

## 2019 HERITAGE FORUM

### SPEAKER INFORMATION

#### The Honourable Gene Makowsky

Minister Responsible for Parks, Culture & Sport

Gene Makowsky graduated from the University of Saskatchewan in 1996 where he received his bachelor's degree in education with distinction. He is best known for his 17 years playing offensive line with the Saskatchewan Roughriders. He was named the Canadian Football League's (CFL) Most Outstanding Lineman twice, a CFL All-Star five times and helped lead the Saskatchewan Roughriders to a Grey Cup in 2007. While playing football, during the off-season, Gene worked as a substitute teacher in the Regina Public School System and always attended as many charity and community events as possible. In 2008, he was hired by the provincial government to work with minor football to help aspiring players at the grassroots level in Saskatchewan excel on the football field.

Gene Makowsky was first elected to the legislature in 2011 and was re-elected in the 2016 provincial election. Gene currently serves Saskatchewan as Minister of Parks, Culture and Sport, Minister responsible for Saskatchewan Liquor and Gaming Authority, and Tourism Saskatchewan.

Gene and his wife Tami call Regina home with their three boys, Nicholas, Ryan and Blake.



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## FORUM SPEAKERS

### Keynote Address

- **Neal Kewistep** - Executive-in-Residence, Johnson Shoyama Graduate School of Public Policy

### Presenters

- **Natalie Bull** - Executive Director, National Trust for Canada
- **Charito Gailling** - Project Manager, Population and Public Health, British Columbia Centre for Disease Control
- **Kristina L. Johnson** - Affordable Housing Specialist, Canada Mortgage and Housing (CMHC)
- **June Gawdun** - Executive Director, Saskatoon Council on Aging (SCOA)
- **Micheal Heimlick** - Founder, Two Bridges Consulting
- **Sandra Massey** - Research Program Coordinator, Heritage Saskatchewan

# KEYNOTE ADDRESS

## The Importance of Place



### Neal Kewistep

Executive-in-Residence

Johnson Shoyama Graduate School of Public Policy

Neal Kewistep holds a Master of Public Administration degree from the Johnson Shoyama Graduate School and a bachelor's degree in Indigenous Studies from First Nations University of Canada.

He has spent most of his career fostering relationships with government, community-based organizations, Indigenous organizations and educators. Neal was the Interim Director of the Population Public Health unit of the Saskatchewan Health Authority, where he was responsible for 13 departments ranging from Sexual/Street Health, to Healthy

Families, to Immunization and Inner-city Health Services. He was also the unit's strategic lead for cultural competency and Truth and Reconciliation Commission activities.

Neal has also served as the Director of Operations for the Native Counselling Services of Alberta, and as a Community Development Advisor with Yellow Quill First Nation.

In 2017, CBC awarded Neal Kewistep as one of its "Future 40 under 40" for his work in leading change within the health care system. In addition to his formal education, Neal counts his traditional training from Elders as highly important in learning the role of a servant leader.

### The Importance of Place

Through a sharing of reflections and stories, Neal will speak to the importance of place. What are the impacts of seeing ourselves reflected in the spaces we live work and play in? What happens when we do not see ourselves reflected in these spaces? Drawing from professional and personal experiences, Neal will share his understandings to these questions and how he got there.

In order to build the tomorrow we want to live in, we need to understand how we got to where we are. What lessons have we learned and how can we chart a collective course forward. Neal is an Indigenous person from the Fishing Lake and Yellowquill First Nations in Saskatchewan. It is through this worldview and lens that the stories are shared.

# Natalie Bull

**Executive Director  
National Trust for Canada**

As Executive Director of the National Trust for Canada, Natalie Bull leads a national charity that is part of a global network of organizations working to protect and celebrate places that matter. Natalie is committed to making the National Trust an essential source of proven tools and leadership for Canadians working to save and renew places that matter. The Trust's programs celebrate monuments and landmarks that tell our collective story, and also provide essential expertise for struggling downtowns, remote regions, and diverse communities.

Prior to joining the National Trust in 2006, Natalie was part of the City of Ottawa's heritage planning team, and later the federal government's Heritage Conservation Directorate within Public Works and Government Services Canada. A Fellow and former president of the

Association for Preservation Technology International, Natalie has worked with project teams at iconic places including the Bar U Ranch, Parliament Hill and the Vimy Monument in France, and led technical training courses on historic window conservation and building envelope issues in historic buildings.

Before leaving government Natalie had the privilege of working on assignment in Parks Canada as Manager of Project Certification for the Historic Places Initiative, where she coordinated and supported a national network of Certification Agents reviewing projects receiving funds from the Commercial Heritage Properties Incentive Fund, and gained hands-on experience with the Standards & Guidelines for the Conservation of Historic Places in Canada.



## **Historic Neighbourhoods Are Complete Neighborhoods**

Inspired by movements like the New Urbanism, planners and placemakers since the 1980s have drawn on time-tested templates and traditions to create new built environments that learn from the past. But those older neighbourhoods are still an important part of the picture. They are surviving, evolving, facing new pressures, and telling new stories about their capacity for wellbeing, inclusion and regeneration. In Canada and elsewhere, historic districts are offering economic opportunities for start-ups and new beginnings for at-risk populations. Historic sites are capitalizing on the experiences they can offer to families of children with special needs, and heritage places are offering opportunities for inclusion and Reconciliation. This presentation will look at the relationship between people, historic places and quality of life, and a new movement of "reurbanism" that capitalizes on the value of older neighbourhoods and historic places as the building blocks for healthy, livable and sustainable communities.



## Charito Gailling

Population & Public Health  
British Columbia Centre for Disease Control  
Provincial Health Services Authority

As a project manager for Healthy Built Environments, Charito focuses on population health impacts associated with community planning, and leads collaborative efforts to develop practice resources which support evidence-informed decision making for local area planning and design.

Charito facilitates cross-sectoral info sharing and learning opportunities with regional health authorities, design professionals and health researchers through the BC Healthy Built Environment Alliance.

At the 2019 Heritage Forum, in Saskatchewan, Charito will speak about the physical, mental and social well-being impacts related to built environments and review some of the practice

tools offered in the *Healthy Built Environment Linkages Toolkit*.

### **How can Community Planning & Design make us Healthier?**

“Built environment” refers to the human-made or modified physical surroundings in which people live, work and play. This includes our homes, buildings, parks and recreation areas, business areas and transportation systems. Built environments that are intentionally designed to be health promoting are associated with significant benefits for our physical, mental and social well-being. As Canada’s Chief Public Health Officer reports, “chronic diseases in Canada could be reduced by seamlessly integrating healthy living into our daily lives which can be achieved, in part, by designing and redesigning our communities”.

Supporting healthier built environments requires cross-sectoral collaborations and community engaged processes, in order to promote planning and design solutions which consider the diversity of local contexts and are sensitive to potential inequities. This presentation will review general concepts and key health outcomes related to the built environment and highlight practice tools available in the Healthy Built Environment Linkages Toolkit.

# Kristina L. Johnson

**Affordable Housing Specialist  
Canada Mortgage and Housing Corporation**

As Affordable Housing Specialist with Canada Mortgage and Housing Corporation (CMHC) Kristina works across the province with stakeholders to encourage partnerships and facilitate housing solutions that meet the housing needs of Canadians through the National Housing Strategy. Over the past 15 years, Kristina has held various roles in the housing industry in both the public and private sectors. Her experience includes project management, financing, program development and delivery, and client support.

Kristina is excited to participate in the Heritage Forum and work towards introducing innovative concepts in the housing market utilizing historic buildings.



## **Repurposing Historic Buildings for Affordable Housing**

The National Housing Strategy is a 10-year, \$40 billion plan creating a new generation of housing in Canada giving more Canadians affordable homes. Through the NHS, the federal government is bringing together the public, private and non-profit sectors to engage in affordable housing, including the conversion of non-residential properties.

Across Canada repurposed historic buildings have proven to be a good source of affordable housing stock and CMHC has been involved in a number of historic building conversions. This presentation will provide an overview on some of these projects, including a recently completed project in Saskatchewan – The Elizabeth Retirement Community in Humboldt. Information on construction, technical considerations, partnerships and financing structures for the repurposing of these building will be provided.

We will show you how the current Initiatives under the National Housing Strategy can be utilized by your community to give historic buildings a viable new use and serve an important need, giving more Canadians a place to call home.



# June Gawdun

Executive Director  
Saskatoon Council on Aging (SCOA)

June Gawdun has worked for the Saskatoon Council on Aging for 25 years. With a background in management and finances, and a recent graduate of Leadership Saskatoon, June says the SCOA is a great place to work due to the many dedicated and talented volunteers and staff.

June's favorite part of working for the SCOA, is knowing the work being done makes a difference in the lives of older adults.

## Age-Friendly Saskatoon Initiative

The Age-Friendly Saskatoon Initiative is aimed directly at promoting a clearer understanding of our older adult population. The aims of the Age-friendly Saskatoon Initiative are to promote:

- the civic engagement of older adults in the process of identifying factors that make positive aging possible in our city and
- lay the foundation that will support the planning necessary for Saskatoon to become an age-friendly community that will support older adults to lead healthy independent lives and to be active and socially engaged.

# Micheal Heimlick

**Founder**

**Two Bridges Consulting**

Micheal is a program evaluator from Treaty 6 territory in Battleford, and the founder of Two Bridges Consulting in Saskatoon. He attended the University of Saskatchewan and after completing a Masters degree in Applied Social Psychology, he found a passion for working in the program evaluation field. For the past four years, he has worked with academic and community organizations to improve their programming using social science research.

Among many projects, he has been working with the Office of the Treaty Commissioner (OTC) since January 2018 developing an evaluation strategy (logic model, indicators of success, mapping exercises, etc.) for how we can measure Saskatchewan's progress towards reconciliation.



## Measuring Reconciliation in Saskatchewan

Since 2014, The Office of the Treaty Commissioner (OTC) has been compiling feedback from community, influential leaders, Elders and Residential School survivors, and the public at large, both Indigenous and non-Indigenous, to build a common vision for successful truth and reconciliation in the Treaty territories of Saskatchewan. From what the OTC has heard, there exists a common agenda among Saskatchewan residents for a better future. It involves work in four areas: having a shared understanding of our history; building authentic relationships; reinforcing our cultures, world-views, and interweaving our experiences; and changing our political, economic and social systems so that they represent and benefit everyone.

The OTC is now working to develop a strategy for measuring progress towards this vision. At the same time, the OTC has been using its stature as a neutral facilitator to bring together and support “champions” for reconciliation, assisting in creating coalitions of First Nations, Métis and non-Indigenous community leaders in nine regions across the province.

In his presentation, Micheal will outline the creation of the reconciliation vision, the measurement strategy to date, how the vision and measurement work can serve to promote learning and accountability on truth and reconciliation, as well as reflect on some personal and professional learnings since beginning the project.



## Sandra Massey

Research Program Coordinator  
Heritage Saskatchewan

Sandra has been an active member of the cultural community for over 25 years. Her recent interests include memory and the value of personal storytelling, and how we create meaning and build a sense of identity, belonging and place in a pluralistic world.

### Measuring Wellbeing

Sandra will speak about the work Heritage Saskatchewan and the Community Initiatives Fund (CIF) have been doing to develop the Saskatchewan Index of Wellbeing, a tool designed to measure how well Saskatchewan people and communities are doing beyond the strictly economic measurement of Gross Domestic Product (GDP).

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- The Government of Saskatchewan, Ministry of Parks, Culture and Sport
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For further information about the Heritage Forum, go to:

**[www.heritagesask.ca](http://www.heritagesask.ca)**