



## VANCOUVER HERITAGE COMMISSION

### MINUTES

May 11, 2026

A meeting of the Vancouver Heritage Commission was held on Monday, May 11, 2026, at 11:00 AM, in the Cascadia Room, 3rd Floor, City Hall, and via electronic means.

**PRESENT:** Nancy Kirkpatrick, Vice-Chair  
Mitra Arianfar  
Sam Boisvert\*  
Alison Fraser\*  
Michael Gordon, Chair  
Alfred Lai  
Brienne La Pierre  
Hilary Macdonald  
Judy Lam Maxwell\*

**ABSENT** Debbie Schachter  
Ivonne Voelkel (Leave of Absence)

**ALSO PRESENT:** Zlatan Jankovic, Senior Heritage Planner; Staff Liaison

**CITY CLERK'S OFFICE:** Adeola Alle, Coordinator, Planning Committees

\*Denotes absence for a portion of the meeting.

### WELCOME

The Vice-Chair acknowledged we are on the unceded homelands of the Musqueam, Squamish, and Tsleil-Waututh Peoples. We thank them for having cared for this land and look forward to working with them in partnership as we continue to build this great city together.

### Leave of Absence Requests

MOVED by Commissioner Boisvert  
SECONDED by Commissioner Arianfar

THAT the Vancouver Heritage Commission approve a leave of absence for Ivonne Voelkel for this meeting.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

### Approval of Minutes

MOVED by Commissioner La Pierre  
SECONDED by Commissioner Lai

THAT the Vancouver Heritage Commission approve the minutes from the meeting of Monday, March 23, 2026, as circulated.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

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*Prior to the start of item 1, Commissioner Boisvert declared conflict of interest under section 145.2(2.b) of the Vancouver Charter, as their employer is involved with the application. Commissioner Boisvert left the meeting for the duration of the item and returned when it was completed.*

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1. **144 E 6<sup>th</sup> Avenue – Black House  
148 E 6<sup>th</sup> Avenue – Donnaconna Block  
Proposed VHR Additions, Designation (Black House), and Restoration Covenants,  
RZ-2025-00101**

Staff and the applicant team provided a presentation and responded to questions and comments.

Following discussion, it was

MOVED BY Commissioner Fraser  
SECONDED by Commissioner Gordon

WHEREAS:

1. The City of Vancouver has received a rezoning application from Henriquez Partners Architects, on behalf of 1000A Holdings Inc, to consolidate and rezone the properties at 124, 144, and 148 East 6th Avenue to permit a mixed-use development including industrial, hotel and artist studio uses and heritage retention;
2. The site includes two buildings—the Black House at 144 East 6th Avenue and the Donnaconna Block at 148 East 6th Avenue—neither of which is currently listed on the Vancouver Heritage Register (VHR);
3. It is proposed that the Black House be retained and re-located, and that the façade of the Donnaconna Block be deconstructed and reconstructed on the site;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED

- A. THAT the Vancouver Heritage Commission support the addition of the Black House at 144 East 6th Avenue and the Donnaconna Block at 148 East 6th Avenue buildings to the Vancouver Heritage Register;
- B. THAT the Vancouver Heritage Commission, having reviewed the Heritage Conservation Plan for the Black House, dated March 2024 and prepared by Donald Luxton and Associates, endorse the Conservation Plan;

- C. THAT the Vancouver Heritage Commission support the long-term protection of the Black House through a municipal designation by-law;
- D. THAT the Vancouver Heritage Commission endorse the proposed Reconstruction Plan for the façade of the Donnacona Block (prepared by Donald Luxton and Associates, March 2024), its integration into the base of the proposed new building, and its protection through a restoration covenant;
- E. THAT the Vancouver Heritage Commission recommend consultation with the arts community, including organizations such as the Eastside Arts Society and other interested groups.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

(Commissioner Boisvert absent for the vote due to conflict of interest)

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*The Commission recessed at 12:17 and reconvened at 12:27.*

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## **2. Railtown Area Planning Process Heritage Planning Guidance**

Staff from Planning, Urban Design and Sustainability and the consulting team provided a presentation and responded to questions and comments.

Following discussion, it was

MOVED BY Commissioner Gordon

SECONDED by Commissioner Lai

WHEREAS the City of Vancouver has launched a local area planning process for Railtown and has commissioned a report titled final draft Heritage Planning Guidance, prepared by Elana Zysblat and John Atkin and dated May 1, 2026;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED

- A. THAT the Vancouver Heritage Commission endorse the values-based heritage evaluation approach and the following recommendations contained in the report:
  - the Heritage Themes;
  - the Character-Defining Elements;
  - the Railtown sites recommended for addition to the Vancouver Heritage Register; and
  - the Statement of Desired Future Character;
- B. THAT the Vancouver Heritage Commission endorse the Heritage Planning Guidance for Railtown as a “living document,” recognizing that consultation with First Nations and the Japanese Canadian community should continue to ensure that their cultural values and

histories are reflected in future policies and initiatives;

- C. THAT the Vancouver Heritage Commission recommend consultation also continue with the arts community, including organizations such as the Eastside Arts Society and other interested groups, to ensure that the evolution of Railtown builds upon the Culture|Shift policies adopted by Council in 2020;
- D. THAT the Vancouver Heritage Commission recommend the continuity of historic uses such as industrial be maintained as the primary and apparent uses in subsequent development in the area;
- E. THAT the Vancouver Heritage Commission recommend the historic importance of Arts and Culture uses continue to be acknowledged and exist in the area.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

#### **4. Liaison Updates**

None.

#### **5. New Business**

None.

### **ADJOURNMENT**

MOVED by Commissioner Boisvert  
SECONDED by Commissioner La Pierre

THAT this meeting be adjourned.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

#### **Next Meeting:**

DATE: Monday, June 15, 2026  
TIME: 10:00 am  
PLACE: Joe Wai Room, Ground Floor, City Hall  
/ Teams Meeting

The Committee adjourned at 01:23 PM.

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