## Spring 2018 Newsletter



Welcome to VHF's Spring 2018 newsletter. Inside these pages you can find key dates and listings for our spring workshops and lectures, and details on special events, along with updates on heritage happenings in Vancouver.

There is also information on projects and programs we are working on and details on how you can get involved. Whether you would like to volunteer your time, become a donor or sponsor an event or project, VHF grows with the contributions and partnerships formed with our community.

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The Heritage House Tour returns this June with some beautiful pre-1940s homes across Vancouver. Enjoy the late spring weather by spending the day touring inside significant and architecturally important heritage and character homes. You will learn about the history of our neighbourhoods, see impressive architecture and how homeowners live with heritage in 2018. There will also be opportunity to learn about energy efficiency upgrades of older homes, speak with homeowners and professionals in heritage and design, and experience the diversity of Vancouver's heritage and character homes.

Wondering what you can expect to see on the tour? The stunning home pictured above is sure to be a favourite for those who love a historic manor. A standout in the First Shaughnessy neighbourhood, this home was built in the 1920s and features intricate half-timbering and a handsome entry, which opens into a grand foyer complete with fireplace. We will also visit a restored 1912 home in Grandview and an Arts & Crafts gem in Point Grey among others. Tickets are available online or by calling the office.

**Sunday, June 3 10am - 5pm** \$40 / \$30 with valid student ID

## **OLD SCHOOL WORKSHOPS & COURSES**

Old School teaches homeowners and professionals skills and knowledge for the restoration and maintenance of older buildings.

This spring, Old School offers some favourites including Researching the History of a Building where attendees learn about the resources available at the City of Vancouver Archives.

Core course, Heritage 101 also returns, offering a solid introduction to heritage conservation and its framework in Vancouver, taught by former Senior Heritage Planner, Marco D'Agostini and Heritage Consultants, Judy Oberlander and Donald Luxton.

In April we take an in-depth look at the concerns and myths about the electrical systems of older homes. You'll learn about key issues to be aware of related to different types of wiring, and take home simple solutions that offer peace of mind.

Many of our programs are eligible for Professional Development credits including AIBC, PIBC, BCAAIC, BCSLA, IDIBC and BOABC.

Visit our website for more information.

## Researching the History of a Building: Vancouver

March 13, 6:30pm - 8:30pm, \$20

Discover with historian John Atkin how to research the unique stories of a building and learn vital information that can be used to guide future conservation decisions.

#### Heritage 101: An Introduction to Heritage Conservation

April 14, 9am - 5pm, \$125 (includes lunch)

A comprehensive introduction to the theory and practices that inform the conservation of heritage buildings and sites. An essential course for anyone working with historic buildings.

## **Electrical Safety in Older Buildings**

May 1, 6:30pm - 8:30pm, \$25

Identify key issues associated with various types of wiring, and discover simple solutions to ensure the safety of older homes with Brian Cook.

### **True Colours Workshop**

Date TBC

Learn about the historic exterior colours of Vancouver and key considerations in planning exterior painting.

#### **EVENING LECTURES AT HYCROFT**

1489 McRae Avenue Tuesdays, 7:30pm - 9pm \$15 / \$9 with valid student ID (inc. tax)

Located in beautiful Hycroft Manor, VHF's Evening Lectures offer illustrated talks that look at the history of Vancouver, covering the events, movements and people that have shaped our city.

Thank you to The University Women's Club of Vancouver

## Stanley Park: Digging Deeper and Rethinking **Cultural Heritage**

February 27

w/ Rena Soutar, Reconciliation Planner and Geordie Howe, Archaeologist with the Vancouver Board of Parks and Recreation

## Squat City: An Informal History of Squatters in **Vancouver**

March 20

w/ Daniel Francis, Historian and Author

## Themes, Subthemes and Memes: Telling History in a Different Way

April 24

w/ Don Luxton, Heritage Consultant and Author

## ARCHITECTURAL PHOTOGRAPHY WORKSHOP at THE ORPHEUM



The Orpheum is one of Vancouver's most beautiful interior spaces. An exuberant mix of Morrocan, Indian, British and Spanish inspiration, this incredible building is a photographer's dream. Join us for a 3-hour workshop and tour to explore the history and architecture of this National Historic Site. Historian John Atkin offers an introduction and tour of the unique architecture of the space, while professional architectural photographer, Martin Knowles offers guidance and tips on how to photograph the architecture. Martin will assist photographers of all levels to balance light, form and scale to make the most of the beautiful subject matter. Please bring your own camera or smartphone and any other photographic equipment (a tripod is recommended).

Saturday, March 10, 1pm - 4pm The Orpheum, 601 Smithe Street \$30

## SATURDAY NIGHT at PROHIBITION



## Saturday, February 3 6pm - 8pm \$50



Join us for a taste of 1920s glamour with era-appropriate cocktails\*, canapés and fascinating stories of Vancouver's Prohibition era. Start your evening with some Prohibition Punch and later enjoy a mixology demonstration with Bar Manager Robyn Gray and hear about bar tending of the Prohibition era. Sample a feature 1920s themed cocktail as Historian and Author Daniel Francis illuminates some of Vancouver's lesser known and seedier history of bootleggers and illegal stills. Discover who made millions

in the process and why the province gave up on Prohibition within four years and went into the liquor business for themselves.

The Prohibition bar offers an atmospheric venue to hear about this fascinating era of Vancouver's history. It opened in 2015 following the restoration of the historic Hotel Georgia. There will be chance to hear about the restoration of this landmark hotel during the evening from Architect Robert Lemon. Dressing in your 1920s finest evening attire is highly encouraged.

\*Please note non-alcoholic alternatives will be available upon request

## HERITAGE WEEK 2018

### February 19 - 25

Heritage Week is an early opportunity in the year to celebrate built heritage across BC and Canada. In 2018, the theme of "heritage stands the test of time" acknowledges the contributions historic places make to our communities generation over generation.

Here in Vancouver we are offering a series of events that explore our cultural legacy and the unique histories of Vancouver.

#### Gastown Revisited

February 24, 10am - 12pm, \$15

Explore some of the more recent interventions in Gastown with John Atkin and discover there's more to the district than initially meets the eye.

## Sunday Morning at Punjabi Market

February 25, 9:30am - 12pm, \$25

Enjoy a morning of cultural stories and history, authentic chai and treats while learning about the people and businesses that make this Vancouver neighbourhood special. You'll also enjoy a walking tour that highlights the past and looks towards the future of this vibrant area.

Thank you to event partner All India Sweets and Restaurant



**Places That Matter: Community Celebration** February 21, 6:30pm - 9pm (program 7pm - 8pm) Kitsilano Neighbourhood House (Main Hall), 2305 W 7th Ave

Drop by to learn about the local, cultural and lesser known history of our city. Discover the new Community History Resource, a website dedicated to celebrating Vancouver's history and heritage, and learn about the organizations making a difference in your community. From 7pm - 8pm local comedian Morgan Brayton will be the master of ceremonies as a series of speakers relay their personal stories about Places That Matter and we will also mark Heritage Week with a reading of the official proclamation. Refreshments will be available.

Thank you to event partner: Kitsilano Neighbourhood House

## WALKING TOURS: APRIL TO OCTOBER



All walking tours \$15/each (inc. tax)

Learn the unique stories of Vancouver's diverse cultures, neighbourhoods and sites from some of the cities most knowledgable guides. John Atkin returns this spring with a new series of fascinating and intriguing walking tours. We are also pleased to welcome two new walking tour guides in 2018, John Belshaw and Adrienne Brown, who will offer a new take on Vancouver's heritage sites and history.

Special event walking tours will also be offered throughout the season so be sure to sign up for our e-news or follow us on social media to be the first to know!

## VANCOUVER HOUSE STYLES UPDATE

We have been hard at work researching updates for the Vancouver House Styles webtool. Originally launched in 2010, Vancouver House Styles is a free, online resource about some of the most common architectural styles found in Vancouver homes. Heritage Resources Intern, Hannah Edmunds has been working with local historians and experts to identify additional styles and revise the original inclusions. In the coming months, we will be adding new pages that include historic and contemporary styles, such as the Traditional Longhouse and Millenium Builder.

Along with introducing new styles, we will also update many existing ones. For example, the Mid-Century Modern style will now be differentiated from the Mid-Century Builder (see example below) and Split-level Rancher. All styles will have more detailed photographs and more information to help identify Vancouver homes. We are also adding some new resources to improve user experience like Frequently Asked Questions and tools for further research.

#### Mid-Century Builder



The Mid-Century Builder emerged after WWII to provide inexpensive housing for returning soldiers and their families. These homes are common in suburban areas but can be found anywhere. As communities grew in the 1950s and 1960s, housing had to be built fast to accommodate them.

Function rather than style was its defining feature with

elements such as a hipped roof and no porch, with the main floor set almost a storey above grade and a basement level illuminated by large windows. Sometimes this style was called the "Strawberry Box" due to the similarity of its square foundation with the boxes used to hold strawberries.

## VHF SCHOOLS PROGRAM



Engaging young people more with Vancouver's history and heritage has long been an ambition for Vancouver Heritage Foundation. This year, we are getting started on the development of a program for school students and their teachers. Our first steps include plenty of research and consultation but as the year progresses we plan to work towards creating materials, project guides and implementation support. We will share updates during the year as the program shapes up.

If you have experience with elementary or high school curriculum and teaching, and are interested to share your expertise with the project team, please contact Special Projects Coordinator, Jessica Quan.

## THE WALL: CALL FOR PROPOSALS



In 2017, a new installation went up on The WALL at the CBC Plaza. Excavations by Michael Love was officially launched in November and will remain until later this year. His impossible structure, comprised of a number of archival images, expresses the challenge of piecing together a complete history through the archive and its inherent biases. Visit the CBC building at 700 Hamilton Street to read the full artist statement and view the larger-than-life artwork.

If you or someone you know has an original idea for the 2018 WALL installation, be sure to check our website this February as a new call for proposals will be released in coming weeks.

## MAP GUIDES UPDATE



Houses on Jackson Street

For the past two summers, VHF Summer Interns with the help of local authors and historians have been researching and updating our series of historic map guides. Using more recently created publications as inspiration, such as the Historic West Hastings guide, the older guides are being updated and modernized. Currently we are finalizing the Historic Japanese Canadian District guide and the Chinatown guide. Both will include new information as well as updated and new site descriptions and images.

Once complete, the guides will be available to download for free from our website. We are also looking for sponsors to help with the cost of re-printing hard copies for distribution.

If you are interested in becoming a map guide sponsor, please contact our office.

## PERSPECTIVES at THE VANCOUVER LOOKOUT



In the fall of 2017, we partnered with the Vancouver Lookout to celebrate both VHF's 25th anniversary and the Lookout's 40th anniversary. Utilizing the impressive 360 degree view as inspiration, a series

of speakers offered insight and information on various historic and modern topics. Embracing cultural history, entertainment legacies, early police stories and our built heritage, each event showcased a different part of the city which could be viewed from the observation deck. Attendees were invited to stay after each talk to enjoy the incredible view.

## PLACES THAT MATTER: FRANCOPHONE VILLAGE



The Places That Matter plaque project celebrated Vancouver's Francophone history with a plaque presentation at the Saint-Sacrement Church, President of Société historique francophone de la Colombie-Britannique, Maurice Guibord

spoke about the importance of the presentation site to the French-speaking community, and several pioneers of the area relayed their personal stories. The plague will be installed in the front of Saint-Sacrement Church on Heather Street.

## VANCOUVER BY NIGHT BUS TOUR



After a successful inaugural run in 2016, another group of adventurers hopped aboard a bus once again to discover a new selection of mystery locations around the city. Vancouver's rain did not dampen

a fun evening, as guests were treated to a behind-the-scenes tour of the Pacific Central train station and private after hours access to the Vancouver Lookout, the Marine Building and the Lim Sai Hor Kow Mok Benevolent Association Building while it was undergoing restoration work.

## CITY DRINKS at THE VANCOUVER CLUB



On October 3rd, 140 guests attended City Drinks, a now annual fundraising event that supports VHF programs and projects. This year we were hosted by the historic Vancouver Club, which has ties to Vancouver's early development as a city and speaks to

the evolving place West Hastings Street has had in the city. With a backdrop of jazz from local chanteuse Andrea Superstein and friends, guests also enjoyed a silent auction and tours of the club usually only afforded to members. The evening raised over \$27,000. Thank you to all who attended and to those who donated auction items.

## **VHF GRANTS**



In 2018 we have expanded the grant threshold for Restore It and True Colours grants to a maximum of \$7,500 (maximum of 50% of the cost of the project) for the right projects. This will allow us to more significantly assist great heritage conservation work. We are also still able to help with listing a site or building on the Vancouver Heritage Register with the Get on the Register grant, or with maintenance and conservation planning through the House Call grant.

The Heritage Energy Retrofit Grant is still accepting applications until October of 2018. This grant can assist with energy retrofits and water efficiency measures that will improve comfort, reduce energy consumption, greenhouse gas emissions, water use and running costs in ways compatible with the conservation of heritage fabric and character elements. Homes must be built in Vancouver before 1940 or be on the Vancouver Heritage Register to be eligible. To date, 36 homes are in the program or have completed since the renewal of the program in late 2016.

For more information on any of our grants, including specific eligibility requirements for each, visit vancouverheritagefoundation.org/get-a-grant.

Lim Association Building, 2017 Grant Recipient

## HERITAGE IN VANCOUVER

#### **Burrard Bridge Restoration Update**



VHF and others in the heritage community have worked for many years to see the Burrard Bridge restored. Recent months have seen two important developments. In October, the newly reinstated historic lighting of lamp standards and sconces was turned on for the first time. The rep-

lica fixtures bring the bridge closer to its original design and provide welcome pedestrian-scale lighting on this popular route for walking and biking.

In January, a special ceremony was held to relight the four brazier lights and highlight their memorial role. With the bridge architect and engineer both veterans, the braziers were designed to remind of those used for warmth by soldiers in the First World War. The braziers now have a bronze plague that recognizes the service by all Canadians in wars and peacekeeping missions.

Representatives from the City of Vancouver, Government of Canada, Aboriginal veterans and the Royal United Services Institute along with VHF Chair of the Board, David Dove and Heritage Consultant Donald Luxton spoke about the significance of this restoration on the 100 years anniversary of the end of the First World War. The new LED lighting installed in the braziers returns a significant character element to the iconic bridge, as identified in a VHF commissioned heritage lighting study from 2005. Both of these lighting initiatives are important achievements.



### **Heritage Action Plan Update**



After a lengthy consultation process, Council approved incentives for character homes in RS zones across the city. These include the opportunity for additional floor area, additional infill and multiple conversion dwelling options, and relaxed regulations when

a character home is retained. VHF provided detailed input during the development process. It is hoped these incentives will encourage the preservation of older homes that connect to the history of the city, and contribute to the unique character of our neighbourhoods as well as sustainability goals.

A review and update of the City's Heritage Conservation Program, a key part of the Heritage Action Plan, is due to be brought forward during 2018. The Heritage Register and financial or other incentives for heritage conservation are key components. Improvements in the program are essential to ensuring built heritage is an integral part of neighbourhoods moving forward.

#### **Improvements for Heritage Projects**



In 2017, we continued to emphasize the need to make it easier for projects to preserve heritage fabric and to proceed in a timely manner. We recently conducted a survey of those who work on residential retention projects to get their feedback on the ap-

provals and permits process as well as the energy efficiency requirements in the Vancouver Building By-Law. With their responses, we were able to provide City staff with a summary of clear feedback to assist in identifying problems and how they could be improved. In December, changes to the energy efficiency requirements for heritage and character residential retention projects were approved by Council with implementation planned for the spring. We will continue to provide input and seek further improvements as well as support clear communication to owners and professionals.

## FROM THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

As we launch a new year of programming and initiatives, we are looking forward to further highlighting and celebrating heritage buildings and places, and how they are such an important part of our city. The Heritage House Tour on June 3rd will be our biggest event of the year and one not to miss. But there are lots of other events planned with a variety of ways to be involved, enjoy heritage places, learn some history or gain new skills.

The lesser-known history and special community places in our neighbourhoods continue to surprise, educate and inspire. The Places That Matter project offers a key way to explore the city more deeply and share your own stories so do take time to visit the new Community History Resource website and get in touch with us.

Heritage Week in February offers a great chance to put heritage places on your calendar early in the year and join VHF and others across Canada in celebrating the value of heritage places. But there are more opportunities to follow and I hope to see you at a VHF event this spring!

**Judith Mosley Executive Director** 

## MESSAGE FROM THE BOARD



Vancouver Heritage Foundation continues to play a critical role in safeguarding the future of our city's heritage buildings and places. It is as important as ever to create opportunities for people to learn about Vancouver's history, its heritage places and how to look after them. For 2018, VHF has lots planned including fresh activities to keep reaching out to Vancouverites who value our city's heritage or who want to get involved. This includes a new initiative to extend programming to school age students and their teachers.

Last year we celebrated our 25th anniversary as a not-for-profit organization as well as enjoyed the 15th annual Heritage House

Tour. These milestones also offered opportunity to review and refresh our strategic action plan, giving us renewed focus on growing VHF's impact and building on the hard work and support of so many who have contributed.

At times it takes sustained effort and patience to achieve results as was the case with the restoration and reinstatement of heritage lighting on the Burrard Bridge which VHF started working toward in 2005. Thank you to all who have supported Vancouver Heritage Foundation over its first 25 years. We hope to have your continued support and involvement in our effort to highlight the value and potential of our city's heritage places.

> David Dove Chair of the Board of Directors

## **FUNDRAISING UPDATE**

Thank you to everyone who donated and supported us through our annual campaign which runs in the closing months of every year. As a registered charity VHF relies on private donations to deliver as much as we do and we greatly appreciate every donation.

There are many ways to support VHF. While the annual fundraising campaign is an important funding source, we accept donations year round and can set up monthly automatic payments. We are also seeking donations for our live and silent auction at our fall fundraiser.

You can also consider a legacy donation and join long-time VHF supporters like Robert Lemon and Donald Luxton in bequeathing a gift to VHF from your estate. Your gift could help support VHF's work for the long term or help us establish a significant new program. Please contact us to learn more about ways to donate or to discuss a planned gift. However you choose to support VHF, we greatly appreciate every contribution.

## **VOLUNTEERING**



VHF invites volunteers to sign up for our first 2018 house tour. If you are interested in helping out on tour day for the Heritage House Tour on June 3rd, please send an email to Caili at caili@vancouverheritagefoundation.org. We are always looking for people with a passion for heritage to join our volunteer team. If this sounds like you, please don't hesitate to get in touch!

If you have not previously volunteered with us but would like to find out more, please visit the Get Involved section of our website to

read the volunteer guidelines on the Volunteer With VHF page. You can learn about current opportunities and expectations. Below that is a link to sign up.

#### VANCOUVER HERITAGE FOUNDATION

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#### ABOUT VHF

Vancouver Heritage Foundation promotes the appreciation and conservation of our city's historic places for current and future generations.



# VANCOUVER **HERITAGE** FOUNDATION Spring 2018 Newsletter

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