

Heritage Policy





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PRÉAMBULE

The development of a Heritage Policy for the City of Dieppe is the result of much consideration and effort, which have shed light on the need to identify, protect and promote the community's rich heritage, as well as enhance its visibility. Efforts over the years have consisted of the inclusion of heritage in the City's Strategic Plan and Cultural Policy, the establishment of various commemorative places and the organization of heritage-focused events.

The City of Dieppe already incorporates heritage into its commitments. In its Strategic Plan 2013–2016, the City made heritage a part of its value of pride, stating: "We are proud of our Francophone Acadian heritage and our ability to provide service in both French and English." Moreover, its community development strategic area reads as follows: "Dieppe residents are proud of their community and recognize the importance of contributing to its development. They value its Francophone identity, Acadian heritage, vitality, family-friendly initiatives and its array of bilingual services."

In June 2013, the City of Dieppe adopted a cultural policy that includes collective heritage as one of the four policy directions. One of this policy direction aims at "[promoting] local heritage [that] places focus on our history," where "Dieppe contributes to the preservation and development of our heritage assets, including artefacts, buildings and historic sites." To do this, the cultural policy lists three strategies: 1) protect heritage buildings in the city; 2) promote local heritage; and 3) encourage support for public art.

This new policy is both broader, in that it discusses various types of heritage, and more specific, as it outlines concrete objectives and actions for heritage development.

The policy was prepared by a group of residents and stakeholders supported by municipal staff. The work was carried out in 2014 with the help of a facilitator. After conducting document research and reviewing heritage policies from various cities across the country, the group reached a consensus and submitted a proposal to Dieppe city council.



DÉFINITION

Heritage comprises an increasingly larger number of components, from places, buildings, monuments and objects, to vestiges, documents and knowledge. It is up to the entire community to recognize and preserve it, and to make it its own through wide-ranging but consistent actions.

The City of Dieppe has already accomplished some of this, but there is still much left to do. In order for the City and the community to target their actions, the scope of heritage in the municipality must first be defined.

THE CITY OF DIEPPE'S DEFINITION OF HERITAGE

Heritage is an evolving, living entity made up of any tangible or intangible, natural or cultural asset or set of assets that the community recognizes for its values as vestiges and historical memory. Heritage does not just reflect our past; it also interacts with the present and the future.

This definition shows that heritage is constantly evolving and that, in its own way, it shapes the community's future.



DESCRIPTION



Based on the above definition, the City of Dieppe has identified four recognized types of heritage, which it describes as follows:

1

Natural heritage entails natural areas, sites and elements consisting of physical, biological and hydrographic formations of significant value to the Dieppe population.

Examples: geology, topography, farmland, fauna, flora, trees, living environments, natural landscapes, creeks, marshes, riparian areas, etc.

2

Built heritage includes buildings, monuments and structures that are fixed to the ground and that document the way in which the community has adapted its surroundings based on its social and cultural development.

Examples: houses, monuments, churches, historic buildings, historical remains, archaeological sites, orchards, parks, sports fields, hiking and cycling trails, airports, urban features, aboiteau and dyke systems, escarpments, etc.

3

Movable heritage consists of physical, non-fixed elements such as objects, assets, artefacts, tangible artistic creations and archival documents kept in their original location or in a designated place [not to say “museum”] in order to enhance knowledge about and appreciation of the city’s material culture.

Examples: artistic collections, art objects, artefacts, archives, street furniture, etc.

4

Intangible heritage refers to knowledge and intellectual capital possessed and transmitted by individuals (bearers of tradition). These historical accounts, gestures and creations help preserve and foster our community’s oral culture and culture of expression.

Examples: toponymy, odonyms, life stories, tales and legends, song, dance, traditional music, intangible artistic creations, artisanal techniques, culinary arts, traditional crafts, etc.

BASIS

The Heritage Policy for the City of Dieppe is based on five pillars that will underlie all actions in the coming years, incorporating heritage into the core of community development.



1

Heritage, a pillar of Dieppe identity

- a. that is a fundamental facet of cultural life;
- b. that is an essential component of the urban landscape through which residents identify with the community, with a place or with their environment;
- c. that reflects the city's uniqueness and distinct character;
- d. that fosters a greater understanding of where the community comes from and what it has accomplished.

2

Heritage, vital wealth

- a. that is imbued with a vulnerable, fragile and non-renewable collective legacy;
- b. that ensures preservation and transmission to present and future generations;
- c. that is rich in resources and treasures that need to be preserved in all their forms (natural, built, movable and intangible heritage);
- d. whose elements not only drive local interest, but also spread beyond city limits to promote it on a wider stage;
- e. within which there is rich heritage that has yet to be discovered and explored;
- f. that serves to convey educational values;
- g. where all types of heritage are important.

3

Heritage, an ever-changing concept

- a. that is attributed by the people based on their sense of it in a given context;
- b. to which the community assigns the elements of memory and belonging it finds essential;
- c. for which residents must first have some knowledge of heritage potential to be able to assign value;
- d. where heritage is not just a static representation of the past;
- e. that is vast and diverse and that grows richer and evolves continually;
- f. that needs to be constantly adapted according to new knowledge and changes in people's values and sensibilities.

4

Heritage, a factor of sustainable local development

- a. that is also a factor of social, cultural, tourism and economic development that contributes to the quality of life of all residents and to community vitality and outreach;
- b. whose preservation is in keeping with sustainable development principles, as it retains and transmits the values, culture, assets and resources of a community from generation to generation.

5

Heritage, collective wealth to be embraced and shared

- a. by the City, which ensures its development and promotion, in close cooperation with community stakeholders and the community;
- b. by encouraging access to various forms of heritage;
- c. where the transmission of heritage is a challenge and a responsibility shared by all residents and stakeholders;
- d. whose protection requires a common vision of heritage and civic engagement so that the community's shared interests are safeguarded.





PRIORITY AREAS

The Heritage Policy targets four priority areas: research, protection, awareness and education, and promotion. The City of Dieppe takes action at various levels in each of these priority areas and calls on other community stakeholders to ensure their development.

1

Research

Research is a crucial factor in being informed before acting. The City will support research into its heritage.

2

Protection

The City of Dieppe and its partners will take a leadership role in heritage protection. Residents will be encouraged to protect heritage.

3

Awareness and education

Awareness and education are vital to managing heritage. The focus of this priority area depends on the positioning that the municipality wants to give to heritage.

4

Promotion

Heritage will be promoted in various ways depending on the needs of the community. This promotion will take place through interpretation and dissemination.

OBJECTIVES BY PRIORITY AREA

The objectives of the Heritage Policy for the City of Dieppe are set out by priority area to enhance heritage and incorporate it into its development. Specific actions and expected results will be determined for each objective, which will be assessed annually to measure the outcomes of the Heritage Policy.

1

Research

- a. Create a heritage data bank and make it accessible to all heritage stakeholders in the community
- b. Encourage the community to consult various heritage studies
- c. Identify appropriate places for document and archive storage and provide access to them
- d. Ensure knowledge acquisition for each type of heritage
- e. Facilitate heritage studies and research for schools and students
- f. Work closely with owners of heritage assets to determine their heritage value

2

Protection

- a. Preserve the characteristics of each type of heritage to be identified as important by the municipality
- b. Ensure heritage is properly protected, in cooperation with community partners
- c. Improve the know-how and specialized expertise in heritage restoration

3

Awareness and education

- a. Demonstrate to economic, tourism, cultural and education stakeholders that heritage is important to development
- b. Promote the role every resident can play in preserving heritage
- c. Raise awareness of the principles of heritage restoration, conservation and promotion among stakeholders and owners
- d. Create heritage-themed events and programs to encourage schools, students and the community to participate
- e. Develop policies and regulations to safeguard Dieppe's heritage

4

Promotion

- a. Create a heritage image for the municipality
- b. Incorporate the City's heritage image into the various written and digital publications
- c. Increase the visibility of the various heritage components within the Dieppe community
- d. Encourage the various agencies of Dieppe to showcase the city's heritage
- e. Support the various agencies in their actions to promote this heritage
- f. Incorporate heritage into activities organized by the City of Dieppe



IMPLEMENTATION ACTION PLAN

There is a pressing need to place greater focus on Dieppe's heritage. To do this, the administration will call on the public to support the City in implementing the Heritage Policy once it is adopted.

An action plan will be developed to determine the order in which the priorities are to be achieved. This plan will be assessed on an ongoing basis and will be updated periodically.



THANK YOU

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