



National Trust for Canada

1. What will your party do to ensure that the Canadian tax system encourages the preservation or rehabilitation of Canada's heritage buildings?

As communities across Canada struggle with austerity and crumbling infrastructure, too often programs that protect and preserve our heritage are among the first to be cut. To pull investment in the preservation of our heritage for future generations is not merely shortsighted, it prevents us from providing exceptional cultural services - the best museums and cultural activities, the finest National Park system - and limits our potential for a robust tourism economy.

We believe that ending the Commercial Heritage Properties Incentive Fund was a mistake. We need to invest in our heritage properties. The Green Party would absolutely consider heritage incentives such as grants or tax relief or other tools to help preserve cultural heritage. We will study the model of the the United States Historic Preservation Tax Incentives Program and develop the best possible regime to protect Canadian heritage.

2. Does your party support the creation of national "heritage first" legislation?

Instead of demolishing heritage buildings, we should provide incentives to rehabilitate them. Heritage First legislation is an effective way to reach that goal. We will work with the National Trust for Canada to develop the best framework to protect our heritage buildings.