

# Rachel Notley. Fighting for you

## Edmonton Heritage Council

- 1. The Historic Resources Act is the overarching piece of legislation for the conservation of heritage in Alberta. It is in serious need of updates and revisions to reflect best practices in conservation and the needs of municipalities to protect heritage. Does your party support a review of the Historic Resources Act?**

Rachel Notley and the NDP know how important the conservation of our heritage is. Over our first term, we were faced with a number of competing priorities including protecting the environment, bringing our employment legislation into the 21<sup>st</sup> century and modernizing the *Municipal Government Act*. Unfortunately, it was impossible to do everything at once.

If we are re-elected, we would be happy to sit down with members of the heritage community to get ideas on how we can best update the *Historic Resources Act* to better serve our communities and protect our important historic resources.

- 2. Does your party support giving municipalities the same powers as the Province when it comes to designating heritage properties?**

Rachel Notley and the NDP support efforts to protect historic resources across the province. We know there are many options to consider in order to improve the conservation of historic resources, including providing the same powers to municipalities when it comes to designating heritage properties. If re-elected, we are open to the idea of discussions with our municipal partners and with the heritage community regarding powers to designate heritage properties.

- 3. The Alberta Historic Resources Foundation is a major funder of the heritage sector in Alberta. Does your party support increased funding to the Alberta Historical Resources Foundation, including a more refined funding stream for heritage conservation projects in municipalities?**

In the face of the worst downturn in two generations, Rachel Notley and the NDP government made a choice not to make matters worse by slashing and burning the programs and services the government provides. As a result, in Budget 2018, the NDP government provided \$8.2 million to the Alberta Historical Resources Foundation to support heritage preservation initiatives. Going forward, and as the province's finances improve, we are open to considering increases for heritage conservation.

- 4. Under the Prentice government the Alberta Main Street Program was eliminated. AMSP supported significant economic development and revitalization of historic districts across Alberta. Will your party commit to restoring the Alberta Main Street Program?**

Rachel Notley and the Alberta NDP know how important maintaining historic districts are to the fabric of a community. Not only do they contribute to the character of our communities, they also contribute to economic development as well.

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We also know that municipalities have significant infrastructure to maintain. That is why we are committed to working with small and medium sized cities to come to an agreement to provide municipalities with stable, predictable and legislated infrastructure funding. If re-elected, we will also introduce a new grant program called Hometown Alberta that will help small communities renovate their aging hockey arenas, swimming pools and recreation centres. While the details of this program are still to be worked out, we are open to discussions about the eligibility of historic districts for this funding.

**5. Will your party establish a provincial tax credit incentive or grant program to support historic conservation efforts?**

Rachel Notley and the NDP support efforts to conserve historic properties across the province. In Budget 2018, the NDP government invested \$8.2 million in funding for the Alberta Historical Resources Foundation to support heritage preservation initiatives and the economic opportunity and jobs it generates in the specialized trades sector. If re-elected, Rachel Notley will continue to invest in the Alberta Historical Resources Foundation to protect important historical resources across the province.

**6. Will your party commit to the historic conservation or adaptive re-use of the former Royal Alberta Museum facility?**

We know that this facility is an important site for the community and for the heritage of the city. Due to its importance, we are discussing the future of this site to determine the best steps forward for the former Royal Alberta Museum building. If re-elected, we will continue discussions with the community around the site and with the heritage community about the next steps.