

A HERITAGE STRATEGIC PLAN FOR WEST VANCOUVER

Adopted by Council
June 19, 2006



Porter Residence, 1948
Massey Medal Winner, 1952

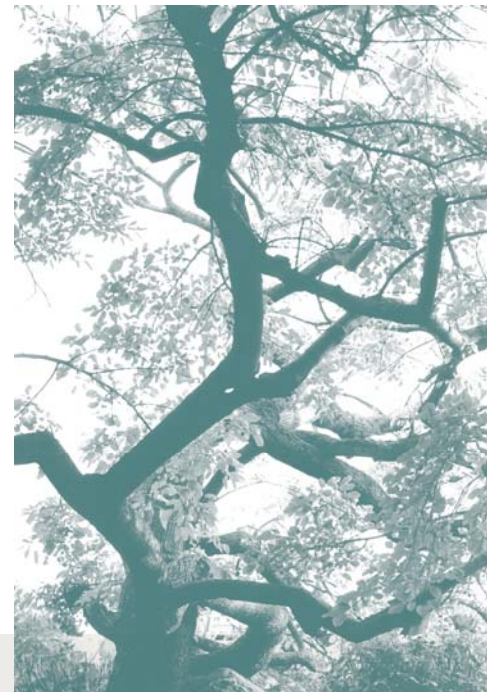
2006 – 2021

west vancouver

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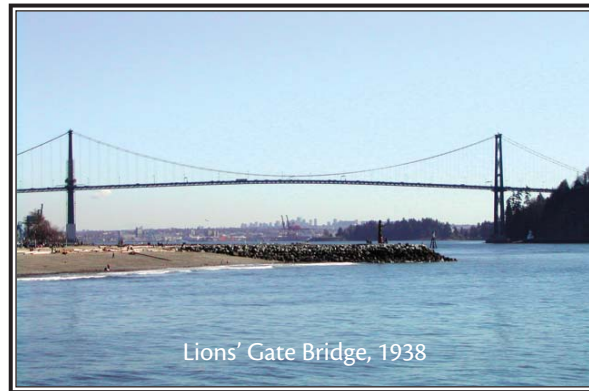
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Cover: Porter Residence, 1948
Massey Medal Winner, 1952

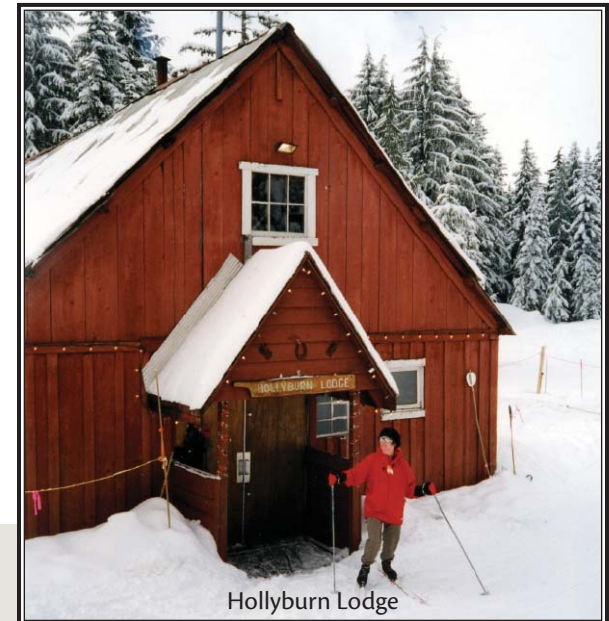




Vinson House, 1913



Lions' Gate Bridge, 1938



Hollyburn Lodge

background

The District of West Vancouver has initiated the preparation of a Heritage Strategic Plan, as a key step in the development of a formal heritage conservation program.

As a kick-off event for the planning process, the District hosted a one-day workshop on June 11, 2005 – “Heritage is Everybody’s Business – Lets Get Organized!” The purpose of this session was to bring together the key community stakeholders in heritage conservation – to reach a shared understanding of what constitutes our collective heritage, and how individual actions and projects can come together more effectively under a comprehensive heritage conservation program.

In April 2005, Council appointed a Heritage Plan Working Group to guide the development of a Heritage Strategic Plan. The Working Group is comprised of two members of Council, five members of the Heritage Advisory Committee and a representative of the West Vancouver Historical Society.

In August 2005, Commonwealth Historic Resource Management Limited was retained to assist the Working Group in preparing the Heritage Strategic Plan. This Plan provides the strategies and framework for developing an overall heritage management program for West Vancouver.

During April and May 2006, the District will be presenting the Heritage Strategic Plan at a community open house, and will be seeking input from Advisory Committees, heritage organizations, other community groups, and interested individuals.

The Plan will be presented to Council for its consideration in June 2006.



District Council, staff and the Heritage Advisory Committee will develop a detailed action plan for proceeding with high priority actions over the next 3 to 5 years, starting with community workshops, the preparation of a Community Heritage Register, and the examination of heritage conservation and incentive tools enabled by the Local Government Act.

community values

The natural heritage of West Vancouver is very highly valued.

Our built heritage is relatively young, and is appreciated within its natural setting and context.

West Vancouver is regarded as a 'community of neighbourhoods,' and the preservation of neighbourhood character is a widely held value.

West Vancouver is a distinct community, both aesthetically and culturally.

The community values arts, culture and heritage.

We define our **heritage** as...

What we have **inherited**,

what we **value**,

what we **believe in**,

and what we wish to **keep**.



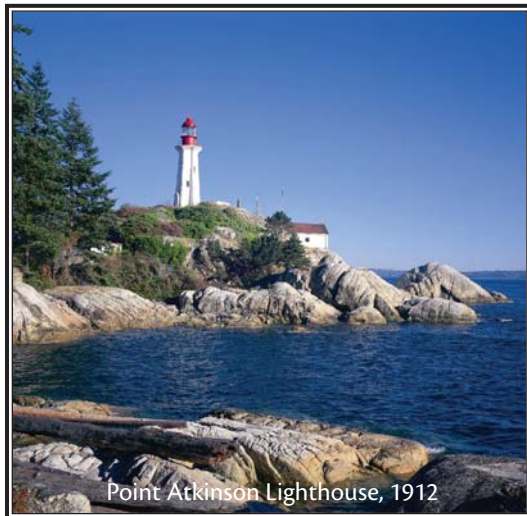
objectives

Develop a heritage policy that respects community values.

Develop a heritage management program that identifies and preserves the District's significant natural, built, and cultural heritage resources.

Undertake and support heritage-based activities that are accessible to all residents.

Bring heritage into the mainstream of municipal initiatives by integrating heritage into planning, administration, and educational processes and activities.



heritage strategic plan

District Council and staff will use the Heritage Strategic Plan to develop appropriate municipal policies, regulations, and incentive tools for heritage conservation over the next ten to fifteen years.

The Plan provides a shared vision for heritage in West Vancouver, and outlines strategies for conserving our heritage resources, enhancing the District's capacity to manage these resources, and raising public awareness about the value and benefits of heritage conservation.



Plint Residence, 1959



Rush House, 1923



vision

“Celebrating the special balance of natural, built, and cultural heritage by preserving and enhancing community resources and values into the future.”



Clovelly Walk Trail

STRATEGIES

heritage resources

1 Identify the District's natural, cultural and built heritage resources.

- 1.1 Create a Community Heritage Register.
- 1.2 Create an Inventory of significant natural resources.

2 Preserve and protect significant heritage resources.

- 2.1 Protect publicly-owned properties on the Community Heritage Register through Heritage Designation.
- 2.2 Require that resources which benefit from heritage incentives be protected by Heritage Designation and/or Heritage Revitalization Agreement.
- 2.3 Seek opportunities to designate properties listed on the Community Heritage Register that contain resources with high heritage value.

2.4 Use Heritage Conservation Areas as a means of preserving neighbourhood character, including natural and built heritage resources.

2.5 Adopt a District-wide bylaw to protect heritage trees.

3 Define and implement demonstration projects.

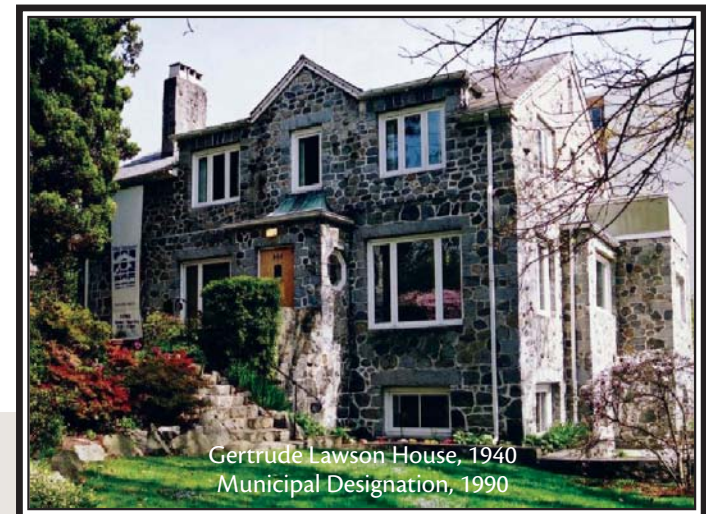
3.1 Implement heritage incentives on a demonstration basis with a property owner who wants to conserve a private house.

3.2 Produce a heritage stewardship plan for all District-owned heritage resources: Lighthouse Park, Old Growth Park, Navy Jack House, Gertrude Lawson House and the Ferry Building.

3.3 Develop a heritage management plan for Hollyburn Lodge in cooperation with Cypress Recreation Ltd.



Ferry Building Gallery



Gertrude Lawson House, 1940
Municipal Designation, 1990

STRATEGIES

policy and planning

4 Integrate heritage management into the overall municipal planning process.

- 4.1 Strengthen the heritage policy statements in the Official Community Plan (OCP).
- 4.2 Recognize significant natural, built, and cultural heritage resources within Neighbourhood Plans and Local Area Plans, and make recommendations for their management.
- 4.3 Ensure that respective processes of the various municipal departments whose responsibilities overlap with heritage management matters are compatible and fully integrated with each other.
- 4.4 Develop a process whereby a development application for a property listed on the Community Heritage Register is referred to the Planning Department and HAC for consideration.
- 4.5 Develop a process whereby a development application for a resource listed on the Natural Resource Inventory is considered by staff.

5 Introduce heritage incentives to encourage the conservation of heritage resources.

- 5.1 Introduce non-monetary incentives to encourage conservation of properties listed on the Community Heritage Register.
- 5.2 Consider financial incentives to encourage conservation of properties listed on the Community Heritage Register.
- 5.3 Provide accelerated consideration for conservation-related development proposals
- 5.4 Provide technical assistance to owners of properties on the Community Heritage Register.



STRATEGIES

infrastructure

6 Develop the District's capacity to manage heritage resources.

- 6.1 Establish the Heritage Advisory Committee (HAC) as a Community Heritage Commission according to the provisions of the Local Government Act.
- 6.2 Revise the Terms of Reference of HAC, as required, to enable it to respond to the strategies and actions recommended in this Plan.
- 6.3 Include an architect and a representative of a community natural heritage organization on HAC.
- 6.4 Facilitate heritage workshops for staff and Council on a regular basis.
- 6.5 Ensure that heritage planning and management is a fully acknowledged function of the Planning Department, and that adequate staff, training, and other resources are allocated to this function.

7 Develop sources of revenue for funding conservation.

- 7.1 Consider the creation of a West Vancouver Heritage Foundation, which would raise money to support private heritage conservation efforts.
- 7.2 Take advantage of funding programs offered by senior levels of government.

- 7.3 Encourage property owners to apply for financial incentives offered through the federal government's Historic Places Initiative.
- 7.4 Encourage not-for-profit groups to take advantage of the emerging funding programs of the BC Heritage Legacy Fund.

8 Develop a program of ongoing monitoring and renewal of the heritage management program.

- 8.1 Monitor the implementation of the strategies and actions outlined in this Plan.
- 8.2 Invite community input on the strengths and weaknesses of the District's heritage management activities.



STRATEGIES

awareness and communications

- 9 Raise public awareness and appreciation of the District's natural, cultural and built heritage resources.**
 - 9.1 Develop guided and self-guided tours of West Vancouver's heritage resources.
 - 9.2 Encourage and support festivals and special events that commemorate the diverse heritage of West Vancouver.
 - 9.3 Continue the West Vancouver Heritage Achievement Awards.
 - 9.4 Use the District's web site to make heritage information available to the public.
 - 9.5 Commemorate and communicate the value of the District's heritage resources with interpretive plaques and signs.
 - 9.6 Support initiatives to enhance awareness of local history by West Vancouver students.
- 10 Enhance partnerships between the District and the community to further the heritage program.**
 - 10.1 Seek the participation of local First Nations in the heritage management program.
 - 10.2 Make funds available to community heritage organizations to enhance their programming.
 - 10.3 Facilitate communication and cooperation among community heritage organizations.



Heritage Achievement Awards 2006

acknowledgements

Heritage Plan Working Group

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Community Stakeholders

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