exception	<input type="checkbox"/> Cemeteries <input type="checkbox"/> Birthplaces or graves <input type="checkbox"/> Resources primarily commemorative in nature <input type="checkbox"/> Resources that have been moved <input type="checkbox"/> Resources achieving significance in last 50 years Explain:
STEP TWO: SIGNIFICANCE ASSESSMENT	
Significance Criteria	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> A. Theme/Activity/Cultural Practice/Event <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> B. Institution/Person <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> C. Design/Style/Construction <input type="checkbox"/> D. Information Potential <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> E. Landmark/Symbolic Value
Municipal Significance	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> A. Theme/Activity/Cultural Practice/Event <input type="checkbox"/> Significant Association <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> B. Institution/Person <input type="checkbox"/> Individual Significance <input type="checkbox"/> Association Significance <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> C. Design/Style/Construction <input type="checkbox"/> Style/Type/Method of Construction <input type="checkbox"/> Work of a Master <input type="checkbox"/> High Artistic Value <input type="checkbox"/> D. Information Potential <input type="checkbox"/> The Natural Environment <input type="checkbox"/> Completely Excavated Sites <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> E. Landmark/Symbolic Value Explain: Building is associated with religious practice and represents the significance and role of the Roman Catholic church within the region. The church is still being used and stands as a significant landmark in the community as it is perhaps the only Roman Catholic church of Byzantine design with onion domes in existence.
Period of Significance	1927 to present



STEP THREE: INTEGRITY ASSESSMENT	
Character-defining Elements (CDE's)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No Exterior Elements: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Form, massing and orientation of the church on its site Cruciform plan Layered in a stucco and brick veneer Use of brick to accentuate corners Red sheet metal roof tile in the shape of clay tiles Byzantine style large central dome over nave is set on a hexagonal structure Steeply pitched gable roof over the nave and transepts Cupola with louvers located on the roof above the entrance Smaller dome on the front axis that houses the bell Fixed window panes incorporate a stained-glass cross Entry door trim outside structural opening has a decorative brick arch at head and sides Interior Elements: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Interior divisions of the narthex, nave and the sanctuary The tongue and V-groove wood treatment under modern Donnacona Chapels in the north and south transepts The short narthex beneath choir loft Apse and altar Sacristy and west or back entrance Raised dias with iconostasis Icons including one of 'Our Lady of Atonement', painted by noted Ukrainian-Canadian church artist Peter Lipinski Window panes of clear and coloured glass in the shape of a cross Single-hung style of window topped by segmented arch with three lights Small eight light rose windows set in each of three gable ends
Aspects of Integrity	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1. Location Explain: Our Lady church is part of a complex which includes a convent nearby. The combination of church and convent are conspicuous in the neighbourhood. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 2. Design Explain: Our Lady church is part of a complex which includes a convent nearby. The combination of church and convent are conspicuous in the neighbourhood. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 3. Environment Explain: The complex includes a convent nearby and is located on an active street in Smoky Lake. The religious buildings contribute to the historical context of the area. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 4. Materials Explain: The exterior is finished primarily in a natural coloured rough texture stucco with the corners accepted with a brick veneer. There is a horizontal band of decorative brick veneer at the level of the eaves in each of the three gable ends and a strong horizontal line of smooth stucco inscribed to resemble an ashlar stone foundation. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 5. Workmanship Explain: There is fine workmanship in this unusual design. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 6. Feeling Explain: The unusual Byzantine design combined with the unusual materials give this church a unique feeling. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 7. Association Explain: The strong association of the Roman Catholic community and to the convent and the community makes this built heritage important.
Integrity Assessment	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> A. Theme/Activity/Cultural Practice/Event <input type="checkbox"/> Would the resource as it exists today be recognizable to a contemporary of the important theme, activity or event it is associated with? <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> B. Institution/Person <input type="checkbox"/> Would the resource as it exists today be recognizable to a contemporary of the important institution or person it is associated with? <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> C. Design/Style/Construction <input type="checkbox"/> Does the resource retain most of the physical features that mark it as: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The embodiment of a type, period or method of construction, or A representative of the work of a master, or Having high artistic value <input type="checkbox"/> D. Information Potential <input type="checkbox"/> Does the resource retain its potential to yield specific data that addresses important research questions? <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> E. Landmark/Symbolic Value <input type="checkbox"/> Does the resource retain its ability to convey its landmark or symbolic value?
Final Evaluation and Recommendation	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Place resource on the Municipal Heritage Inventory <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Designate as a Municipal Resource <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Designate as a Provincial Resource <input type="checkbox"/> Remove resource from the historic resources management process



4.2 Evaluating Heritage Resources (cont)

Heritage Value

In this section, it is important to consider why the resource is significant in direct relationship to the Significance Criteria identified when evaluating the resource. If there is more than one criterion identified, it is appropriate to explain each. Typically, two or three paragraphs in a narrative format are usually sufficient to describe the heritage value of the resource.

Character-Defining Elements

This section, in point form, will identify the principle features that contribute to its heritage value of the resource, and the elements must exist at the time of its designation.

When identifying the character-defining elements, consider what elements, if missing, would diminish the integrity of the resource. Future decision-makers will refer to these character-defining elements and consider whether proposed changes to any one element is appropriate, in an effort to protect and retain the overall integrity of the resource.

MHPP says...

The importance of having an accurate Statement of Significance

- It provides the basis for designating the resource, and subsequently appears as part of the listing for the resource on the Alberta and Canadian Registers of Historic Places
- It plays a role in the future management of the resource, since the character-defining elements are regulated by the municipality.

Character-Defining Elements may be found in:

- the style, massing, scale or composition
- features related to the function of the resource
- the interior spatial configuration or exterior layout
- materials and craftsmanship
- the relationship between the resource and its broader setting
- traditional activities that continue to occur at the resource
- cultural associations or meaning associated with the resource
- features or materials that have a direct bearing on important research themes

Smoky Lake Region Inventory of Historic Places

5.0 Draft Statements of Significance

Our Lady of Atonement Roman Catholic Church

4904 50th Street, Smoky Lake

Lot 3; Block 6; Plan 4324TR



Description of Heritage Place

Our Lady of Atonement Roman Catholic church was constructed in 1929 according to the cruciform plan, and was designed with onion-shaped domes characteristic of Byzantine architecture and eastern rite churches. There is a large central dome over the nave, as well as smaller dome on the front axis which houses the bell. The site also has a convent.

Heritage Value

Our Lady of Atonement Roman Catholic church has played an important role in the spiritual and social life of the community. The Byzantine design of the church is unusual for a Roman Catholic congregation and reflects the Slavic background and religious traditions of most of the parishioners.

Construction of Our Lady of Atonement Roman Catholic Church began in 1927, and was completed in 1929. The structure was built according to the cruciform plan, and was designed with onion-shaped domes characteristic of Byzantine architecture and eastern rite churches. There is a large central dome over the nave, as well as smaller dome on the front axis which houses the bell. The church houses an icon of "Our Lady of Atonement," painted by noted Ukrainian-Canadian church artist Peter Lipinski.

Our Lady of Atonement Roman Catholic Church is associated with religious practice, and represents the significance and role of the Roman Catholic church within the region. Our Lady of Atonement Roman Catholic Church is part of a complex which includes a convent nearby. The combination of church and convent are conspicuous in the residential neighbourhood. The church and convent are on a main thoroughfare in Smoky Lake. The religious buildings contribute to the historical context of the area.

The church is still being used today and stands as a significant landmark in the community as it is perhaps the only Roman Catholic church of Byzantine design with onion-shaped domes in existence. It is treated as a shrine, and has been the location for an important annual pilgrimage.

Community Design Strategies Inc.

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5.0 Draft Statements of Significance

Smoky Lake Region Inventory of Historic Places

Character-defining Elements

Exterior Elements:

- Form, massing and orientation of the church on the site
- Cruciform plan
- Stucco and brick veneer
- Use of brick to accentuate corners
- Red sheet metal roof tile
- Byzantine style large central dome over nave set on a hexagonal base
- Steeply pitched gable roof over the nave and transepts
- Cupola with louvers located on the roof above the entrance
- Smaller dome on the front axis that houses the bell
- Fixed window panes that incorporate a stained-glass cross
- Entry door trim outside structural opening has a decorative brick arch at head and sides
- Located on busy street on same property as convent
- Window panes of clear and coloured glass in the shape of a cross
- Single-hung style of window topped by segmented arch with three lights
- Small eight light rose windows set in each of three gable ends

Interior Elements:


- Interior divisions of the narthex, nave and the sanctuary
- The tongue and V-groove wood treatment under modern Donnacona
- Chapels in the north and south transepts
- The short narthex beneath choir loft
- Apse and altar
- Sacristy and west or back entrance
- Raised dais with iconostasis
- Icons including one of "Our Lady of Atonement", painted by noted Ukrainian-Canadian church artist Peter Lipinski

Sources

¹ Registered Historic Resource Description

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Community Design Strategies Inc.



Example Statement of Significance

4.3 Protecting Heritage Resources

MHPP says...

The designation of historic resources has three main functions:

- **Legal Protection:** The Provincial and Municipal Historic Resource designation categories legally protect historic places by preventing inappropriate actions that would damage or destroy their heritage values.
- **Formal Recognition:** Designation officially acknowledges the significance of historic places in the context of local and / or provincial history. This significance is usually established through a formal evaluation process.
- **Gateway to Funding:** Designation is an opportunity to link historic resource protection with financial and other incentives for heritage property owners. It recognizes that historic resource management is a collaborative undertaking. Property owners may voluntarily relinquish certain property rights in the public interest in return for eligibility for these incentives.

MUNICIPAL INVENTORY OF HISTORIC PLACES

Through the Smoky Lake Region Inventory Project, a List of Historic Places has been produced for each of the four municipalities. For each site listed, a detailed evaluation has been completed and a Statement of Significance has been drafted for the resource, in preparation for potential designation in the future.

Each of the four municipalities should adopt the list of Historic Places for their municipality as their Municipal Inventory of Historic Places. Although this does not provide any level of protection for the buildings, it does communicate that these sites are of historic significance to the municipality and there is an expressed interest in maintaining the historic integrity of the site.

As part of this Heritage Management Plan, it is recommended that there be, at minimum, an annual review of the Municipal Inventory of Historic Places to quickly evaluate if there is any change in the site's condition, integrity and/or use. The Inventory is also a data

Recommendation

A *List of Historic Places* was developed for each of the four municipalities. Each municipality should adopt this List as their **Municipal Inventory of Historic Places**.

set that can flag the historic value when Development Permit Applications are being processed. It may be a final opportunity to discuss with the landowner opportunities to preserve the resource prior to demolition or alteration.

MUNICIPAL HISTORIC RESOURCE (MHR)

Section 26 of the *Alberta Historical Resources Act* gives the authority to municipalities to designate a resource that has significant historic value to the municipality, thereby allowing the municipality an ability to protect the historic resource for the interest of the public.

There are a few ways that a site may be chosen to be designated as a Municipal Historic Resource:

- **Inventory of Historic Places** - A list of historic places was created through the Inventory Project, identifying properties within the municipality that have historic significance. These historic places have been evaluated, qualify for designation and the Draft Statements of Significance have been prepared, therefore are considered "designation-ready". In this situation, the Heritage Advisory Board and / or the municipality may pursue discussions with the landowner to consider designation.
- **Property Owners** - Individual property owners may, through awareness programs and / or initiatives initiate the desire to designate a property, to potentially benefit from grant dollars to preserve the site. If the site has not been identified on the Municipal Inventory of Historic Places, the Heritage Advisory Board can do a preliminary evaluation to determine if the site has merit, and initiate the necessary, more detailed evaluation and Draft Statement of Significance (by heritage planners) leading to potential municipal designation.
- **Registered Historic Resources** - The Province of Alberta made a change to its historic designation program in 2009, and Registered Historic Resources were no longer

Recommendation

The Province of Alberta no longer protects *Registered Historic Resources* nor are they considered eligible for grant funding.

The Town of Smoky Lake should designate the **Our Lady Of Atonement Roman Catholic Church** as a Municipal Historic Resource.



recognized for protection or funding. Smoky Lake Region has two sites that were previously designated as Registered Historic Resources. These should be evaluated and considered for designation as a Municipal Historic Resource.

When a resource is designated as a MHR, ownership is still retained by the landowner, however, the landowner will have agreed that there are now restrictions on how the resource can be physically altered. This municipal interest (the designation bylaw) is registered on the certificate of title of the property, ensuring that future owners and interest holders are aware of the designation as it will be transferred with the property from owner to future owner.

PROVINCIAL HISTORIC RESOURCE (PHR)

The Alberta Historical Resources Act also enables the province to designate historic places that are of “outstanding, provincial significances for their historical, cultural, natural, scientific or aesthetic interest”.

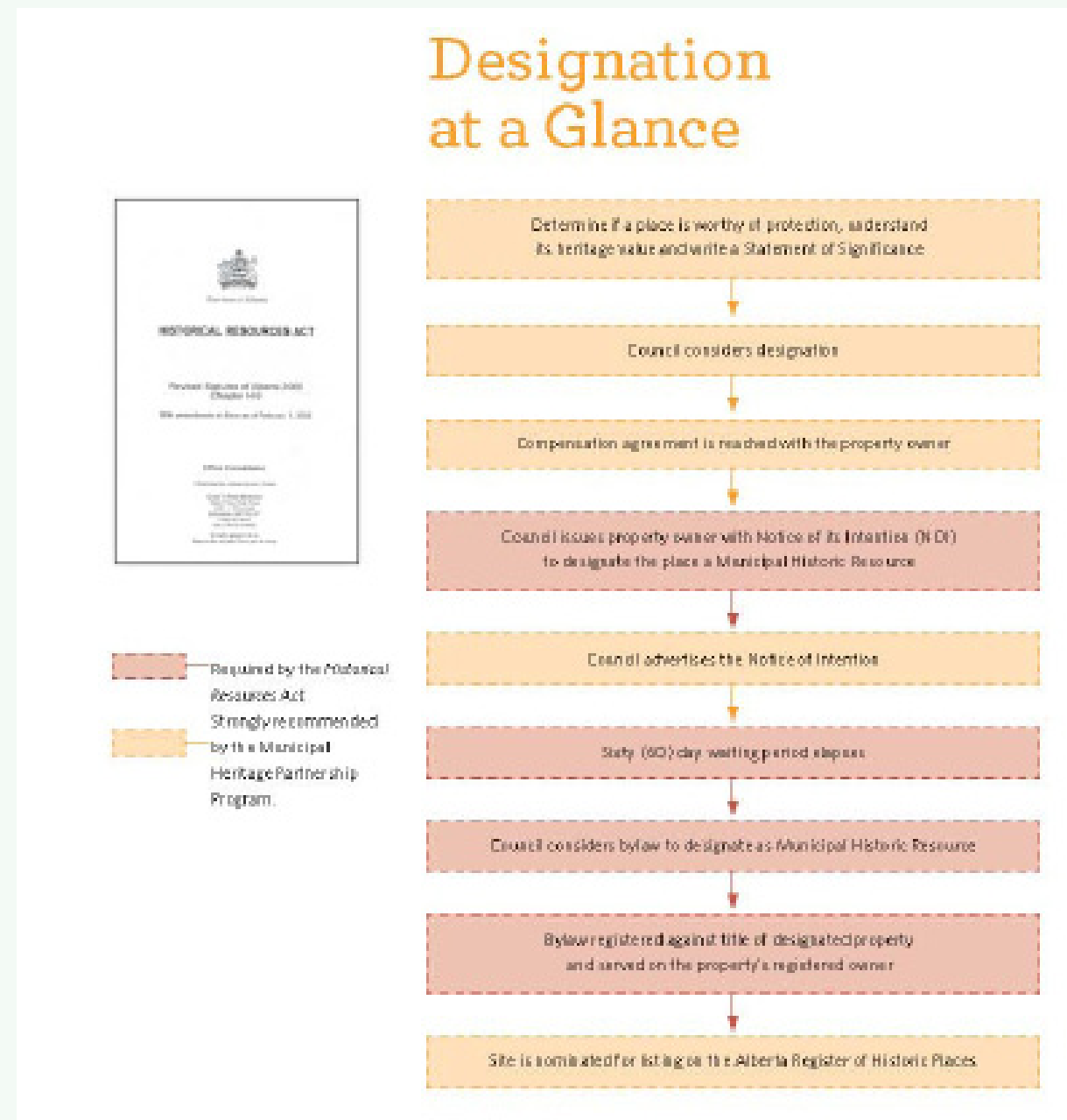
Once an Application is submitted to the Province’s Historic Places Designation Program, the Branch staff will review the Application and its supporting materials, using the province’s evaluation framework, and recommend sites of outstanding provincial significance to the Minister for designation.

Provincial Historic Resources are legally protected by having the Province’s interest registered on the property’s Certificate of Title, to notify owners and interest holders of the designation. Once the site is registered, the owner of the PHR must obtain written permission from the Minister prior to making alterations to the site. Failure to do so can result in a fine of up to \$50,000 and / or a maximum of one year in prison. The *Historical Resources Act* also allows the Province to recover damages for the loss of a resource or the cost of restoring the resource from the person responsible.



4.4 The Designation Process

MHPP describes...



UNDERSTAND HERITAGE VALUE AND DRAFT STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The most successful preservation projects is when there is a long-term partnership established between the municipality and the owner of the heritage resource. The municipality should discuss with the owner a site's potential for municipal designation prior to beginning the designation process. Although the Historical Resources Act allows a municipality to designate a historic resource against the owner's wishes, it is difficult for the municipality to conserve a site without the owner's cooperation.

The first step to designation is to have an understanding of the site, and this is done through the evaluation process and the development of a Statement of Significance. The Statement of Significance briefly describes what is being protected, why the place is valued and the list of the physical character-defining elements that must be preserved to retain its significance. An evaluation was done on over 300 structures in the Smoky Lake Region, which has developed the Inventory of Historic Places.

COUNCIL CONSIDERS DESIGNATION

The Municipal Council must initially consider whether it desires to pursue designating the site as a Municipal Historic Resource. Once designated, the municipality is obligated to endeavor to make decisions relating to any future alterations to the building that would support the preservation of the historic resource for the public. It can make these decisions with in-house staff or consult heritage professionals for advice.

COMPENSATION AGREEMENT

The *Historical Resources Act* requires the municipality to discuss compensation with the owner of a historic resource, prior to designation. The Act provides the owner the opportunity to seek compensation from the municipality for "any decrease in economic value" as a result of the designation of their property.

Owners can be compensated in numerous ways, including grants or tax-abatement or non-fiscal compensation such as free snow-plowing. The Act's only requirement is that the municipality and the owner have a compensation agreement, in writing.

It is common for many owners of Municipal Historic Resources to waive their right for compensation as they are now eligible to apply to the Alberta Historical Resources

Foundation for matching grant dollars to fund approved conservation work.
To date no municipality has not offered any compensation to the owners of the historic resources and have the compensation agreement formed as part of the designation bylaw, which is signed by the property owner prior to designation.

“WHEREAS the Owners of the Holy Trinity Russo Greek Orthodox Church of Smoky Lake have agreed to waive compensation for the designation of the Holy Trinity Russo Greek Orthodox Church of Smoky Lake as a Municipal Historic Resource, now and in the future.”

- excerpt from Bylaw #1221-11 Designating the Holy Trinity Russo Greek Orthodox Church of Smoky Lake

An alternative to this would be a simple Compensation Agreement, which clearly outlines either the waiver of rights, or any compensation that is agreed upon between the municipality and the landowner.

COUNCIL ISSUES NOTICE OF INTENTION

Section 26 of the *Historical Resources Act* requires that if the council of the municipality intends to designate any historic resource within the municipality whose preservation it considers to be in the public interest, it may do so after giving the owner 60 days’ notice. Once the Notice of Intention is served, the owner of the site is subject to Section 26(6), which prevents any alterations to the site until:

- Council has successfully passed a bylaw to designate the property as a Municipal Historic Resource (after 60 days’ notice and within 120 days of Notice);
- the municipality has revoked the Notice of Intention; or
- upon expiry of 120 days of the receipt of the Notice of Intention.

The purpose of the Notice of Intention is to allow the landowner adequate time to make representation to Council regarding their interest in the proposed bylaw, in favour or against. This is assuming the municipality has initiated the designation and the landowner is unaware of the impact. In most cases, the landowner and municipality are already in agreement to have the heritage site designated. Regardless, the Notice of Intention is a **requirement** by the *Historical Resources Act*.

Notice of Intention to Designate Our Lady of Atonement Roman Catholic Church

NOTICE OF INTENTION TO DESIGNATE
OUR LADY OF ATONEMENT ROMAN CATHOLIC CHURCH
AS A MUNICIPAL HISTORIC RESOURCE

ALBERTA HISTORIC RESOURCES ACT
Section 26 H.R.A., R.S.A. 1980, c.H-8, as amended

TO: Le Diocese De Saint Paul
4410 – 51 Avenue
St. Paul, Alberta T0A 3A2

Notice is hereby given that following at least sixty (60) days from the date of serving of this Notice, on **Wednesday, February 29, 2012**, the Municipal Council of the Town of Smoky Lake intends to pass a Bylaw that the site legally described as:

Plan 4324TR; Block 6; Lot 3

Excepting thereout all mines and minerals

and located at 4904 – 50 Street and containing the original building known as:

Our Lady of Atonement Roman Catholic Church

located on the site be designated a **MUNICIPAL HISTORIC RESOURCE** under Section 26 of the *Historical Resources Act*, as amended from time to time.

AND TAKE FURTHER NOTICE THAT the Municipal Council of the Town of Smoky Lake has appointed the Town Manager to implement matters arising from the issuance of the Notice of Intention to Designate a Municipal Historic Resource.

DATED this 15th day of December 2011.

Manager
Town of Smoky Lake



Notice of Intention to Designate Our Lady of Atonement Roman Catholic Church



LOCATION OF OUR LADY OF ATONEMENT ROMAN CATHOLIC CHURCH

4909 – 50 Street, Smoky Lake, Alberta

Plan: 4324TR Block: 6 Lot: 3

Excepting thereout all mines and minerals

Location of Resource

Attachment 1

Notice of Intention to Designate Our Lady of Atonement Roman Catholic Church



Photographs of Resource

Attachment 2

Notice of Intention to DesignateOur Lady of Atonement Roman Catholic Church

Our Lady of Atonement Roman Catholic Church

4904 50th Street, Smoky Lake

Lot 3; Block 6; Plan 4324TR

Description of Heritage Place

Our Lady of Atonement Roman Catholic Church was constructed in 1929 according to the cruciform plan, and was designed with onion-shaped domes characteristic of Byzantine architecture and eastern rite churches. There is a large central dome over the nave, as well as a smaller dome on the front axis which houses the bell. The church is also adjacent to a convent situated on the neighboring property to the northwest.

Heritage Value

Our Lady of Atonement Roman Catholic Church has played an important role in the spiritual and social life of the community. The Byzantine design of the church is unusual for a Roman Catholic congregation and reflects the Slavic background and religious traditions of most of the parishioners.

Construction of Our Lady of Atonement Roman Catholic Church began in 1927, and was completed in 1929. The structure was built according to the cruciform plan, and incorporates onion-shaped domes characteristic of Byzantine architecture and eastern rite churches. A large central dome is prominent over the nave, and a smaller dome on the front axis houses the bell. The church contains an icon of "Our Lady of Atonement," painted by noted Ukrainian-Canadian church artist Peter Lipinski.

Our Lady of Atonement Roman Catholic Church is associated with religious practice, and represents the significance and role of the Roman Catholic Church within the region. Our Lady of Atonement Roman Catholic Church is part of a complex that includes a convent nearby, and is a focal point situated on the edge of the residential area, adjacent to Provincial Highway #555, a main thoroughfare in Smoky Lake. The religious building contributes to the historical context of the area.

The church is still being used today and stands as a significant landmark in the community as it is perhaps the only Roman Catholic church of Byzantine design with onion-shaped domes in existence. It is treated as a shrine, and has been the location for an important annual pilgrimage.

Character-defining Elements

Exterior Elements:

- Form, massing and orientation of the church on the site
- Cruciform plan
- Stucco and brick veneer
- Use of brick to accentuate corners
- Byzantine style large central dome over nave set on a hexagonal base
- Steeply pitched gable roof over the nave and transepts
- Cupola with louvers located on the roof above the entrance
- Smaller dome on the front axis that houses the bell
- Fixed window panes that incorporate a stained-glass cross
- Entry door trim outside structural opening has a decorative brick arch at head and sides
- Located on busy street on same property as convent
- Window panes of clear and coloured glass in the shape of a cross
- Single-hung style of window topped by segmented arch with three lights
- Small eight light rose windows set in each of three gable ends

Statement of Significance

Attachment 3

Notice of Intention to DesignateOur Lady of Atonement Roman Catholic Church

Interior Elements:

- Interior divisions of the narthex, nave and the sanctuary
- The tongue and V-groove wood treatment
- Chapels in the north and south transepts
- The short narthex beneath choir loft
- Apse and altar
- Sacristy and west or back entrance
- Raised dais with iconostasis
- Icons including one of "Our Lady of Atonement", painted by noted Ukrainian-Canadian church artist Peter Lipinski

Sources

¹ Registered Historic Resource Description

Statement of Significance

Attachment 3



4.4 Description of the Designation Process (cont.)

COUNCIL CONSIDERS DESIGNATION BYLAW

Once the sixty day notice period has lapsed, Council may consider the bylaw to designate the building as a Municipal Historic Resource. The *Historical Resources Act* requires that the bylaw include the following:

- the legal description of the property, which must be located within the municipality and cannot include any property not mentioned in the Notice of Intention; and
- a declaration that the property identified is being designated a Municipal Historic Resource pursuant to the *Historical Resources Act*.

It is also recommended that the designation bylaw include:

- the common and alternative names by which the place is known;
- the Statement of Significance, including the resource description, heritage value and character-defining elements sections;
- a statement that the municipality must approve any proposed changes to the property, prior to work commencing;
- who the municipality has appointed as the approving Authority for considering alterations to the site; and
- list the general guidelines for conservation.
- signature(s) of owners listed on the Certificate of Title, agreeing to

Refer to the Appendices for a complete example of a designation bylaw, and its attached schedule.

REGISTER BYLAW AT LAND TITLES OFFICE

Once the bylaw has been successfully passed by Council, a copy of the designation bylaw, in its entirety must be registered at the appropriate land titles office against the title for the designated property. This ensures that anyone with an interest in the property recognizes that the property is a Municipal Historic Resource, and when the Statement of Significance and General Guidelines for Conservation are included in the bylaw, the present and future owners will understand what the municipality intends to conserve.

It is also required that a certified copy of the bylaw be served on the owner of the property.

LISTING ON THE ALBERTA REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES

Although it is not a requirement, municipalities are encouraged to submit sites that have been designated as Municipal Historic Resources to be considered for listing on the Alberta Register of Historic Places. The municipality may do so by inputting the information from the designation bylaw onto a web-based site, HeRMIS (Heritage Resources Management Information System), which is managed by the Alberta Culture and Community Services Ministry.

The HeRMIS provides a central gateway for virtual visitation of Alberta's heritage and cultural collections. It stores collections in the following categories:

- The Provincial Arts Collections
- Historic Resources Management Branch
- Historic Sites and Cultural Facilities
- Provincial Archives of Alberta
- Royal Tyrrell Museum of Palaeontology
- Royal Alberta Museum

For details on this process, contact the Municipal Heritage Partnership Program.

4.5 Provincial Incentive Programs

MUNICIPAL HERITAGE PARTNERSHIP PROGRAM

The Municipal Heritage Partnership Program (MHPP) helps municipalities across Alberta create a future for their historic places. Municipalities can access funding, expertise and resources to help them establish or maintain an ongoing heritage conservation program in their municipality. MHPP offers flexible cost-sharing opportunities to aid in the expense of preparing heritage surveys, inventories and management plans.

website: www.mhpp.ab.ca

HERITAGE PRESERVATION PARTNERSHIP PROGRAM

The Heritage Preservation Partnership Program (PPP) offers financial assistance to individuals and organizations for initiatives that preserve and interpret Alberta's heritage.

Application deadlines are February 1 and September 1 for:

- **Historical Resource Conservation** - funds conservation of Alberta's historic places and architectural / engineering services, feasibility studies, reports and plans.
- **Transportation/ Industrial Artifact Conservation** - This category assists with the preservation or restoration of transportation and industrial artifacts that have a distinctive and significant connection to Alberta's history
- **Heritage Awareness** - This category supports tangible initiatives that promote awareness of Alberta's history and those that have a lasting impact.
- **Publications** - This category supports initiatives to document Alberta's history by assisting with the publishing costs of books, brochures, pamphlets and other printed documents.
- **Research** - This category supports research that will produce new understanding or add to the knowledge base of Alberta's history.

Application deadlines are February 1 and October 1 for:

- **Roger Soderstrom Scholarship** - This scholarship assists student research at the graduate or extended study program level in the fields of architectural preservation, urban or area planning and conservation, historic resource management, archaeology, history or palaeontology.

- **Bob Etherington Heritage Trades Scholarship** - This scholarship aims to develop the heritage trades in Alberta by providing financial support to tradespersons attending training in heritage conservation work.

website: www.culture.alberta.ca/ahrf/preservationpartnershipprogram.aspx

ALBERTA MAIN STREET PROGRAM

The Alberta Main Street Program (AMSP) provides a membership network, funding and expertise to municipalities to help restore the historic integrity and architectural character to traditional main streets across Alberta. The AMSP offers an accreditation program for communities, and aims to establish a strong network of accredited Alberta Main Street communities, committed to conserving their historic places.

website: www.albertamainstreet.org

CONSERVATION ADVICE AND ASSISTANCE

Heritage conservation advisers provide technical information to historic resource owners to assist with building restoration/rehabilitation projects. Such assistance is often done in conjunction with a cost-shared grant application to the Heritage Preservation Partnership Program of the Alberta Historical Resources Foundation.

The Historical Resources Act requires owners of all designated historic resources to notify the Minister of Culture and Community Spirit of proposed alterations to the resource. Consultation with heritage conservation advisers is required prior to issuance of approval documents to ensure that work does not compromise the historical integrity of the building or the site. All conservation work must be undertaken in compliance with the Standards and Guidelines for the Conservation of Historic Places in Canada.

website:

www.culture.alberta.ca/heritage/resourcemanagement/historicplacesstewardship/adviceassistance/conservation.aspx



4 tools for protection

smoky lake heritage management plan





1 Definitions

Alberta Historical Resources Foundation

Alberta’s primary window for heritage preservation funding. It provides financial and technical assistance to individuals and organizations for initiatives that preserve and interpret Alberta’s heritage through a variety of grants.

Alberta Register of Historic Places

This program is responsible for identifying, evaluating and designating Provincial Historic Resources, updating and maintaining the Register, and submitting eligible sites for listing on the Canadian Register of Historic Places.

Character-Defining Elements

The materials, forms, location, spatial configurations, and cultural associations or meanings that contribute to the heritage value of an historic place, which must be retained in order to preserve its heritage value.

Conservation

All actions or processes that are aimed at safeguarding the character-defining elements of an historic place so as to retain its heritage value and extend its physical life. This may involve “Preservation,” “Rehabilitation,” “Restoration,” or a combination of these actions or processes.

Cultural Landscapes

Describes those places and landscapes that have been shaped or influenced by human occupation. They include agricultural systems, modified landscapes, patterns of settlement and human activity, and the infrastructure of production, transportation, and communication.

Guidelines

Statements that provide practical guidance in applying the Standards and Guidelines for the Conservation of Historic Places. They are presented as recommended and non-recommended actions.

Heritage

Heritage is a broad term that refers to all that is inherited from the past. It therefore includes the built environment, those buildings and works of the past, sites of historic events, historic skills, behaviours, and patterns of life. A community’s heritage encompasses its entire environmental inheritance.

Heritage Character

This means the overall effect produced by traits or features that give property or an area a distinctive quality of appearance dating from an earlier period.

Historic District

An historic district or conservation area denotes a neighbourhood unified by an architectural style and/or historical development.

Historic Place

A structure, building, group of buildings, district, landscape, archaeological site or other place in Canada that has been formally recognized for its heritage value.

Historic Resource

An historic resource is any work of nature or humans that is primarily of value for its palaeontological, archaeological, prehistoric, historic, cultural, natural, scientific, or aesthetic interest, including, but not limited to, a palaeontological, archaeological prehistoric, historic, or natural site, structure, or object (Alberta Historical Resources Act, Ch. H-9).

Historic Site

Any site that includes, or is comprised of, an historical resource of an immovable nature or that cannot be disassociated from its context without destroying some or all of its value as an historical resource (Alberta Historical Resources Act, Ch. H-9).

Heritage Value

The aesthetic, historic, scientific, cultural, social, or spiritual importance or significance for past, present or future generations. The heritage value of an historic place is embodied in its character-defining materials, forms, location, spatial configurations, uses, and cultural associations or meanings.

Historic Buildings Inventory

List of structures that have been formally researched and evaluated, and are known to be of potential architectural and/or historical significance.

Historical Resources Act

Originally passed into law as the Alberta Heritage Act in 1973, revised as the Historical Resources Act in 2010, this is the legislation that, among other things, empowers municipal governments to designate historic resources.



Integrity

The ability of a resource to convey its significance. A building, or structure, together with its site, should retain a large part of its integrity, its relation to its earlier state, in the maintenance of its original or early materials and craftsmanship.

Interpretation

This is any communication process designed to reveal the characteristics, meanings and relationships of a community’s built heritage, to the public through reference to objects, artifacts, landscapes, and structures or persons.

Intervention

Any action, other than demolition or destruction, that results in a physical change to an element of a historic place.

Maintenance

Routine, cyclical, or nondestructive actions necessary to slow the deterioration of an historic place. It entails periodic inspection; routine, cyclical, non-destructive cleaning; minor repair and refinishing operations; replacement of damaged or deteriorated materials that are impractical to save.

Minimal Intervention

The approach that allows functional goals to be met with the least physical intervention.

Municipal Heritage Partnership Program

This program provides opportunities for municipalities to access funding assistance, expertise and networks to help them establish, or maintain, existing municipal heritage conservation programs.

Municipal Historic Resource

A resource that has been designated by municipal bylaw, according to the terms set out in Alberta’s Historical Resources Act.

Preservation

The action or process of protecting, maintaining, and/or stabilizing the existing materials, form, and integrity of an historic place or of an individual component, while protecting its heritage value.

Provincial Historic Resource

A resource that has been designated by ministerial order, according to the terms set out in Alberta’s Historical Resources Act.

Reconstruction

The process of recreating the exact form and detail of a vanished resource or major part thereof.

Rehabilitation

The action or process of making possible a continuing or compatible contemporary use of a historic place, or an individual component, while protecting its heritage value.

Renovation

This is a generic term used to describe various levels of intervention, including remodeling, recycling, and rehabilitation. It refers to the improvement of existing buildings or neighbourhoods.

Restoration

The action or process of accurately revealing, recovering, or representing the state of a historic place or of an individual component, as it appeared at a particular period in its history, while protecting its heritage value.

Revitalization

Revitalization is a term that describes the process of organizational, economic, social, physical, and cultural redevelopment of an area or street.

Statement of Significance (SoS)

A statement that identifies the description, heritage value, and character-defining elements of an historic place.



2 Precedent Study

Part of the research for the development of the Smoky Lake Region Heritage Management Plan was to develop a precedent analysis of the results of other heritage management plans across Alberta and Canada. Such results were selected for study to provide a range of analysis for heritage management in the Smoky Lake Region.

The following nine municipalities were selected based on the ideas they could offer the Smoky Lake Region toward reaching goals identified in this document. The municipalities are:

1. Red Deer County, Alberta
2. Strathcona County, Alberta
3. Town of Athabasca, Alberta
4. Municipality of Port Hope, Ontario
5. Town of Niagara-on-the-Lake, Ontario
6. Dawson City, Yukon
7. City of Cambridge, Ontario
8. City of Calgary, Alberta
9. City of Edmonton, Alberta

The focus areas for each precedent study are similar to the areas of focus in the strategic planning section of this document, as follows:

- an evaluation of governance structure regarding heritage;
- the heritage policies in place to ensure appropriate conservation of heritage structures;
- incentives provided to owners of historic places; and,
- methods to encourage awareness and education about heritage.

The intent of this analysis is to assist the Smoky Lake Region in generating discussion spurred by the actions of other municipalities wanting to achieve a similar heritage conservation outcome. At the same time, it is recognized that all municipalities have

differing budget and manpower capacities, yet the discussion of ideas...when generated by active discussion of what others are trying to achieve...often brings new approaches and creative solutions to a local or regional situation. It is therefore the intent of this analysis to offer the Smoky Lake Region a “picture” of what others have achieved, or not achieved, in their goal to protect the very heritage that defines their own region or municipalities.

2.1 Red Deer County, Alberta

Context as of 2006 Heritage Management Plan

- Population of 18,639
- 6 Provincial Historic Resources
- 2 Registered Historic Resources
- 2 Municipal Historic Resources
- Historic Survey & Inventory completed in 2008

Structure & Governance

- Heritage Preservation Committee, an Internal Working Committee has been appointed to allow for designated sites to be managed and for other potential heritage designations to be brought forward to Council.
- One existing County staff member appointed to perform the heritage responsibilities and actions required.
- Proposed Heritage Advisory Board to replace the Internal Working Committee to provide reflection and advice from individuals and interested groups and provide recommendations to Council on heritage-related issues.
- Proposed Heritage Advisor (full or part-time) to replace "appointed staff" to coordinate and administer heritage management for the County.

Heritage Policies

- Review and update the designated Municipal Historic Resource sites and sites listed on the Red Deer County Heritage Inventory each year.
- Workshop to be developed and presented to staff and interested participants regarding the new Heritage Management Plan process, tools, actions and recommendations involved in County's heritage management.
- Desire to develop a Planning Strategy for Heritage Areas and Cultural Landscapes as six cultural landscapes are listed



on the Heritage Inventory and may need to be treated differently than a structure.

Incentives

- Considering waiving of Administrative Fees on Heritage Projects (zoning charges and development permits)
- Red Deer County Rural Community Facility Capital Assistance Grant Programs - allow heritage sites to qualify for funding through existing program.
- Will seek building code equivalencies for heritage structures to meet the National Building Code requirements where possible and as required.
- Red Deer Recognition Awards Program was established in 2002, and is intended to recognize outstanding efforts in heritage preservation in the City of Red Deer and Red Deer County.

Awareness & Education

- Red Deer County is promoting heritage awareness through establishment of its Heritage Recognition Awards. The awards were created to recognize projects and individuals who demonstrate excellence in heritage preservation. The nomination categories now include one which recognizes non-professional youth under the age of 25, who have made special contributions to heritage.
- There is also support for a range of initiatives that support our built and cultural heritage including, promoting heritage education and awareness through heritage signage and historic walking tours.

2.2 Strathcona County, Alberta

Context as of 2008 Heritage Management Plan

- Population of 85,521
- 2 Registered Historic Resources , both owned by the County
 - Smeltzer House is now home to Clay Hut Pottery Studio, Studio One and Visual Arts Centre
 - Bremner House

Structure & Governance

- Proposed Heritage Advisory Committee
- Proposed identification of a Heritage Planning Function within the corporate structure.

Heritage Policies

- Heritage planning
- Heritage education and awareness
- Heritage partnerships
- Heritage stewardship policy for County-owned heritage sites.
- The Community Heritage Legacy Initiative looks to engage the community in capturing and conveying its history and heritage.

Incentives considered

- Tax-based heritage grants (tax-freeze on increased assessment)
- Waive administrative fees
- Will seek building code equivalencies for heritage structures to meet the National Building Code requirements where possible and as required.



Incentives in place

- Community Arts Organization Establishment Grant Fund is to assist potential new Strathcona County based arts, culture or heritage groups in becoming registered not-for-profit organizations. The grant is a one time, startup, allocation of funds to cover the costs of incorporation as a not-for-profit organization.
- Strathcona County has developed a bibliography of published works about the history of the County, and libraries where the materials are located. This list is available on the website.
- Pride of Strathcona Awards recognizes great accomplishments, and in 2012, the County's long-standing award program introduced new categories dedicated to recognizing youth, seniors, sports and recreation development, and contributions to heritage.

Awareness & Education

- The county has developed a fund to support non-profit arts, cultural, and heritage organizations. The New Arts Development/Program Fund assists with the development of arts activities that encourage and promote community-based programs and activities in Strathcona County.
- The county has initiated a program through the Strathcona County Museum and Archives to capture and convey its history and heritage. The Community Heritage Legacy Initiative looks to engage the community in building adding to the work already undertaken at the Museum to finance and begin new efforts relating to history and heritage.
- The goal is to increase the prominence of history and heritage in to county residents.
- At the Strathcona County Museum's visitors can gain a hands-on experience interacting with the artifacts in the displays. Costumed interpreters share the history of the community through artifacts and exhibits. Tours are available for schools, seniors groups and organizations by pre-booking.

2.3 Town of Athabasca, Alberta

Context as of 2006 Heritage Management Plan

- Population of 2,415
- 2 Provincial Historic Resources
- 3 Registered Historic Resources

Structure & Governance

- Heritage Advisory Board consisting of representatives from Town Council, Town Administration, Athabasca University, Athabasca Public Archives and general public.
- Board conducts evaluations of historic resources and makes recommendations to Town Council regarding designations of Historic Places and listing on the Athabasca Register of Historic Places.
- Board liaise between Council and community groups on matters of heritage concern.
- Heritage Officer has been appointed by Town and is responsible for providing heritage advice, monitoring heritage programming, compiling and updating records of designated places, and processing permit applications related to heritage preservation.

Heritage Policies

- Town will re-inspect 20-25% of the designated sites and sites listed on the inventory every year.
- To consider creation of a Heritage Direct Control District within their Land Use Bylaw.
- To seek building code equivalencies for heritage structures to meet the National Building Code requirements where possible, when required.
- Annual review of Inventory



Incentives considered

- Certification - after preservation work has been completed and approved, a letter is sent to the owner concerning certification, the registration on title is paid by the Town and the Council will present a Designation Certificate / plaque signed by the Mayor, including the date, lot, block, plan and significance.
- Considered tax freezes and rebates to be decided on case-by-case basis;
- Considered waiving of administrative fees associated with heritage projects (i.e. Development Permits, Building Permits, Zoning changes).
- Consider development of a Facade Improvement Program - cash incentive for restoration of building facades, based on recommendations by Board.

Awareness & Education

- The town has developed a self-guided tour of more than 50 sites of historical importance to the community.
- Researchers can access the Athabasca Archives which preserves and makes available for research, materials containing historical evidence about the Town of Athabasca, and the district.
- The archives extensive collection contains microfilmed copies of all the Athabasca newspapers from 1909 to the present. They also have records, photographs, maps, blueprints, sound and moving pictures, along with a reference library, school yearbooks and artifacts.
- The archives have put some of its material on line. There are 1600 photographs, 58 hours of audio, and other material on the website at <http://digiport.athabasca.ca/townarchives>.
- Some of the records can be found in the Archives Network of Alberta (ANA) database.



2.4 Municipality of Port Hope, Ontario

Context as of

- Population of over 16,000
- Heritage Conservation District
- Heritage Business Improvement Area
- Over 200 properties designated

Structure & Governance

- Heritage Incentive Approval Committee
- Heritage Port Hope Advisory Committee
- City Planning Department appoints a staff member to attend meetings.

Heritage Policies

- Designated property must apply for Heritage Structure Approval and Heritage Sign Approval prior to alteration. No fee for Application.

Incentives

- Heritage Tax Incentive Program - Rebate applies to the increase in real property taxes (municipal) as a result of an approved restoration project:
 - 40% increase in year one (max \$10,000), followed by a reduction of the rebate by 5% per year for a total of eight years. That is 35% in year 2 and so on until a reduction to 5% is reached in year eight.
- Port Hope Branch of the Architectural Conservancy of Ontario offers loans at near the prime rate (a small grant portion may be awarded).
- Heritage Grant Program - Bylaw established whereby Council may set aside up to \$25,000 per year which may be used for grants to owners who completed approved alterations of heritage properties.



Awareness & Education

- Historic House Tour - eight private homes plus other public buildings of particular architectural merit are selected each year for what is now the oldest and largest house tour in Canada. The tour will be held Saturday, October 1st, 2011. Tickets are limited, and one is advised to purchase prior to the end of August.
- Olde Tyme Christmas - all the windows in the shopping district are decorated in an old fashioned theme for the holidays. Merchants are dress in Victorian garb, and visitors are invited to dress in costume to help us celebrate this magical time of year!
- All-Canadian Jazz Festival - From Friday September 23rd through to Sunday September 25th. This is a unique gathering of leading jazz musicians from across the country. Festival goers can experience it all: enjoying concerts by Canadian jazz headliners; marching in the Saturday Walton Street Jazz Parade; and celebrating the energy of the Young Jazz Showcase.
- Vintage Film Festival - celebrates vintage films from the 20s to the 40s at the Capitol Theatre. This year the festival takes place on October 28th, 29th & 30th.

2.5 Town of Niagara-on-the-Lake, Ontario

Context

- Population of 14,587
- Niagara-on-the Lake National Heritage District
- Battlefield of Fort George National Historic Site of Canada
- Butler's Barracks National Historic Site of Canada
- Fort George National Historic Site of Canada
- Fort Mississauga National Historic Site of Canada
- Mississauga Point Lighthouse National Historic Site of Canada
- Queen-Picton District (Municipal)

Structure & Governance

- Local Architectural Conservation Advisory Committee
- Municipal Heritage Committee provides advice to Council on all heritage matters including those respecting the Heritage Conservation District Plan.

Heritage Policies

- Heritage Permits are to be applied for to assess the protection, conservation and enhancement of the district's character.
- Committee member appointed to inspect building work under the authority of, and answerable to, the Town's building division

Incentives

- Heritage Restoration and Improvement Grant Program provides up to 50% of the cost of certain types of work done on Part IV designated properties:
 - Industrial / Commercial - <\$20,000 (Application Fee \$400)
 - Residential - <\$5,000 (Application Fee \$200)



Awareness & Education

The Niagara Historical Society and Museum provides a number of activities to provide awareness and educational activities for both residents and visitors to the town.

- Cultural Newsletter - "The What's Happening Around Town" newsletter is published year round by the museum society listing events for the many cultural groups in the community.
- Lecture Series - The Society lecture series usually takes place on the third Thursday of each month (March - September) at 7:30 pm in the historic Memorial Hall.
- Museum Tours - Guided tours of the museum exploring the architecture and events of the town and region are also available for groups. Special arrangements can also be made for students to gather an appreciation and understanding of the region's history.
- The Brock Ball - A special event and fundraiser to be held at nearby Fort George. The evening will recreate the dinner that was held the night before the war began, and people are invited to dress in period costume.
- War of 1812 Exhibition - The exhibition focuses on the town as it was in the days leading up to the start of the war, exploring both the community and those that lived there at the time.
- 1812 Walking Tours - Walking tours will provide tours of the community, highlighting those structures which were a part of the community in 1812. A special component of the 1812 Walking Tours is a theatrical presentation called "Petticoats, Boots and Muskets" and includes admission to the Museum's Bicentennial exhibition.



2.6 Dawson City, Yukon

Context as of 2008 Heritage Management Plan

- Population 1,327
- Draws 60,000 visitors per year
- Historic Townsite Overlay District
- Klondike National Historic Site
- Dawson Historical Complex National Historic Site
- S. S. Keno National Historic Site
- Former Territorial Court House National Historic Site

Structure & Governance

- Planning Board is reconstituted as the Heritage Advisory Committee.

Heritage Policies

- Steps are initiated to upgrade the capacity of municipal staff with respect to heritage management.
- Heritage Advisory Committee review 'major' alteration development permit application.
- Divide current Historic Townsite Overlay District into two new Heritage Management Areas: the Downtown Heritage Management Area and the Residential Heritage Management Area
- Enactment of two new bylaws: Heritage Bylaw (to own and lease heritage buildings) and Heritage Fund Bylaw (to provide grants or loans for conservation work)
- Revision of Zoning and Historic Control Bylaw

Incentives considered

- Financial assistance (low-interest loans)
- Planning relaxations (setbacks, residential suites in



commercial buildings)

- Technical assistance (design, visual resources, assistance in identifying building trades and materials)
- Increasing technical capacity (specialized training for Committee, staff and private-sector building designers)
- Heritage Foundation to raise & distribute funds and perhaps to owner and lease heritage sites that the City has acquired and transferred to Foundation.

Incentives in place

- The Heritage Fund, in addition to transfers budgeted by Council, may be funded by donations of money or property .
- The Heritage Fund established by Bylaw to assist any of the following purposes:
 - Restoration, enhancement or renovations of Municipal Historic Sites
 - Acquisition of Municipal Historic Sites by the City
 - Provision of financial assistance to owners or lessees of Municipal Historic Resources for restoration, enhancement or renovation
 - Increasing public awareness of heritage resources and heritage management in the City

Awareness & Education

- Dawson City is located within the Dawson Historical Complex National Historic Site of Canada, and many of the activities and events are operated by Parks Canada, such as a self-guided audio tour, a guided mystery tour, storytelling tour, and a guided tour of the Palace Grand Theatre.
- There are also a number of historic properties open for viewing, and a theatre presentation.

2.7 City of Cambridge, Ontario

Context as of 2008 Heritage Master Plan

- Population of 120,371
- 3 Conservation Districts
- over 800 sites inventoried

Structure & Governance

- Municipal Heritage Advisory Committee consisting of volunteers appointed by Council and has the support of the City Heritage Planner.
- City Heritage Planner with no administrative support

Heritage Policies

- Implementation strategies were organized under five major categories (and examples):
 - Inventory & Evaluation
 - Continue to update & expand City's Inventory
 - Improve evaluation process
 - Use Inventory to improve City's ability to anticipate threats to heritage resources.
 - Heritage Policy and Interpretation
 - Focus on character areas
 - Define the desired form of redevelopment suited for character area.
 - Heritage Resource Management
 - Provide support for municipal Heritage Planner
 - Promote "heritage-friendly" development
 - Improve process for Designations
 - Improve the Heritage Impact Assessment process
 - Identify & foster sources of financial support for heritage conservation
 - Consider forming a non-profit community foundation



to promote, fund & administer heritage activity

- Economic Development
 - Prepare a heritage tourism development strategy for the municipality
 - Market heritage
 - Secure funding for heritage activity
 - Monitor heritage tourism activity
- Community Support
 - Promote heritage awareness throughout the community & business sector

Incentives

- DesignGuide Program for professional design fees for buildings located in three downtown cores to a maximum of \$1,750.
- Heritage Grant Programme for 50% of the cost of the work carried out to conserve the heritage elements of a building that has been designated under Par IV or V of the Ontario Heritage Act, to a maximum of \$5,000.

Awareness & Education

- Doors Open Waterloo Region - Held in September and opens the doors of heritage and architecturally interesting buildings to the public. It is associated with children's activities, music, drama presentations, and walking tours.
- Heritage Cambridge's Annual House Tour - Each May a one-day house tour includes significant country farmhouses, and money raised is used to preserve historic buildings throughout Cambridge region.
- Interpretive Signage - has been installed in the Queen Square area to help educate the public about the building stock.



2.8 City of Edmonton, Alberta

Context as of 2011

- Population of 812,201
- 46 Provincial Historic Resources
- 1 Provincial Historic Area
- 29 Registered Historic Resources
- 91 Municipal Historic Resources

Structure & Governance

- Edmonton Historical Board advises City Council on matters relating to historical issues in Edmonton. The Board's mission is to encourage, promote and advocate for the preservation and safeguarding of properties, resources, communities and documenting heritage.
- Now has two full time staff members and a generous operating budget for financial incentives.

Heritage Policies

- Policy C-450B: Encourage the Designation and Rehabilitation of Municipal Historic Resources in Edmonton - outlines the eligibility and the decision making process for granting rehabilitation and maintenance incentives to designated Municipal Historic Resources.
- Through the designation process, the owner of the site must agree to allow the building and the land upon which it sits to be districted DC1 (Direct Development Control District) under the Land Use Bylaw.
- Historical Resources Management Program focuses on Register and Inventory of Historic Resources, incentives, promotion, monitoring, and broader heritage initiatives.
- The Art of Living: A Plan for securing the future of arts and heritage in the City and this plan makes recommendations in



a range of areas that will help to realize the long-term vision for the arts and culture in Edmonton, a significant part of which involves heritage.

Incentives

- Include direct grants, property tax rebates and non-monetary incentives.
- Such incentives shall not exceed 50% of the rehabilitation costs.
- Grants are from a fund withdrawn annually from the operating budget of the Planning and Development Department.
- Other incentives may include the transfer of land density, relaxation of parking, loading and amenity requirements, land transfers or any other means deemed appropriate by Council.
- The owner of a designated site may apply for a Maintenance Incentive, which is either in the form of a direct grant or a tax incentive.

Awareness & Education

There are a variety of activities and events in Edmonton designed to increase the awareness of the city's heritage and history. Not all of the activities are operated by the city. Some are run under the auspices of different heritage organizations.

The city does operate the John Walter Museum which has programs and courses for all ages to learn something new about Edmonton's past and pioneer living. These range from programs, day camps and drop in programs which give first-hand experiences of pioneer life, to how to make traditional crafts.

2.9 City of Calgary, Alberta

Context as of 2011

- Population of over 1,096,833
- 58 Provincial Historic Resources
- 28 Registered Historic Resources
- 33 Municipal Historic Resources

Structure & Governance

- In 2000, the Heritage Advisory Board was merged with the Calgary Heritage Properties Authority to become the Calgary Heritage Authority.
- The Calgary Health Authority advises Council on all matters relating to heritage resources in the City. The Calgary Health Authority evaluates potential heritage sites and maintains the Inventory of Evaluated Historic Resources in Calgary. As well, it also monitors the effectiveness of legislation which affects heritage conservation objectives and proposing appropriate amendments.

Heritage Policies

- Land Use Bylaw allows for parking relaxation for sites listed on the Inventory.
- Density Transfer for Heritage Conservation allows for the transfer of unused development potential to other sites within the same Land Use District.
- Commercial Conversion to Office Use of Existing Residential Buildings allows the conversion of residential buildings to commercial use if the structure is listed on the Inventory of Potential Heritage Sites.

Incentives

- In 2003, the Heritage Incentive Reserve Fund
 - Sites eligible for 50% of the value of approved restoration and rehabilitation costs up to a maximum of \$300,000.



- Heritage Reserve Fund for projects that demonstrate an aspect of historical preservation or promote awareness of Calgary's history.

Awareness & Education

- The city has created a publicly accessible searchable database of Calgary's historic resources. Discover Historic Calgary includes information on their history, location and significance, and contemporary and historic photographs.
- Many of the sites listed on Discover Historic Calgary are publicly accessible; however, most places are privately owned.
- The Calgary Heritage Authority has developed ten self-guided walking tours of various historic areas in the city. The Historic Downtown Calgary tour encompasses more than thirty historic buildings from the original downtown on the tour.
- There are three programs for the historic Stephen Avenue tour, including one for students, and a guide for teachers. The student tour includes a guide to identifying architectural features found on avenue structures.
- Throughout the city are various museums with educational programs, with Heritage Park being the largest.



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- *Heritage Conservation Brief – Sustainable Development*, Canada's Historic Places (2007)
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- *Provincial Designation Report, Vilna Pool Hall and Barbershop*, Alberta Culture and Community Spirit (2011)
- *Provincial Designation Report, McDonald Stopping House*, Alberta Culture and Community Spirit (2011)
- *Smoky Lake Region Inventory of Historic Places* (2012)
- *Standards and Guidelines for the Conservation of Historic Places in Canada* (Second Edition)

Policy Documents

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- *Municipal Government Act*, Province of Alberta (2010)
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- *Smoky Lake County Bylaw No. 1236-11 (2011)* – Smoky Lake Regional Heritage Board
- *Smoky Lake County Heritage Inventory Application Form* (Draft)
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- *Village of Vilna Bylaw No. 413-00 (2000)*
- *Village of Vilna Land Use Bylaw No. 392-98 (1998)*
- *Village of Waskatenau Land Use Bylaw No. 628/2010 (2010)*

Precedent Study

City of Red Deer, Alberta

- Jo-Ann Symington, Community Services Manager
- *City of Red Deer Heritage Management Plan* (2006)
- www.reddeer.ca

Strathcona County, Alberta

- Yolande Shaw, Capital Region Liaison Officer
- Corporate Planning & Intergovernmental Affairs
- *Strathcona County Heritage Management Plan* (2008)
- www.strathcona.ab.ca



Town of Athabasca, Alberta

- Doug Topinka, Chief Administrative Officer
- *Town of Athabasca Heritage Management Plan*
- www.town.athabasca.ab.ca

Municipality of Port Hope, Ontario

- Rick Brooks, Chair, Heritage Port Hope Advisory Committee
- *Grants To The Owners Of Commercial Properties, BY-LAW NO. 31/2005* (2005)
- *Heritage Incentive Program, BY-LAW NO. 72/2005*, 2005
- *Terms of Reference for the Heritage Port Hope (HPH) Advisory Committee*
- *BY-LAW NO. 35/2011* (2011)
- *Heritage Building Incentive Program*
- www.porthope.ca/en/

Town of Niagara-on-the-Lake, Ontario

- Leah D. Wallace MA, MCIP, RPP, Planner, Heritage & Urban Design
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- *Heritage Restoration & Improvement Grant Program*
- www.notl.org

Dawson City, Yukon

- Micah Olesh, Community Development Officer
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- *Heritage Advisory Committee Bylaw #09 – 06* (2009)
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City of Cambridge, Ontario

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- *DesignGuide Program* (2008)
- *Building Revitalization Program* (2008)
- www.cambridge.ca/

City of Edmonton, Alberta

- www.edmonton.ca

City of Calgary, Alberta

www.calgary.ca

Other Websites**Federal Government**

- Canadian Register of Historic Places
www.historicplaces.ca
- *Standards and Guidelines for the Conservation of Historic Places*
http://www.pc.gc.ca/docs/pc/guide/nldclpc-sgchpc/index_E.asp

Province of Alberta

- Heritage Resources Management
<http://culture.alberta.ca/heritage/resourcemanagement/default.aspx>
- Alberta Historical Resources Foundation
<http://culture.alberta.ca/ahrf/default.aspx>
- Municipal Heritage Partnership Program
www.mhpp.ab.ca/

Smoky Lake County

- www.smokylakecounty.ab.ca
- www.smokylake.ca/
- www.waskatenau.ca/
- www.vilna.ca/
- www.smokylakecounty.ab.ca/townsvillgs.htm



4 Templates

Preliminary Heritage Site Identification

SMOKY LAKE COUNTY REGIONAL HERITAGE BOARD

Preliminary Heritage Site Identification

Requested By:

Date:

Contact Information:

Name(s) of Site:

Land Location:

Current Owner:

Previous Owner:

Construction Date:

☐ Approximate

☐ Actual

Builder / Architect:

Additions or Alterations to Original Building

History

Special Exterior Features

Special Interior Features

Additional Information

☐ Do you have any photographs, documents, blueprints, etc. to show us?

☐ Do you have any additional information about other buildings in the Smoky Lake Region?

Submit or drop off at:

Smoky Lake County Regional Heritage Board, Box 310, 4612 McDougall Drive, Smoky Lake, Alberta T0A 3C0

Designation Ranking for Historic Resources

SMOKY LAKE COUNTY REGIONAL HERITAGE BOARD

Designation Ranking for Historic Resources

Box 310, Smoky Lake, Alberta T0A 3C0

PRIORITY FOR DESIGNATION

The historic resources in this category are individually outstanding and have the broadest heritage significance in the Smoky Lake Region by virtue of location and environment, design, materials and workmanship, association and feeling criteria along with overall integrity of design and construction. **Category A** historic resources generally hold the potential for municipal, provincial and / or national significance.

CATEGORY A = 100 - 70

The historic resources in **Category A** are of the highest priority for municipal heritage designation based on architectural and historic merit. They are of high calibre and typically hold landmark status. Such historic sites are usually unaltered or altered only in a minor or completely sympathetic manner.

Owners of **Category A** sites should be encouraged to apply for designation and possible financial incentives, and incentives for the conservation and maintenance of these designated historic sites should be as generous as possible.

Historic sites in **Category A** may also have potential for provincial recognition and / or designation as a National Historic Site, therefore, all permits and zoning applications affecting these sites should be carefully reviewed and commented upon by the Smoky Lake County Regional Heritage Board.

CATEGORY B = 69 - 45

The historic resources in **Category B** are of distinct importance by virtue of location and environment, design, materials and workmanship, association and feeling. They stand out individually but are of lesser overall significance than **Category A** historic sites, yet hold importance within the Smoky Lake Region.

Historic resources in **Category B** are a high priority for heritage designation for architectural, and / or historical reasons, do not necessarily possess landmark status, and their architectural and historical integrity may have been partially modified by minor alterations or additions.

Owners of **Category B** resources should be encouraged to apply for designation and possible financial incentives, however incentives for the conservation and maintenance of designated **Category B** historic resources may not be as generous as they would be for **Category A** resources.

All permits and zoning applications affecting these historic sites must be reviewed and commented upon by the Smoky Lake County Regional Heritage Board.

CATEGORY C = 44 - 26

The historic resources in **Category C** are of some importance by virtue of location and environment, design, materials and workmanship, association and feeling. They tend to stand out individually but to a lesser degree than those in **Category B**, but contribute to the heritage fabric of the rural landscape, streetscapes and / or neighbourhoods and serve as vital reminders of the Smoky Lake Region's past.

Category C historic resources exhibit a tangible measure of original architectural character and possibly historical significance, making them worthy of preservation, therefore conservation of such resources should be encouraged. They may also be eligible for heritage designation provided they retain some distinctive or particularly interesting architectural detailing or other characteristics. Designations of **Category C** historic resources should be considered on a case-by-case basis, as their architectural and historical integrity generally have been modified by alterations or additions to some degree.

Owners of **Category C** historic resources should be encouraged to apply for designation and possible financial incentives, however, incentives for the conservation and maintenance of designated **Category C** historic resources may not be as generous as they would be for **Category B** resources.

All permits and zoning applications affecting these historic resources must be reviewed and commented upon by the Smoky Lake County Regional Heritage Board, to minimize further negative impact on the heritage site.

– Smoky Lake County Regional Heritage Board –



Designation Ranking for Historic Resources - page 2 of 5

Designation Ranking for Historic Resources	Page 2 of 5
CATEGORY D = 25 - 0	
Historic resources in Category D are of limited heritage value. Typically, their architectural and historical integrity will have been heavily modified by alterations and / or additions. They generally retain very little or no original or significant detailing and do not contribute to the heritage fabric of the rural landscape, streetscape, and / or neighbourhood. Such sites would likely not be eligible for designation, however all permits and zoning applications affecting these sites should be reviewed and commented on by the Smoky Lake County Region Heritage Board to avoid further negative impact on the site, or significant historic sites located nearby.	
SPECIFIC CRITERIA	
I - Location and Environment	
1) Community Context	
To what degree does the historic resource remain in the same location where it was constructed, or where a historic activity or event occurred. A moved resource is also eligible if it has been on its current location for at least 50 years.	
2) Physical Setting	
To what degree does the historic resource retain its original relationship to surrounding features or open space, such as topographical features, vegetation, man-made features, open space, and / or the character of the street, neighbourhood, or area, and contributes to a sense of continuity within the area?	
3) Landmark Status	
To what degree is the existing historic resource distinctive, conspicuous, and / or a familiar feature of the street, neighbourhood, town, or region?	
II - Design	
4) Style / Type	
To what degree is the historic resource a notable, academically perfect, or an early example of a particular period, architectural style, purpose, type, or convention?	
5) Construction	
To what degree is the historic resource a notable, innovative, or early example of a particular method of construction, assembly, or use of building materials?	
6) Designer / Builder	
Is the historic resource designed by, or attributed to, a noteworthy architect, engineer, builder, craftsman, landscape architect, or artist who has made a significant contribution locally?	
7) Composition	
To what degree is the historic resource particularly attractive or unique because of the excellence of design, artistic merit, aesthetic qualities, composition, craftsmanship, and / or detailing?	
8) Interior Elements	
To what degree are the interior spaces particularly notable for design elements, craftsmanship, finishes, or other details worthy of preservation through heritage designation?	
III - Materials and Workmanship	
9) State of Preservation / Alteration	
To what degree does the exterior of the historic resource retain most or all of its original character-defining elements and materials of construction? To what degree have alterations or additions (if any) been minor in nature or applied in a sensitive manner?	
10) Condition	
To what degree is the overall state of the historic resource's structural condition?	
11) Technological Practice	
To what degree does the historic resource demonstrate physical evidence of traditional or innovative techniques?	
12) Aesthetic Principles	
To what degree does the appearance or style of the historic resource carry physical evidence of beauty, art or taste, either basic or sophisticated, in all the resource or its individual parts?	
- Smoky Lake County Regional Heritage Board -	

Designation Ranking for Historic Resources - page 3 of 5

Designation Ranking for Historic Resources	Page 3 of 5
IV- Association and Feeling	
13) Trends / Patterns / Themes	
To what degree is the historic resource associated with, and effectively illustrative of, broad patterns of cultural, social, political, military, economic, and / or industrial history? To what degree does the resource place the property into a broader historical context?	
14) Persons / Institutions	
To what degree is the historic resource associated with the life or activities of a person, family, group, organization, or institution that has made a significant, noteworthy, or influential contribution to the community?	
15) Events	
To what degree is the historic resource associated with a momentous historical event that has made a significant contribution to the community?	
16) Aesthetic Sense	
To what degree is the historical significance of the historic resource enhanced by its ability to convey the aesthetic sense of a particular period due to the presence of physical features that, taken together, express the resource's historic character?	
17) Historical Sense	
To what degree is the historical significance of the historic resource enhanced by its ability to convey the historic sense of a particular period due to the presence of physical features that, taken together, express the resource's historic character?	
V- Rarity	
18) Rarity of Architectural Style / Type / Function	
To what degree is the historic resource a rare or unique example of a particular architectural style, type or function?	
19) Rarity of Age	
To what degree is the historic resource exceptional or unique of its age?	
20) Rarity of Architectural Details	
To what degree does the historic resource possess rare or unique architectural detailing?	
21) Rarity of Construction Elements	
To what degree does the historic resource possess rare or unique elements and / or materials of construction?	
22) Rarity in Other Factors (Bonus)	
To what degree does the historic resource possess other rare, singular, or incomparable characteristics?	
- Smoky Lake County Regional Heritage Board -	



appendices

4 Templates (cont)

Designation Ranking for Historic Resources - page 4 of 5

SMOKY LAKE COUNTY REGIONAL HERITAGE BOARD

Preliminary Heritage Site Identification

Requested By:

Date:

Contact Information:

Name(s) of Site:

Land Location:

Current Owner:

Previous Owner:

Construction Date:

☐ Approximate

☐ Actual

Builder / Architect:

Additions or Alterations to Original Building

History

Special Exterior Features

Special Interior Features

Additional Information

☐ Do you have any photographs, documents, blueprints, etc. to show us?

☐ Do you have any additional information about other buildings in the Smoky Lake Region?

Submit or drop off at:

Smoky Lake County Regional Heritage Board, Box 310, 4612 McDougall Drive, Smoky Lake, Alberta T0A 3C0

Designation Ranking for Historic Resources - page 5 of 5

SMOKY LAKE COUNTY REGIONAL HERITAGE BOARD

Designation Ranking for Historic Resources

Box 310, Smoky Lake, Alberta T0A 3C0

PRIORITY FOR DESIGNATION

The historic resources in this category are individually outstanding and have the broadest heritage significance in the Smoky Lake Region by virtue of location and environment, design, materials and workmanship, association and feeling criteria along with overall integrity of design and construction. **Category A** historic resources generally hold the potential for municipal, provincial and / or national significance.

CATEGORY A = 100 - 70

The historic resources in **Category A** are of the highest priority for municipal heritage designation based on architectural and historic merit. They are of high calibre and typically hold landmark status. Such historic sites are usually unaltered or altered only in a minor or completely sympathetic manner.

Owners of **Category A** sites should be encouraged to apply for designation and possible financial incentives, and incentives for the conservation and maintenance of these designated historic sites should be as generous as possible.

Historic sites in **Category A** may also have potential for provincial recognition and / or designation as a National Historic Site, therefore, all permits and zoning applications affecting these sites should be carefully reviewed and commented upon by the Smoky Lake County Regional Heritage Board.

CATEGORY B = 69 - 45

The historic resources in **Category B** are of distinct importance by virtue of location and environment, design, materials and workmanship, association and feeling. They stand out individually but are of lesser overall significance than **Category A** historic sites, yet hold importance within the Smoky Lake Region.

Historic resources in **Category B** are a high priority for heritage designation for architectural, and / or historical reasons, do not necessarily possess landmark status, and their architectural and historical integrity may have been partially modified by minor alterations or additions.

Owners of **Category B** resources should be encouraged to apply for designation and possible financial incentives, however incentives for the conservation and maintenance of designated **Category B** historic resources may not be as generous as they would be for **Category A** resources.

All permits and zoning applications affecting these historic sites must be reviewed and commented upon by the Smoky Lake County Regional Heritage Board.

CATEGORY C = 44 - 26

The historic resources in **Category C** are of some importance by virtue of location and environment, design, materials and workmanship, association and feeling. They tend to stand out individually but to a lesser degree than those in **Category B**, but contribute to the heritage fabric of the rural landscape, streetscapes and / or neighbourhoods and serve as vital reminders of the Smoky Lake Region's past.

Category C historic resources exhibit a tangible measure of original architectural character and possibly historical significance, making them worthy of preservation, therefore conservation of such resources should be encouraged. They may also be eligible for heritage designation provided they retain some distinctive or particularly interesting architectural detailing or other characteristics. Designations of **Category C** historic resources should be considered on a case-by-case basis, as their architectural and historical integrity generally have been modified by alterations or additions to some degree.

Owners of **Category C** historic resources should be encouraged to apply for designation and possible financial incentives, however, incentives for the conservation and maintenance of designated **Category C** historic resources may not be as generous as they would be for **Category B** resources.

All permits and zoning applications affecting these historic resources must be reviewed and commented upon by the Smoky Lake County Regional Heritage Board, to minimize further negative impact on the heritage site.

– Smoky Lake County Regional Heritage Board –



Application for Municipal Historic Resource Designation

SMOKY LAKE COUNTY REGIONAL HERITAGE BOARD

Application For Municipal Historic Resource Designation

Bxw 310, Smoky Lake, Alberta T0H 3C9

Roll #

Date

Name of Resource

Municipality

Municipal Address:

Short Legal Description:

Plan:

Block:

Lot:

Long Legal Description

LSD/PL

Section

Township

Range

W4

Please attach:

☐ Current Certificate of Title

☐ Recent photographs of the exterior of Site (ensure date and location is indicated on the back of photo)

☐ Recent photographs of the interior of Site (ensure date and location is indicated on the back of photo)

☐ Historic photographs of the Site (ensure date and location is indicated on the back of photo)

NOTE: All photographs attached to this application remain the property of the municipality.

The information provided on this form was recorded by:

Name

Address

Postal Code

Telephone 1

Telephone 2

Date

Site Owner

Address

Postal Code

Telephone

Does the Owner support the possible designation of the Site?

☐ Yes

☐ No

Does the Owner give permission to the municipality and it's heritage contractor (if applicable) to enter the property, for the sole purpose of documentation and evaluation of the structure?

☐ Yes

☐ No

Comments

Owner's Signature

Date

The personal information on this form is protected under the authority of Section 33(1) of the Alberta Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act SA 2000. The information will be used to process this application for the purpose of having a property considered as a Historic Resource. This document is a public document and is available for public viewing if requested and as a result your name and address may be included on reports and available to public. The municipality WILL NOT use your personal information for unrelated purposes, without your expressed consent.

Application for Municipal Historic Resource Designation - page 2 of 3

Application For Municipal Historic Resource Designation

Page 2 of 3

No. of structures

Type of structures

Type of construction (log, frame, brick, etc.)

Present Condition

Roof

Siding

Windows and frames

Foundation

What was the date of construction? Estimated or Actual?

What was (were) the original use(s) of the structure?

What was the nature and date of any later addition?

What is the architectural significance of this site or structure?

What is the name of the architect, if one was involved?

What is the name of the builder?

Does the architect or builder have any special prominence in the community?

Is there something notable about the method of construction or the building materials used?

Is the structure on its original site? If it has been moved, when and why?

In what condition is the building? What alterations have been made in the cause of maintenance or renovation, and when?

If it is in a town or village, does the building fit in with

— Smoky Lake County Regional Heritage Board —



Application for Municipal Historic Resource Designation - page 3 of 3

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Application for Heritage Resource Intervention Permit

SMOXY LAKE COUNTY REGIONAL HERITAGE BOARD

Application for Heritage Resource Intervention Permit

Box 310, Smoky Lake, Alberta T0H 3C9

HERITAGE RESOURCE INTERVENTION PERMIT

1. A Heritage Intervention Permit is required to undertake changes to properties because of their historic or architectural significance under the *Alberta Historical Resources Act*. Municipal governments in Alberta are responsible for safeguarding the heritage values of these properties. Section 26(6) of the Act requires that "no person shall destroy, disturb, alter, restore, or repair a historic resource that has been designated...without the written approval of the Council or a person appointed by the Council for this purpose."

2. The purpose of a Heritage Intervention Permit is to ensure that the proposed changes to a designated Historic Resource do not alter the property in such a way that the reasons for designation are diminished.

3. A Heritage Intervention Permit is required when interventions are proposed to a Municipal Heritage Resource, including: construction, additions, alterations, demolition, new colors, new windows, lighting, brickwork, signs and all applicable exteriors including roofs.

4. There is **no fee** for a Heritage Resource Intervention Permit.

5. Applicants are requested to confirm their plans with the Municipality to determine if a Development Permit and/or a Building Permit are required. It should also be noted that a Heritage Resource Intervention Permit **does not** superseded the requirements of the Alberta Building Code, the Municipal Government Act or the municipality's Land Use Bylaw.

6. It is suggested that the Applicant consult with a Heritage Board Member or Heritage Planner when making plans to submit an Application for Heritage Resource Intervention Permit, as they may offer some suggestions or advise on appropriate methods of treatment or intervention.

7. All Applications for Heritage Resource Intervention Permit will be evaluated by the Smoky Lake Heritage Board and / or a Heritage Planner and a recommendation will be presented to the Municipality's Development Officer for final decision.

8. The requirements to complete a Application for Heritage Resource Intervention Permit are:

☐ Copy of Designation Bylaw, with Statement of Significance (obtain from municipality)

☐ Concept drawing (e.g. image of structure or finished sign)

☐ Detailed dimensioned drawings of proposed "work", (structure or sign)

☐ Site plan detailing the location of the structure or sign, to scale, in relation to other structures

☐ Historical documentation / photographs to support proposed intervention

☐ Photographs of existing building, side elevations, finishes, architectural details, streetscape or landscape

☐ Description of materials to be used for proposed intervention

☐ IF PAINTING: Samples of heritage colors with manufacturer, name, number and finish for each

☐ IF SIGNAGE: Sample font, name and size of lettering, and sign mounting information

☐ IF LIGHTING FIXTURE: Images and description of fixtures

9. During the evaluation of this Application, municipal staff, Heritage Board Member and / or Heritage Planner may find it necessary to enter the property, to view and photograph the Site that is subject to the Application. Failure to allow access onto the property may result in the Application being considered incomplete.

March 2012

Application for Heritage Resource Intervention Permit - page 2 of 5

Application For Heritage Resource Intervention Permit

Page 2 of 5

PART 1 - TO BE COMPLETED BY OWNER

Roll #

Permit #

Resource Name

Municipality

Municipal Address

Owner Information

Legal Description

Name

Plan

Address

Block

Lot

City

Province

LSD/Pt

Sec

Twp

Rng

W4

Postal Code

Phone Number

This Historic Resource is:

☐ listed on Municipal Inventory

☐ a Municipal Historic Resource

Designation Bylaw #

What kind of interventions / changes are being proposed to this Resource?

(Provide a brief summary of the proposed work)

Why are these specific interventions / changes being proposed to this Resource?

(Please check all that apply)

☐ To conserve the heritage value of the property

☐ To improve the functionality of the property

☐ To enable the adaptive re-use of the property

☐ Other

Provide a brief summary of the rationale for the proposed work.

Certification

I/We the Owner(s) of the subject property, and the Applicant of this subject Application, by signing the Application, agree to allow either municipal staff and/or Heritage Board Committee Member the right to enter onto my property, as necessary, to view and photograph the property for the Application. Failure to allow access onto the property may result in the Application being considered incomplete.

Date

Owner's Signature

Name

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Community Design Strategies Inc.

4 Templates (cont)

Application for Heritage Resource Intervention Permit - page 3 of 5

Application For Heritage Resource Intervention Permit

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PART 2 - TO BE COMPLETED BY EVALUATOR

What conservation documents or other resources have been reviewed in evaluating the proposed work?
(Check all that apply)

☐ Municipal Heritage Management Plan

☐ Statement of Significance

☐ Standard and Guidelines for the Conservation of Historic Places in Canada

☐ Proposed work plan / drawings

☐ Designation Bylaw

☐ Other (please describe)

Municipal governments are responsible for safeguarding the heritage values of these properties. What "heritage values" and / or "character-defining elements" of the Resource (described in the Statement of Significance), if any, would be impacted by the proposed work? How, specifically, would they be affected?

Heritage Values

Potential Impact on Heritage Values

Character-Defining Elements

Potential Impact on Character-Defining Elements

Applying the Standards and Guidelines for the Conservation of Historic Places in Canada helps to ensure that sound conservation principles are considered when reviewing potential changes to historic places. Please check whether the proposed work meets each standard.

General Standards for all projects - "Preservation"

1. Conserve the *heritage value* of a historic place. Do not remove, replace, or substantially alter its intact or repairable *character-defining elements*. Do not remove a part of a *historic place* if its current location is a *character-defining element*.

☐ Yes

☐ No

2. Conserve changes to a *historic place* which, over time, have become *character-defining elements* in their own right.

☐ Yes

☐ No

3. Conserve *heritage value* by adopting an approach calling for *minimal intervention*.

☐ Yes

☐ No

4. Recognize each *historic place* as a physical record of its time, place and use. Do not create a false sense of historical development by adding elements from other *historic places* or other properties or by combining features of the same property that never co-existed.

☐ Yes

☐ No

Application for Heritage Resource Intervention Permit - page 4 of 5

Application For Heritage Resource Intervention Permit

Page 4 of 5

5. Find a use for a *historic place* that requires minimal or no change to its *character-defining elements*.

☐ Yes

☐ No

6. Protect and, if necessary, stabilize a *historic place* until any subsequent *intervention* is under-taken. Protect and preserve archaeological resources in place. Where there is potential for disturbance or archaeological resources, take mitigation measures to limit damages and loss of information.

☐ Yes

☐ No

7. Evaluate the existing condition of character-defining elements to determine the appropriate intervention needed. Use the gentlest means possible for any intervention. Respect *heritage value* when undertaking an intervention.

☐ Yes

☐ No

8. Maintain *character-defining elements* on an ongoing basis. Repair *character-defining elements* by reinforcing their materials using recognized conservation methods. Replace in kind any extensively deteriorated or missing parts of *character-defining elements*, where there surviving prototypes.

☐ Yes

☐ No

9. Make any *intervention* needed to preserve *character-defining elements* physically and visually compatible with the *historic place*, and identifiable upon close inspection. Document any intervention for future reference.

☐ Yes

☐ No

Additional Standards relating to - "Rehabilitation"

10. Repair rather than replace *character-defining elements*. Where *character-defining elements* are too severely deteriorated to repair, and where sufficient physical evidence exists, replace them with new elements that match the forms, materials and detailing the sound versions of the same elements. Where there is insufficient physical evidence, make the form, material and detailing of the new elements compatible with the character of the *historic place*.

☐ Yes

☐ No

11. Conserve the heritage value and *character-defining elements* when creating any new additions to a historic place or any related new construction. Make the new work physically and visually compatible with, subordinate to and distinguishable from the historic place.

☐ Yes

☐ No

12. Create any new additions or related construction so that the essential form and integrity of a *historic place* will not be impaired if the new work is removed in the future.

☐ Yes

☐ No

Additional Standards relating to - "Restoration"

13. Repair rather than replace *character-defining elements* from the restoration period. Where *character-defining elements* are too severely deteriorated to repair and where sufficient physical evidence exists, replace them with new elements that match the forms, materials and detailing of sound versions of the same elements.

☐ Yes

☐ No

APPLICATION DECISION

Based on the assessment of the work proposed, it is certified that the proposed work meets the Standards of Conservation described above, and does not negatively impact the heritage values and character-defining elements of the Historic Resource.

☐ No - Does **not** meet all the required Standards, work **not** permitted

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Community Design Strategies Inc.

March 2012

Application for Heritage Resource Intervention Permit - page 5 of 5

Application For Heritage Resource Intervention Permit

Page 5 of 5

☐ Yes - Meets all the required Standards, work permitted

Permitted with Conditions:

Recommendation Date

Final Decision Date

Heritage Evaluator

Designated Officer

Name

Name



5 Sample Designation Bylaw

SMOKY LAKE COUNTY
IN THE PROVINCE OF ALBERTA
BYLAW NO. 1221-11

A BYLAW OF SMOKY LAKE COUNTY IN THE PROVINCE OF ALBERTA FOR THE PURPOSE
OF DESIGNATING THE HOLY TRINITY RUSSO GREEK ORTHODOX CHURCH OF SMOKY
LAKE AS A MUNICIPAL HISTORIC RESOURCE.

WHEREAS, the Historical Resources Act, R.S.A. 2000, c. H-9, as amended, permits the Municipal Council of a municipality to designate any heritage resource within a municipality whose preservation it considers to be in the public interest as a Municipal Historic Resource, upon giving notice to the Owner of the Resource in accordance with the Historical Resources Act;

WHEREAS it is deemed in the public interest to designate the Heritage Resource located in Smoky Lake County on LSD 1 28-59-17 W4 as a Municipal Historic Resource; and

WHEREAS the Owners of the Holy Trinity Russo Greek Orthodox Church of Smoky Lake have agreed to waive compensation for the designation of the Holy Trinity Russo Greek Orthodox Church of Smoky Lake as a Municipal Historic Resource, now and in the future.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Council of Smoky Lake County in the Province of Alberta, having complied with the Historical Resources Act, and duly assembled, hereby enacts as follows:

1. HERITAGE RESOURCE DESIGNATED AS A MUNICIPAL HISTORIC RESOURCE

The Heritage Resource, commonly known as Holy Trinity Russo Greek Orthodox Church of Smoky Lake, is hereby designated as a Municipal Heritage Resource, specifically described in Schedule "A", which is located on the lands legally described as follows:

Legal subdivision one (1) of Section twenty eight (28) Township fifty-nine (59) Range seventeen (17) West of the fourth Meridian as shown on a Plan of Survey of the said Township, signed at Ottawa on the 28th day of March A.D. 1908, containing 16.3 hectares (40.25 acres) more or less.

Excepting thereout: 0.405 hectares (1.00 acre) more or less, as shown on Road Plan 792 2799.

Excepting thereout all mines and minerals subject to the condition that the same shall be used for church purposes only.

2. PERMITTED REPAIRS AND ALTERATIONS

Subject to Section 3 hereof, the Heritage Resource hereby designated in Section 1 as a Municipal Historic Resource shall not be remove, destroyed, disturbed, altered, rehabilitated, repaired or otherwise permanently affected, other than in accordance with the terms of Schedule "B" attached.

3. ADMINISTRATOR

The Development Authority of Smoky Lake County is hereby appointed to administer the implementation of any matters arising from the matters set out in Schedule "B".

Received First Reading this 26th day of May, 2011.

Chief Elected Official

Seal

Chief Administrative Officer

Received Second Reading this ____ day of _____, 2011.

Received Third Reading and finally passed this day ____ of _____, 2011.

Chief Elected Official

Seal

Chief Administrative Officer

SCHEDULE "A"

This Statement of Significance forms Schedule "A" to Bylaw 1212-10 and provides a *Description of the Historic Place*, explains the *Heritage Value* of the building and identifies, by written description and photographs, those *Character Defining Elements* of the Holy Trinity Russo Greek Orthodox Church of Smoky Lake which are regulated by the "General Guidelines for Conservation" (Schedule "B") and must be preserved (the "Regulated Character Defining Elements").

THE STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

HOLY TRINITY RUSSO GREEK ORTHODOX CHURCH OF SMOKY LAKE

LSD 1 -SE-59-17 W4
17308 Twp Road 594

OTHER NAMES

Holy Trinity Orthodox Church
Down in the Valley Church
Russo Orthodox Church of the Holy Trinity

Description of Historic Place

The Holy Trinity Russo Greek Orthodox Church was constructed following the building traditions of the prairie Byzantine church style located just north of Smoky Lake. The Holy Trinity Russo Greek Orthodox Church is a wood frame church on a cruciform plan. An exceptional feature of the interior of this church is the design of the altar baldachin (the ornamental structural canopy over the altar) with its plaster mouldings and traditional painted icons. The site includes the church and bell tower.

Heritage Value

The Holy Trinity Russo Greek Orthodox Church is an important symbol of religious and ethnic identity in the Smoky Lake district, has a significant link with the settlement period, and is an important contributing structure to the municipality's cultural landscape. The Holy Trinity parish was one of the first institutions in Smoky Lake district. The bell tower built in 1916 remains complete with the original cross and the original bells. The 1912 hand dug well with updated concrete cribbing still serves the parish. The church itself is part on the larger religious complex that includes the priest's house, cemetery, and community hall and bell tower. Today the 1912 two-room log priest's house still stands. The bell tower built in 1916 remains complete with the original cross and the original bells. The 1912 hand dug well with updated concrete cribbing still serves the parish.

Constructed in 1928 the Holy Trinity Russo Greek Orthodox Church is also significant for its style and method of construction as it follows the building traditions of the prairie Byzantine church style. The Holy Trinity Russo Greek Orthodox Church is a wood frame church on a cruciform plan and has two small onion domes on octagonal drums that flank the west façade and a prominent central dome over the crossing, on a large octagonal drum and surmounted by an open octagonal cupola, which rests on a small onion dome and ball supporting a wrought-iron cross.

Construction of the church was completed under the direction of Harry Holowaychuk. Rev. Andrew Kokolsky was the parish priest at the time and to this day parishioners relate how Father Andrew helped lift the iron cross to the very top of the large dome where it was installed and still stands today. It remains a landmark and symbol of Orthodoxy in the Holy Trinity Church of Smoky Lake.

In addition, it is believed that the Holy Trinity site is one of the largest Russo Greek Orthodox cemeteries in Canada, with an estimated 1000 burials. Records show that 866 marked and recorded burials but there were also many, oft en of infant children during the Spanish Flu epidemic of 1918-20, that are unknown. Many of these graves had wooden crosses which have since disappeared. The markers deteriorated with age or fires and that were set to clear the grass and brush at the cemetery before the time of mowers and trimmers.



Character Defining Elements

Exterior Elements:

- Form, massing and orientation of the church on its site;
- One central onion shaped octagonal dome over main nave;
- Smaller octagonal onion shaped domes over front end of nave and over apse;
- Orthodox metal cross crowns each dome;
- Panes in semi-circular windows incorporate stained glass in the shape of a cross;
- Upper circular area retains a half wheel window;
- Apse with round wheel window;
- Building is located across Highway 28 from the Town of Smoky Lake;
- The grounds are well maintained with a mixture of conifer vegetation; and
- The cemetery is located east of the church within the same gated area the bell tower, church hall, and priest house.

Interior Elements:

- Spatial configuration includes nave, transepts, and sanctuary separated by an iconostas;
- Decorated iconostas with main and two side entrance doors to sanctuary;
- Altar baldachin (the ornamental structural canopy over the altar);
- Pilaster mouldings;
- Traditional painted icons and paintings;
- Furnishings, fittings and fixtures;
- Decorative elements to pillars and altar using grape motif;
- Choir loft with stair access; and
- Chandelier hanging from centre of domed ceiling.

PHOTOGRAPHIC DETAIL – EXTERIOR



appendices

5 Sample Designation Bylaw (cont)

PHOTOGRAPHIC DETAIL – INTERIOR



SCHEDULE "B"

This is Schedule "B" to Bylaw 1221-11 and identifies the "General Guidelines for Conservation" for the Holy Trinity Russo Greek Orthodox Church of Smoky Lake located on LSD 1 28-59-17 W4M.

GENERAL GUIDELINES FOR CONSERVATION

1. Approval of Development or Alterations

As per Section 26 (6) of the Alberta Historical Resources Act, notwithstanding any other Act, no person shall destroy, disturb, alter, restore or repair a Historic Resource or remove any historic object from a Historic Resource that has been designated under this Section, without the written approval from Council or person appointed by Council of that purpose.

Council has appointed the Municipal Planning Commission as the approving Authority for this purpose. Any development or alterations affecting the Holy Trinity Russo Greek Orthodox Church of Smoky Lake shall respect and conserve the heritage value and character defining elements identified in the Statement of Significance, in accordance with these General Guidelines for Conservation and as recommended in the Standards and Guidelines for the Conservation of Historic Places.

2. Compatible Uses

Wherever possible, the use of the Municipal Historic Resource shall be compatible with the existing building such that only minimal changes are required to the building. The use of the Municipal Historic Resource for its original purpose is desirable.

3. Original Character

The original distinctive qualities and character of the building as designated by the Municipal Historic Resource Bylaw should be preserved. The removal or alteration of any historical materials or features shall be avoided whenever possible.

4. The Historic Period

The Municipal Historic Resource should be recognized as a product of its own time. Alterations which are not based on historical fact or which recreate an earlier or later idiom shall be discouraged.

5. Witness to Change

Changes to the Municipal Historic Resource may have occurred over time. These alterations are evidence of the history and development of the building. Because this evolution may have acquired significance in its own right, alterations to the original building should be recognized and respected where indicated.

6. Repair and Replacement

Deteriorated architectural features shall be repaired rather than replaced wherever possible. Where replacement is necessary, the new material should match the original as to composition, colour, texture, design, etc. The repair or replacement of architectural features shall be based on a sound knowledge of the original characteristics of the features. Such knowledge shall be based on historical or pictorial evidence and not upon conjecture.

7. Style and Craftsmanship

Distinctive stylistic features and examples of skilled craftsmanship that have been designated by the Municipal Historic Resource Bylaw shall be preserved and treated sensitively.

8. Cleaning

In all cases, surface cleaning shall be undertaken with the gentlest means available. Sandblasting in particular, but also other cleaning methods, damage historic integrity and should not be undertaken without thorough testing prior to use on a building. Sandblasting is not recommended on brick, stone or wood. In all instances, it should be ascertained that a building exterior is really in need of cleaning prior to undertaking the work.

