



Municipal Historic Designation is a fait accompli !

The request for historic designation presented in May 2012 to the City of Winnipeg's Heritage Committee by the St. Boniface Cathedral Parish was presented to the *Standing Policy Committee on Downtown Redevelopment and Riverbank Management* on Tuesday January 8, 2013.

It was recommended by the Heritage Committee that the Cathedral and its cemetery receive the Municipal Grade 1 designation on the City of Winnipeg's list of historic buildings. Only eight other buildings in Winnipeg, including the Musée de Saint-Boniface, have been granted such a designation (see website:

http://www.winnipeg.ca/ppd/historic/historic_conservlist.stm).

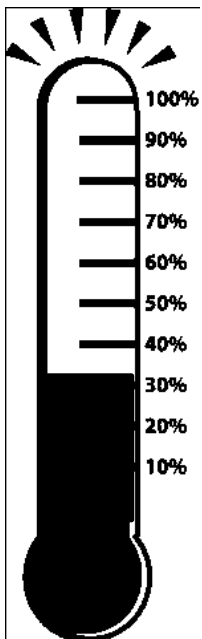
Fortunately, members of the Standing Policy Committee voted unanimously in favor.



CTV Morning Live and CBC were at the St. Boniface Cathedral site and at City Hall to witness this important moment. Gerald Labossière - co-chair of the Renewal Campaign, Philippe Mailhot - member of the Cathedral's heritage committee of the Cathedral, and Julie Turenne-Maynard - Renewal's project Manager, we all interviewed.

This new designation will open the door to potential financial contributions on behalf of the City of Winnipeg towards the Cathedral's Renewal Project. A meeting is scheduled for February.

Fall Parish Campaign update - Goal \$ 1,000,000



Between December 15th, 2012 and January 15th, 2013, the parish campaign has received \$36,830 in donations towards the Cathedral's renovations.

Overall, the Renewal campaign has reached **31,6%, with \$ 315,815 of its \$ 1,000,000 goal.**

Recent contributions from priests, friends of the Cathedral and Diocese have helped us reach 73% of our parish goal and 25% of our Heritage and Community goal; \$ 3,038,000 of our \$ 6,000,000 total budget.

Questions?

Would you like to meet a member of the committee to discuss donation options?

Do not hesitate to contact one of the following:

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Always Welcoming

The Parish Pastoral Council of the Cathedral wants to be more welcoming towards parishioners and visitors. This has been manifested with the creation of a series of initiatives aimed at strengthening the bonds with the community. "The goal is to make the St. Boniface Cathedral a community gathering place rather than a place of worship alone," indicates the President of the Parish Pastoral Council, Claudette Savard. We want to develop a sense of belonging among parishioners in order for them to feel like they are part of a community but also to feel like they are at home here. We also hope visitors will leave the Cathedral feeling fulfilled. "We would also like to extend a warm welcome to all members of our diocese during our diocesan celebrations."

A Deep Exchange

Within this context, for the last two years, the committee has organized a party for volunteers. "This is to thank the people who volunteer their time at the Cathedral," expressed Claudette Savard. "Dinner is served and we host a series of games designed to encourage exchanges between participants." It is also within this context that the Cathedral hosts coffee meets-and-greets after each mass. "We want to provide an opportunity for parishioners to meet and get to know each other," added the president.

Respected Traditions



The new vision of the Parish Pastoral Council of the Cathedral is also to extend their hospitality towards new immigrants. "Our efforts are currently directed especially toward newcomers from Africa, many of whom settle in our province," said Claudette Savard. "Last year, for example, the Easter Vigil confirmation of a young African woman included a very special water ceremony. African women with water jugs on their heads entered the Cathedral to the sound of drums. This allowed us to include, uphold and learn from these foreign customs. The

experience was repeated last October. »

A Broader Vision

And we want to extend our hospitality even further still to include all visitors to the Cathedral. "We want to develop a mission to welcome tourists," said the president. "It would be interesting to have members of the parish become ambassadors for tourists, who would be available to welcome, orient, share explanations and accompany them on their visit." Finally, Claudette Savard expressed a personal dream, that of a welcoming committee for new parishioners. "As soon as a new person arrives, we would ask them if they would like to receive a visit from someone from the parish," explained the President. "With this arrangement, we would visit the families, as it was back in the day in the villages. When I was young," said the President, "the priests went around once a year to the village houses. This allowed everyone to have contact with the church outside of the church. I will be happy to have an initiative such as this see the light of day."