



Heritage Places Strategy Summary

Spring 2026

The City of Edmonton is reimagining how to identify, commemorate, and preserve the places that matter most to Edmontonians through the creation of a new **Heritage Places Strategy**. This is about more than historic buildings -- it's about the natural spaces, cultural landscapes, and community landmarks that tell our collective story. The strategy will replace Edmonton's current [Historic Resource Management Plan](#) (2009) to create a new strategy that includes diverse histories, voices and places. The strategy will consider [The City Plan](#), the [City of Edmonton's Indigenous Framework](#), reconciliation, climate resilience, economic development and other Council priorities.

The draft **strategy** is available for review and feedback as part of the third and final phase of engagement. This high-level **summary** provides a quick snapshot of what the draft strategy includes. Visit the edmonton.ca/historicresources to view the full draft strategy and provide your feedback until April 19th, 2026.

Heritage Places Strategy Overview

The Heritage Places Strategy offers recommendations and guidance to City Council, City Administration, Indigenous partners, heritage partners, community organizations and residents. The document includes four main sections:

- **Background** - summarizes the engagement feedback, research from other cities, and review of existing City policies
- **Guiding Principles** - expresses the shared values and ways of working
- **Pillars** - includes the focus areas and the recommended directions
- **Implementation** - describes activities that will help achieve the directions under the Pillars



Background

Making the Strategy

The Heritage Places Strategy launched as a project in spring 2025 and was developed in three phases. Engagement with partners and the public was an important part of each phase. The project team engaged with Indigenous Partners, heritage partners, underrepresented groups, and the public. For a full summary, refer to the [Phase 1 What We Heard Report](#) and the [Phase 2 What We Heard Report](#). In addition to engagement feedback, the project team considered City policies and guidelines and research from other cities.

Guiding Principles

The Guiding Principles express shared values to guide all the strategy and its implementation.

- **Inclusive:** Reflect Indigenous, racialized, 2SLGBTQIA+ histories, and settler heritage.
- **Integrated:** Connect heritage goals with broader City priorities, including climate, housing, and economic development.
- **Community-Led:** Support grassroots storytelling and stewardship.
- **Living and Evolving:** Embrace heritage as dynamic, connecting past, present, and future.
- **Visible and Accessible:** Make heritage visible in public space, infrastructure, and everyday life.
- **Collaborative:** Enable meaningful partnerships between communities, the City, and heritage organizations.

Pillars and Directions

The Pillars are the updated focus areas for the heritage strategy based on engagement feedback, the project team's research from other municipalities and connections with existing City policies. Under each Pillar are "directions" informing heritage goals which are recommended for implementation by the City and its partners. View the full draft **strategy** to read the recommended directions in full.



- The **Natural Heritage** Pillar recognizes the importance of natural features, including landscapes, open and park spaces, trees and geological formations. There are **six directions** recommended.
- The **Indigenous Heritage** Pillar recognizes First Nations, Métis, and Inuit histories, languages, cultural practices, and relationships to land and water. There are **six directions** recommended.
- The **Community and Cultural Heritage** Pillar recognizes local histories and places of significance to diverse communities. There are **seven directions** recommended.
- The **Built Heritage** Pillar recognizes buildings and/or structures with historic, architectural, or cultural value. There are **seventeen directions** recommended.

Implementation

This section outlines the activities, timelines, resourcing, ongoing communication and engagement, and monitoring. While the Directions under each Pillar provide ongoing guidance, the Implementation Activities are specific and discrete tasks. Based on the engagement feedback and project team's analysis, six activities have been developed:

- Indigenous Stewardship and Partnership
- Community-led Storytelling and Interpretation
- Heritage Awareness and Promotion
- City-owned Heritage Stewardship and Leadership
- Incentives
- Heritage Areas and Context-Based Conservation

View the **strategy** to read about each activity in more detail.

Next Steps

Thank you to all partners and members of the public who have helped shape the strategy to this point. Share your input on the draft strategy to identify possible adjustments. Phase 3 engagement is open until April 19th, 2026. Following this final phase of engagement, the Heritage Places Strategy will be presented to Council in summer 2026. Visit edmonton.ca/historicresources to learn more.