

Chair's Message

For governors of the Heritage Canada Foundation, the heavy responsibility of guiding a multimillion-dollar, non-profit organization toward an ever-stronger national trust role is balanced three times each year by the great privilege of being able to visit portions of our vast country. Part of that privilege is being able to explore historic sites and areas

in communities across Canada and to come to understand the local heritage issues. But a great part of that privilege is the opportunity to meet those of you who labour tirelessly to preserve buildings, streetscapes, heritage districts and cultural landscapes in your own communities and regions. We take those opportunities seriously, and find every possible occasion to discuss with you the matters that concern us all. I have been impressed by your commitment to create an awareness of the importance of Canada's architectural heritage. We are heartened by the growing support you have given the foundation's efforts to advocate the need for every heritage project to have access to a full kit of preservation tools—effective legislation,

protective covenants, direct grants, loans and private financial support, appropriate tax measures, educational and technical training programs, and heritage-sensitive decision makers. It is only when that tool-kit is full and working well that the built environment will be secured. If you have not already done so, join and support the work of the Heritage Canada Foundation. Encourage your friends and colleagues to do the same. Together, we can reverse the trend that has destroyed almost one quarter of our heritage in a generation. And that will be the greatest privilege of all.

Trudy Cowan,

Chair, Heritage Canada Foundation