

Our Shared Heritage: A Cornerstone of Identity and Resilience

Our cultural heritage is important to Canadians. It helps us find our roots, spaces, and places that are touchstones to who we are as a people. Our national identity is defined by our diverse and shared heritage that continues to evolve and is renegotiated from one generation to the next.

HOW DOES HERITAGE CREATE STRONG COMMUNITIES?

Heritage shapes our identity and our relationships with others in our communities. It is a living component of everyday life and is constantly evolving. Our collective heritage, therefore, influences how we engage with one another and informs the actions that we take to ensure that our communities are safe and vibrant places to live.

HOW DOES HERITAGE CREATE A STRONG ECONOMY?

Heritage contributes significantly to tourism and our experiences visiting museums and heritage sites across Canada is possible because of the heritage industry. The increased tourism expected this summer across Canada is dependent upon heritage workers, heritage sites, and events.

HOW DOES HERITAGE CREATE MEANINGFUL EMPLOYMENT IN SASKATCHEWAN?

In 2022, 460 jobs in archives, libraries, cultural heritage sites, and natural sites were directly attributable to the heritage sector. Although not specifically classified as heritage sector workers, a significant proportion of the 53,194 tourism/hospitality labour force in Saskatchewan works directly and indirectly with natural and cultural heritage sites.¹ These jobs exist because of the heritage sector.

HOW CAN YOUR LEADERSHIP HELP?

Cultural heritage is important to our country and requires the necessary recognition and resources to address current and emerging needs. It is important to retain and grow federally funded initiatives like Young Canada Works, which employs heritage workers essential to our industry. Additional resources are critical to building strong and sustainable communities across Canada. Heritage is worth the investment!

WHO ARE WE?

Heritage Saskatchewan and the Museums Association of Saskatchewan are two nonprofit provincial organizations with a focus on safeguarding heritage, which includes both tangible and intangible cultural heritage.

Heritage Saskatchewan gives voice to living heritage: the values, beliefs, and ways of living inherited from past generations that are used to understand the present and inform our choices for the future. (www.heritagesask.ca)

The Museums Association of Saskatchewan is a collective organization of over 250 member museums that supports its members through a variety of education, advisory, resource, and networking programs. (www.saskmuseums.org)

We look forward to continuing the conversation with you post-election.



MUSEUMS
ASSOCIATION
OF SASKATCHEWAN
MUSEUMS ARE MORE...

1. Snapshot of the Tourism Sector Labour Market Provincial Report Series: Saskatchewan, Tourism HR Canada, Quatylyst Research Group, 2023