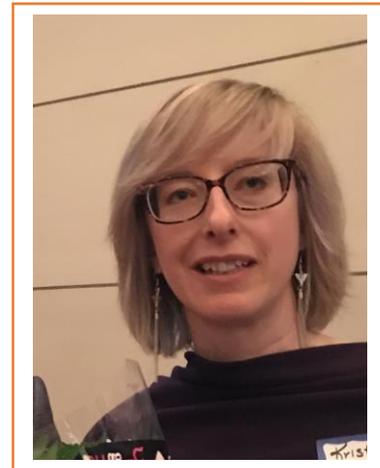




## Kristin Enns-Kavanagh

At the 2019 Heritage Forum, held in Regina on February 21<sup>st</sup>, Heritage Saskatchewan recognized Kristin Enns-Kavanagh as our newest Honorary Life Member.

This recognition is bestowed on a worthy individual who has made significant contributions to Heritage Saskatchewan. As Heritage Saskatchewan heads into its 10<sup>th</sup> year, it is fitting that we honour one of the founding members of the organization for her work and support over the past decade, and then some.



The criteria established by the Board of Directors states that this membership be ‘a meaningful recognition and bestowed sparingly to those who have made significant contributions to the organization, and be in place for the natural life of the individual’.

With that in mind, the Board was pleased to bestow Kristin Enns-Kavanagh with this honour.

It is indeed fitting that as a young organization, we honour someone who has contributed so much and is herself still early into her career. This speaks to Kristin’s dedication, passion and her wisdom, beyond her years.

From the beginnings of her career as a field archaeologist to her evolving work in the non-profit heritage sector, Kristin has demonstrated commitment, service and outstanding leadership to the Saskatchewan community and Heritage Saskatchewan.

Kristin's work with Heritage Saskatchewan began before the organization incorporated was in 2010. Serving first on the Board of Directors for SaskCulture (2007), Kristin became involved with the heritage community of interest as SaskCulture's representative on that committee. A year later, ABC Consulting was hired to work with the Heritage Community of Interest, which would eventually become Heritage Saskatchewan. This initial work, along with an inaugural Forum in 2009, saw agreement by those consulted and those in attendance to move forward with a new organization. The success of this initial phase was as a result in part, of Kristin's contributions, passion and dedication to heritage and to the heritage community.

When Heritage Saskatchewan became incorporated in the fall of 2009 and later elected its first Board of Directors, it was only logical that Kristin become the first President. What is remarkable about this is the fact that Kristin was working at this as a volunteer in the midst of developing her own career aspirations and working with STANTEC Consulting Ltd. During her tenure as President, she contributed to the executive search and eventual hiring of first CEO of Heritage Saskatchewan, and provided leadership and guidance to the new CEO in the process. In addition, she worked countless hours on the development of bylaws and policies so that this new organization could start on a firm foundation; and in the process, Kristin switched career paths and began working at Prairie Wild Consulting, further developing her skills as a planning consultant, working in communities throughout Saskatchewan. In her 'spare time', she continued to devote countless hours to Heritage Saskatchewan in order to build a collaborative and diverse organization that serves the broad range of tangible and intangible heritage. Kristin recognized early the value of living heritage and how heritage contributes to our sense of identity, belonging and place, where understanding the connection of the past and the present helps to inform our choices for the future.

Kristin's style of leadership with Heritage Saskatchewan is best described as 'servant leadership'. She saw the value of working as a part of a team, and made a point of getting to know each of her board members personally. Many of them remember her contacting them personally by telephone, or taking them out for coffee, when schedules permitted.

Kristin was not afraid to step out with confidence as the organization established its place in the community and with it, embraced change when needed. Many of us still remember the countless bylaw changes that the organization undertook in its formative years. Her organizational skills were put to the test and we all benefitted from her ability to walk us all through those changes. Kristin did this with style and confidence...with her catchy phrase **'okey dokey'** always on her lips, which was a sign to us that she 'had this and knew what she was doing' – even when she didn't think she did.

When Kristin's time on the Board ended, we knew that her outstanding work during those formative years, building the base, would continue to provide a framework for the organization; and it is through her support and leadership that we continue to move forward.

Kristin is never more than a phone call away and actively supports the work of Heritage Saskatchewan. Now in her capacity as the Executive Director of the Saskatchewan History and Folklore Society, she is carrying on this legacy, serving and advocating for diversity, and living heritage, ensuring that future generations can see the value of working together towards a shared future where all are welcomed and included.

### **Heritage Saskatchewan congratulates Kristin Enns-Kavanagh as our Honourary Life Member.**



Shown to the left is the gift presented to Kristin.

Shown below is Kristin at the event with (L to R) Director Bula Ghosh and CEO Ingrid Cazakoff.

