The Edmonton Heritage Council is pleased to announce the development of a heritage symposium entitled Reconciliation and Resurgence: Heritage Practice in Post-TRC Edmonton. The purpose of the symposium is to help individuals and organizations find new ways forward by focusing on the Truth and Reconciliation Commission’s Calls to Action pertaining to Museums and Archives and the Heritage sector. This symposium aims to encourage and support individuals and organizations who, through their work, are considering and examining what it looks like to revisit current ways of thinking and working in the Heritage sector.

Proposals will describe projects and research that resulted in newly acquired knowledge, teachings, and lessons around the topic of Heritage, Reconciliation, and Indigenous Cultural Resurgence. This symposium seeks to create opportunities for new relationships and strengthening existing ones, as well as cultivate a space where personal and professional breakthroughs around reconciliation can occur in order to address gaps in representations of Indigenous heritage in our organizations and community-based work.

Priority will be given to proposals from Indigenous peoples who have stories to tell and lessons to share, though we also welcome proposals that present from both Indigenous and non-Indigenous perspectives. We encourage anyone to apply to share their successes, lessons, and stories of learning in this field, especially those from communities and non-academic backgrounds. Proposed speakers, facilitators, and panellists will be reviewed by a guiding council of Indigenous Elders, knowledge keepers, and settler allies, with support from EHC administration as required.

Purpose of the symposium

* To engage YEG Heritage practitioners, institutions, and other stakeholders beyond the heritage sector
* To increase awareness and participation in the valuable work being done in Indigenous cultural inclusion and allyship
* To demonstrate for those struggling to make a start that there are multiple points of entry and that there is value in owning ignorance if it leads to learning and action
* To identify successful individuals and organizations that are leading and prototyping best practices in the fields of heritage, reconciliation, archives, museology, public engagement

Possible topics include:

* Building community partnerships
* Questions of Indigenizing or decolonizing heritage institutions
* Digital repatriation vs. Repatriation
* Stories of Edmonton & Amiskwacîwâskahikan
* Land acknowledgements and language: Words Matter
* Anti-Racism and Heritage Institutions
* Activism and Heritage spaces
* Effects of allyship: Case-studies of collaborative research and projects between Indigenous communities and heritage organisations
* Projects headed by Indigenous Cultural Centres/Heritage centres
* Initiatives that fell short of stated goals or were ahead of their time

Possible formats:

* Papers
* Workshops
* Collaborative presentations
* Film screenings
* Walking tours
* Poetry readings
* Craft workshops
* Land-based philosophies and teachings
* Interpretative dance

The audience

* Heritage organisations
* Museums and archives
* Heritage practitioners
* Community members

Key Dates

Please submit your expression of interest by **Friday, November 22, 2019**

Successful proposals will be notified the week of **December 16, 2019**

Proposals may be submitted as Word or PDF documents, or mp3 audio files. If you would like to prepare a video submission or would prefer to pitch your proposal in person, please connect with us to make those arrangements.

For questions or other enquiries, please contact Kim Ghostkeeper, Guiding Council and Program Committee member at symposium@edmontonheritage.ca.