

living heritage...

building a sense of
**identity, belonging
& place**

Ensuring a good life for all begins with nurturing health and wellbeing; growing citizenship and building social cohesion; and requires culturally relevant education and meaningful employment opportunities. Ensuring everyone has the opportunity to reach his or her full potential is everyone's responsibility.

“The quality of life we achieve depends on nurturing a positive sense of identity, belonging and place that enables individuals and groups to participate in meaningful ways and contribute to community life.”

Responding to the defining issues of our times- globalization, aging populations, climate change and the Truth and Reconciliation Calls to Action- requires long-term, holistic thinking and sustained collaborative efforts. For-profit and not-for-profit organizations, as well as all levels of government, must demonstrate in measurable ways the impact of their programs and services as we all strive to create positive change.

... giving voice to Living Heritage

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dedicated to
**leadership,
building community
& research**

LIVING HERITAGE

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**Times change,
so does heritage!**

Heritage Saskatchewan is at the forefront of redefining heritage and its connection to our quality of life. Like our DNA, we inherit our Living Heritage - those values, beliefs, and ways of living received from past generations that we use to understand the present and make choices for the future. It defines our sense of identity as individuals and our relationships with others, shaping our communities and our quality of life.

Heritage Saskatchewan's work encourages innovative, holistic and inclusive approaches to building community resilience.

“Resilient communities are built on cross-cultural understanding and the desire to negotiate a shared future.”

INTANGIBLE CULTURAL HERITAGE (ICH)



What traditions, customs and folkways are under threat in your community?

What is it about your community that makes it different from any other?

What stories does your community have to tell?

Who are the tradition bearers in your region?

How can communities become more cohesive through exploration of the meaning of place?

Contact Heritage Saskatchewan to find out how you can work with ICH in your community.

IDEAS FOR WORKING WITH ICH IN COMMUNITIES

- Compile a list of traditions and customs (brainstorm with community members).
- Identify tradition-bearers and elders.
- Consider which traditions, customs, or knowledge are under the greatest pressure.
- Celebrate/incorporate ICH in existing community structures (eg. museums, cultural centres, festivals/events).
- Create workshops, events, programs based on identified ICH in the community.

WHY IS THIS IMPORTANT?

- This kind of knowledge is rarely documented, and is often lost or diminished by the increasing influences of globalization and mass media.
- Safeguarding Intangible Cultural Heritage is vital to sustaining a community's innate creativity and sense of identity.

By encouraging holistic approaches to community development, we build strong communities. This includes Intangible Cultural Heritage and is based upon UNESCO's framework for the safeguarding of ICH.

Intangible cultural heritage includes: oral traditions, performing arts, social practices, rituals, festive events, knowledge and practices concerning nature and the universe, or the knowledge and skills to produce traditional crafts.

- UNESCO Convention on the Safeguarding of Intangible Cultural Heritage

SAFEGUARDING ICH – FOUR GOALS

- **Document** ICH and living traditions (audio/video recordings, interviews, photographs, written narratives, et cetera).
- **Recognize and celebrate** ICH with festivals and community events.
- Support and encourage the **transmission** of knowledge and skills (workshops, mentorship, classes, et cetera).
- Explore the potential of ICH as a resource for **community development**.