

BC Heritage Capacity Fact Sheet – 2019



Every year local governments provide information through the Heritage Capacity and Economic Impact (HCEI) Survey¹ to help the Province of BC assess heritage conservation capacity, support policy planning, and measure economic impact. The survey provides a snapshot of heritage conservation activities across the province as reported by participating local governments.

The Fact Sheet summarizes results of the HCEI survey and statistics from the Heritage Branch's BC Register of Historic Places. BC Stats administered the 2019 Survey on behalf of the Heritage Branch, collecting information from 71 of 190 local governments and extrapolating² the results to approximate the responses for all 190 local governments.

Indicators of Heritage Conservation Capacity for Local Governments



BC Register of Historic Places

There are 5,292 provincial and municipal sites listed on the register and protected as of December 31, 2019.

The Heritage Branch encourages local governments to submit fully documented heritage sites to the [BC Register](#) so a complete picture of historic places across the province can be accessible to the public.



266 Additions to the BC Register in 2019

26 Heritage Designations in 2019 as reported to the BC Register

6 Removals reported to the BC Register in 2019. Although an uncommon occurrence, a total of 64 sites have been removed from the BC Register.

Heritage Administration at Local Governments



154 full-time equivalent municipal staff work on heritage planning and projects



53% of local governments own **551** historic places and spent **\$11,861,256** on their preservation, rehabilitation, or restoration in 2019



71% of local government-owned historic places generated **\$10,489,303** in revenue in 2019

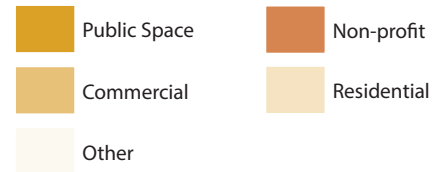
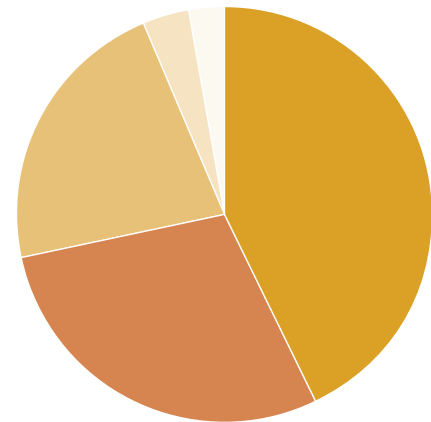


33% of local governments use the *Standards and Guidelines for the Conservation of Historic Places in Canada*



68% of local governments reported working with **Indigenous governments, organizations** or **individuals** on heritage conservation matters in 2019

USES OF HISTORIC PLACES OWNED BY LOCAL GOVERNMENTS

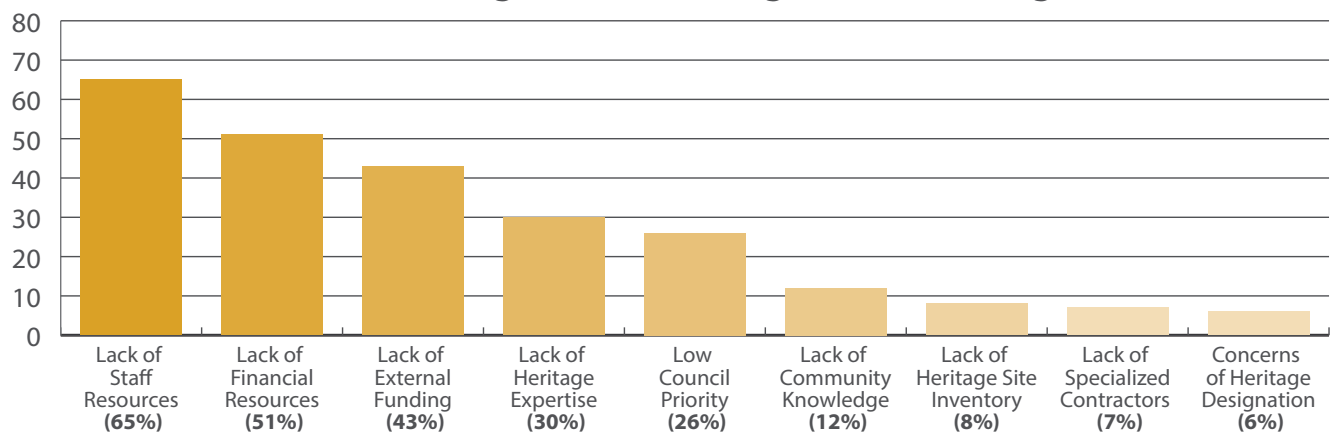


Environmental Benefits of Conserving Historic Places

30% of local governments reported that environmental benefits factored into their planning decisions to conserve historic buildings. The most cited environmental benefits that factored into their decisions include:

1. Conserves resources and energy inherent in existing buildings
2. Reduces waste in landfills from demolition
3. Provides opportunity to reuse and recycle construction materials
4. Reduces energy consumption versus energy to construct new buildings

Local Government Challenges of Protecting and Promoting Historic Places



Contact the Heritage Branch at heritage@gov.bc.ca or 250-356-1432 for more information about the survey

1 Formerly called the Building Capacity for Heritage Conservation Survey

2 Final results were weighted based on government type (municipalities or local government and regional district) and population size (<10,000, 10,000-80,000, >80,000).