



LOUGHEED
HOUSE



2022

National + Provincial Historic Site
Annual Report to the Community





Message from the Board Chair and the Executive Director

For Lougheed House, the past year was one of renewal and change. As a small non-profit, the effort to emerge from Covid and meet community needs anew meant 2022 was a year of transition. Through Q1, the Board updated the strategic plan, and shepherded the organization through a period of leadership change.

Our long-time Executive Director, Kirstin Evenden, moved on to the national stage in the work for historic site preservation, and we thank her for her years of dedicated service to the House and its community. Sandra Morton Weizman then stepped in to guide the team through transition, and we are grateful for her support. We welcomed Naomi, who has led the team for a year now and we look forward to working with her in the upcoming year.

Reimagining Lougheed House remains the focus. One of the great highlights of 2022 has been in the work done to expand the legacy of Lady Lougheed and strengthen ties with the Métis community and the Métis Nation of Alberta Region 3 (MNAR3). We worked with Métis historians to build an exhibition titled *Remembered: The Story of Métis Children at St. Joseph's-Dunbow Industrial School* to complement the exhibition *Forgotten: The Métis Residential School Experience* shared by the Legacy of Hope Foundation. *Remembered* then went on to the Calgary Public Library's central branch through the winter.

A second Lougheed House exhibition also went on tour last year. *We Were Here: Stories of Early Chinatown*, went to the Chinese Cultural Centre through the fall, before heading to Heritage Park early in the new year.

We ended the year with our attention on some key priorities. Among them: building stronger community ties, with partner organizations like MNAR3, with our Beltline neighbours, with our incredible team of volunteers, and with our Lougheed House Reimagined Community Advisory Committee. Late in the year we formalized the connection by signing a partnership agreement with MNAR3 to strengthen our commitments to education and visitor experience, and to involve the Métis community in planning and outreach.

We hope the community will feel welcomed by and reflected in Lougheed House. In this sense, we recognize that we are part of many communities: Beltline, downtown, the Métis community, the gardening community, and of course the dog-owners of Calgary!

We are laying the groundwork for a more sustainable future, both in refining our purpose and beginning on a dedicated path of funding stabilization and development. Lougheed House wouldn't exist without the grassroots efforts of our original supporters, whose passion to preserve almost three acres of prime Calgary real estate and a hundred-year-old house gave us the valuable asset we have today. We want to honour the vision of that original group as we look to the future, by building on their work with a strong commitment to fundraising, advocacy and outreach.

As we head into next year, we'd like to acknowledge the contributions by all staff and volunteers past and present – volunteers who contributed 1,311 hours to the garden in the summer! We particularly honour the memory of Claire Bourret who passed away in spring 2023. She was a dedicated garden volunteer and Volunteer of the Year in 2022.

And we'd like to acknowledge the hard work done by the members of the Board of Directors, who have helped to lead with talent and creativity.

To our funders, donors, supporters and staff, we thank you – without you the impact we seek to have in our community would not be possible.

Stacy McFarlane
Chair, Lougheed House Board of Directors

Naomi Grattan
Executive Director

Table of contents

In the garden	4
Reflecting the community	6
Funders, Donors & Volunteers	10
Board of Directors, Community Advisory Committee & Staff	11



In the garden

The gardens at Lougheed House continue to be a popular draw, both for visitors to the house and for volunteers. With Covid restrictions beginning to ease, in 2022 there was a dip in the numbers of regular garden volunteers from the two years previous, leading to fewer hours in the garden. All the planned tasks for the season were completed, despite the lower number of hours, and the garden was thriving well into late fall.

As a place of respite in the busy Beltline, we continued to capture donations through the #LoveLougheedGardens campaign, a fundraiser that proved to be popular over two years.

Major infrastructure improvements in the garden included upgrades to City- and Province-owned irrigation systems. The City of Calgary also assisted with some replanting in the pasture and the formal garden, including mulching the shrub beds and adding plants in heavy-traffic areas. Volunteers expanded the inventory of native plants as well as new perennials, and added small signage plates to help visitors identify the different plantings.

A visit from the president of the Calgary Rose Society led to the addition of six new roses to the collection, as well as culling of roses that weren't considered as valuable. Head Gardener Jane Reksten will be adding more heritage and significant rose varieties as the collection expands.



Volunteer of the Year: Lynn Bowers

Lynn Bowers first got involved as a volunteer with Lougheed House more than 20 years ago, during the first phase of the conservation of the house and grounds. The work focused on rebuilding the garden, to “make it look like something was happening,” as he says. Since then, he’s devoted hundreds of hours to the beautification of Beaulieu Gardens, inspired by creating a living green space in an inner-city neighbourhood, welcoming the public to a previously private home.

Lynn is a retired schoolteacher and librarian who began his career down the street at Connaught School. He’s been a life-long avid volunteer, previously president of the Calgary Ski Club, and a volunteer with literacy programs, as a trip leader with outdoor activity programs, and in the archives of the Glenbow Museum. For now, he’s focused on compost. He’s the resident expert on soil management among the Lougheed House garden volunteers, tending our line of composters so our garden cuttings don’t go to waste and our blooms are brighter.

Congratulations Lynn and thank you for everything you’ve done for Lougheed House!



Reflecting the community

Since 2017, Lougheed House staff, stakeholders, and the wider Calgary arts and heritage communities have been collaborating on the Lougheed House Re-Imagined (LHRI) project. LHRI rethinks the role of the house museum, and the value of cultural heritage in the city, with a plan to create a multi-year program of renewal to be more welcoming, more diverse, and more varied in public offerings. It will include exhibitions, interpretation, public programming and special events to actively welcome and reflect Calgarians and visitors of all ages, ethnicities, communities and orientations.

This work has been progressing with the integral assistance of the LHRI Community Advisory Committee, developed as the result of extensive community engagement. The eight-member committee advises Lougheed House staff on the redevelopment of exhibits, as well as development of a new interpretive approach. Members represent First Nations, Métis and Blackfoot Nations, the Asian Heritage Foundation, Disability Action Hall, and Calgary Gay History. Members also have diverse expertise in history, the arts, filmmaking, theatre and writing, as well as diversity, inclusion and accessibility issues.

The LHRI project was slowed in 2022 due to Covid restrictions early in the year, and staff turnover by mid-year that put much of the active planning work temporarily on hold. The second half of the year was spent in refocusing the project with ongoing funding and new staffing and roles. Despite a level of uncertainty (shared with other cultural organizations and nonprofits), the LHRI team created a steady output of exhibitions and aligned programming.

These included two exhibitions, *YYC Bread Stories* (March to June 2022) and *Forgotten and Remembered*, Métis residential school exhibitions (July to October 2022) as well as public events including an evening of Métis music and stories. → pg. 8

YYC Bread Stories

On exhibition March to June 2022

What started as a relatively niche idea for an exhibition soon revealed its universality. Associate Curator Erin Benedictson began researching the details for what would become *YYC Bread Stories*, and found that almost all the history, the geography, the basic ingredients in bread revealed cross-cultural stories that told of the early days of Calgary. Originally conceived as part of the Chinook Blast festival, the exhibit gave visitors to the house an overview of the vast array of bakeries that rose up as the city grew, through 1922 when grocery stores started to take over from small bakeries. Co-curator Emily Hoven focused on the history of sourdough (a detail that resonated with visitors to the show, with recent memories of pandemic baking experiments), and four local food producers contributed stories of how the simple mix of flour, yeast and water can be expressed by varied cultures. These included the dosa of Masala Bhavan, the sourdough of Sidewalk Citizen Bakery, the shoku-pan of Foster's Bakery, and the challah of Carriage House Inn.



Gilbert and Jay Bakery, Calgary, Alberta, 1900.
Photo: Photographer unknown, courtesy Glenbow Archives, Archives & Special Collections, University of Calgary
NA-1458-2

Richard Piche (left) and Billy Joseph entertain at *An Evening of Métis Music and Stories* in September.





In the fall of 2022, artist and curator Tyler J. Stewart was selected to create a sound installation for exhibition in 2023. The work includes recorded interviews with participants on the subject of home. By the end of 2022, the LHRI team had also engaged Métis storyteller Rick Gaudio as a commissioned video artist to create a video installation on the subject of the pre-settlement story of the land adjacent to Lougheed House.

At the end of 2022, Lougheed House also loaned the 2021 exhibition *We Were Here: Stories from Early Chinatown* to the Calgary Chinese Cultural Centre.



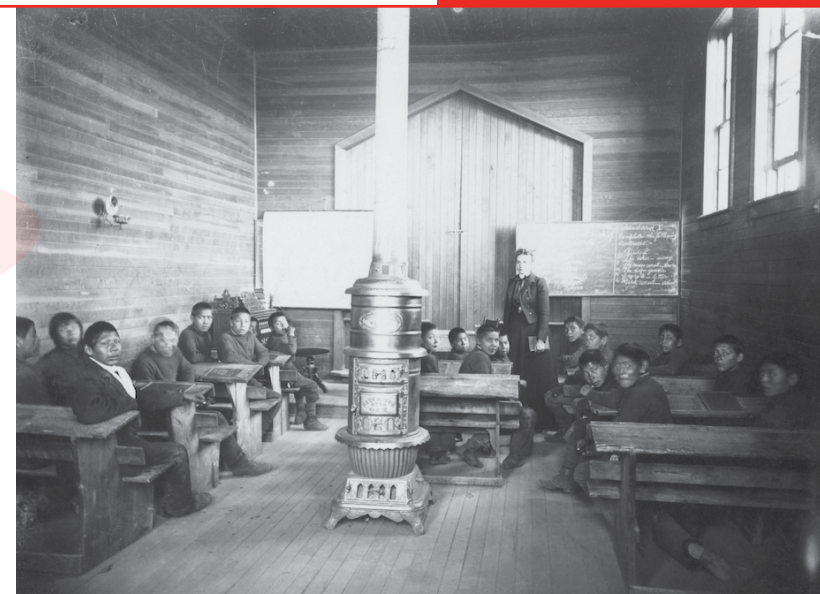
Photo: Johanna Hung

Remembered and Forgotten

On exhibition July to October 2022

Remembered: The Story of Metis Children at St. Joseph's-Dunbow Industrial School was conceived as a sister exhibition to borrowed interpretive panels from the Legacy of Hope Foundation. Called *Forgotten: The Metis Residential School Experience*, those panels told of Métis experiences in residential schools across Canada. *Remembered* centres the story on one school located south of Calgary from 1884 to 1922. Though the residents of Dunbow Industrial School included Blackfoot, Cree, and Tsu'u T'ina children, many were also Métis. Associate Curator Erin Benedictson

worked with Métis historian Matt Hilterman to develop the exhibit and the work expanded to include more general history on Métis culture as well as ties to Isabella Lougheed, who grew up in a Métis family, and the complicated legacy of Senator James Lougheed as an advocate for residential schools. Both exhibitions were timely, coming soon after evidence of unmarked graves was found at Kamloops Indian Residential School, and it brought opportunities to celebrate Métis culture as part of the public programming surrounding the exhibition.



Blackfoot reserve school room, circa 1890.
Photo: Anglican Diocese of Calgary Archives,
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Funders



Donors*

Anonymous (3)
Kevin Allen
Jennifer Anderson
Cassidy Bishop
Bluearth
Patricia Bond
Josie Bruce
Elizabeth Bryant
Blair Carbert
Tannis Carlson
Melissa Cook
Walter & Irene deBoni
Lucien DeGagne
Rebecca Derry Melenka
Carissa Dueck Warner
Ron & Mary Elliott
Jenifer Evans
Kirstin Evenden
Jennifer Forsyth
Sean French
Betty Golightly
Shona Gourlay
Pamela Heard
Marcel Hebert
Nanette Ho-Covernton
Sue Holt
Angelese Hood
Leonore J. Hunt
Marianne Kasper
Cynthia Klaassen
Jacqueline Kleiner
Chikayo Koshin
Lisa Lackmanec
Sheila Leblanc
Craig Lewington
Russell & Caroline Lougheed
Bev Macleod
Kathleen MacPherson
Janice MacPherson
Margaret McCready

Volker Mendritzki
Linda Meyer
Jamai Moltzahn
John Mungham
Gail Niinimaa
Aaron Pahl
Karla Palardy
Yisha Pang
Jessica Park
William Perks
Catherine Reeves
Colin Reid
Bill Rennie
Roberta Ryckman
Jennifer Saunders
Janna Schrottner
Pam Shaw
Linda Stewart
Kimberly Y Ann Storebo
Rosanne Tackaberry
Anne Taylor
Lee Tunstall
Lorette Van Staalduinen
Bob van Wegen
Troy Wason
Edward Watson
Wildwood Community Bridge Club
Pat Willison
Robert & Glenda Wilson
Allison Wolft
Janet Woolgar

Volunteers

Alyssa Ellis
Alana Gusa
Janelle Harms
Marcel Hebert
Christa Kahl
April Kargard
Tanysia Komers
Kay Koshin

Diana Lane
Sheila LeBlanc
Leslie Levant
Charlotte MacDonald
Marcia MacLellan
Jackie Marston
Sheila Martin
Connor McCafferty
Sue McKee
Susan Moorman
Petra Piciacchia
Jim Pihulak
Bill Rennie
Mia Rushton
Barbara Russell
Hanan Semira
Shruti Sharma
Sabir Sherrefa
Gwen Smiley
Sheila Smith
Chantal Snodgrass
Kim Spink
Henriette Thornberg
Lynn Vermeulen
Jeffrey Walker
Susan Wight
Pat Willison
Hannelore Wilson
Marj Windle
Wancy Wu
Azadeh Zaresani

Board of Directors

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Megan Matthies, *Director*
Kathleen MacPherson, *Director*
Jennifer McColl, *Director*
Yisha Pang, *Director*
Colin Reid, *Director*
Naomi Grattan, *Executive Director*

Community Advisory Committee

Ari Cubangbang
Preet Dhanjal
Cheryl Foggo
Joyce Marie Healy
Matt Hiltermann
Tereasa Maillie
Colleen Peters
Teresa Woo-Paw

Staff

Erin Benedictson, *Associate Curator*
Allison Graham, *Senior Manager, Lougheed House Reimagined*
Naomi Grattan, *Executive Director*
Vanessa Lamb, *Programs & Visitor Experience Specialist*
Jane Reksten, *Head Gardener*
Sarah Robinson, *Operations Manager*
Jill Sawyer, *Manager, Communications & Engagement*



Photo: Johanna Hung



*Every effort has been made to ensure this information is accurate. To discuss any questions, please contact Lougheed House at info@lougheedhouse.com.



LOUGHEED
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