

ATTACHMENT B

HERITAGE HOME GRANT PROGRAM PURPOSE AND CONDITIONS

Created by Council in 2006, the purpose of the Heritage Home Grant Program is to enhance and conserve Nanaimo's historic residential building resources. To achieve this objective the program provides financial assistance to structural and exterior building improvements which follow the Federal Government's Standards and Guidelines for the Conservation of Historic Places in Canada.

The City of Nanaimo has committed to providing financial incentives for heritage buildings as part of its economic development and revitalization strategy. Incentives are intended for the rehabilitation and enhancement of historic buildings, as well as to promote investment in historic residential neighbourhoods, thereby enhancing the neighbourhood's historic building stock and long term livability.

This program mirrors similar heritage home incentive programs in cities such as Vancouver and Victoria that have been in existence for many years and have encouraged home owners in historic residential areas to fix up and maintain their historic homes.

Grants will cover up to 50% of total project cost, to a maximum of \$2,500 per building, and are available on a first come, first served basis. To date, \$51,182.91 has been paid out under the grant program for 21 exterior building facade improvements leveraging \$187,151.22 in private investment.

Should Council approve the grant, the following conditions will also apply as specified under the program:

- The project must be fully completed prior to payment of the grant.
- The owner must agree to register a Heritage Conservation Covenant on the property prohibiting demolition or exterior alteration of the building, unless the City approves these actions.
- Work must be substantially underway within six months of grant approval and completed within one year.
- Work must be of good quality, meet appropriate building/fire codes or approved equivalent, comply with existing bylaws, be conducted in accordance with a valid building permit (if applicable), and pass municipal inspections.
- Works is subject to inspection. If, during the course of the project, it is determined that the work fails to adhere to the program guidelines, then the award of the grant, in whole or in part, may be rescinded.
- The owner will agree to mount a small metal plaque in close proximity to the home's main entrance provided by the City indicating the home's heritage status.
- The applicant shall not involve the City of Nanaimo in any legal action between him/her and any contractors, estimators, employees, workers or agents arising from or out of the Heritage Home Grant project.