

SHARING  
**OUR**  
STORIES

SUPPORTING CULTURE  
AND HERITAGE IN  
THE HALIFAX REGION



HALIFAX

# Priorities Plans

- 2014 Regional Plan identified a number of Priorities Plans to be completed
- They are primarily Management Plans containing detailed actions to carry out the policy directive of the plans
- Can direct regulations, programs, or partnerships associated with budgetary requirements
- Strategic in nature, help in aligning interdepartmental work programs
  - Completed Priorities Plans: Integrated Mobility Plan, Green Network Plan, Economic Growth Plan
  - Priorities Plans Currently Underway: HaliFACT 2050, Sharing Our Stories
- These documents will be used to inform the Regional Plan review slated for 2019-2022

# Origin

## Regional Plan Policy 7.2.2

The **Culture and Heritage Priorities Plan** will provide greater direction for strategic planning and investment in culture and heritage. The Priorities Plan is to be conducted in three phases:

- |         |  |
|---------|--|
| Phase 1 | Inventory (Completed in 2018)                            |
| Phase 2 | Analysis and Prioritization (Ongoing since October 2018) |
| Phase 3 | Implementation   |

# Origin

## Clarify HRM's role in supporting culture and heritage by:

- reviewing existing programs, policies and completing best practices research;
- completing targeted stakeholder engagement and providing opportunities for broader public input; and
- developing a vision and set of actions to improve how the municipality supports culture and heritage.

## Topics to be covered include:

- heritage buildings and properties;
- cultural landscapes;
- cultural spaces;
- community museums;
- professional and public art;
- monuments and markers; and
- grant programs.

# Work Completed

- **Phase I – Partnership with the Province**
  - Asset Identification and Inventory
- **Phase II - Partnership between Planning and Development, Parks and Recreation and Diversity and Inclusion**
  - Focus on Targeted Engagement (Oct. 2018 – Mar. 2019)
    - Building on past engagements
    - Focusing on underrepresented groups
    - Draft Plan Framework developed
  - Plan Refinement (Mar. 2019 – December 2020)
    - Finalize Vision/Pillars, Goals and Outcomes
    - Additional targeted engagement with underrepresented groups
    - Draft Plan to come forward in the new year

# Phase 1

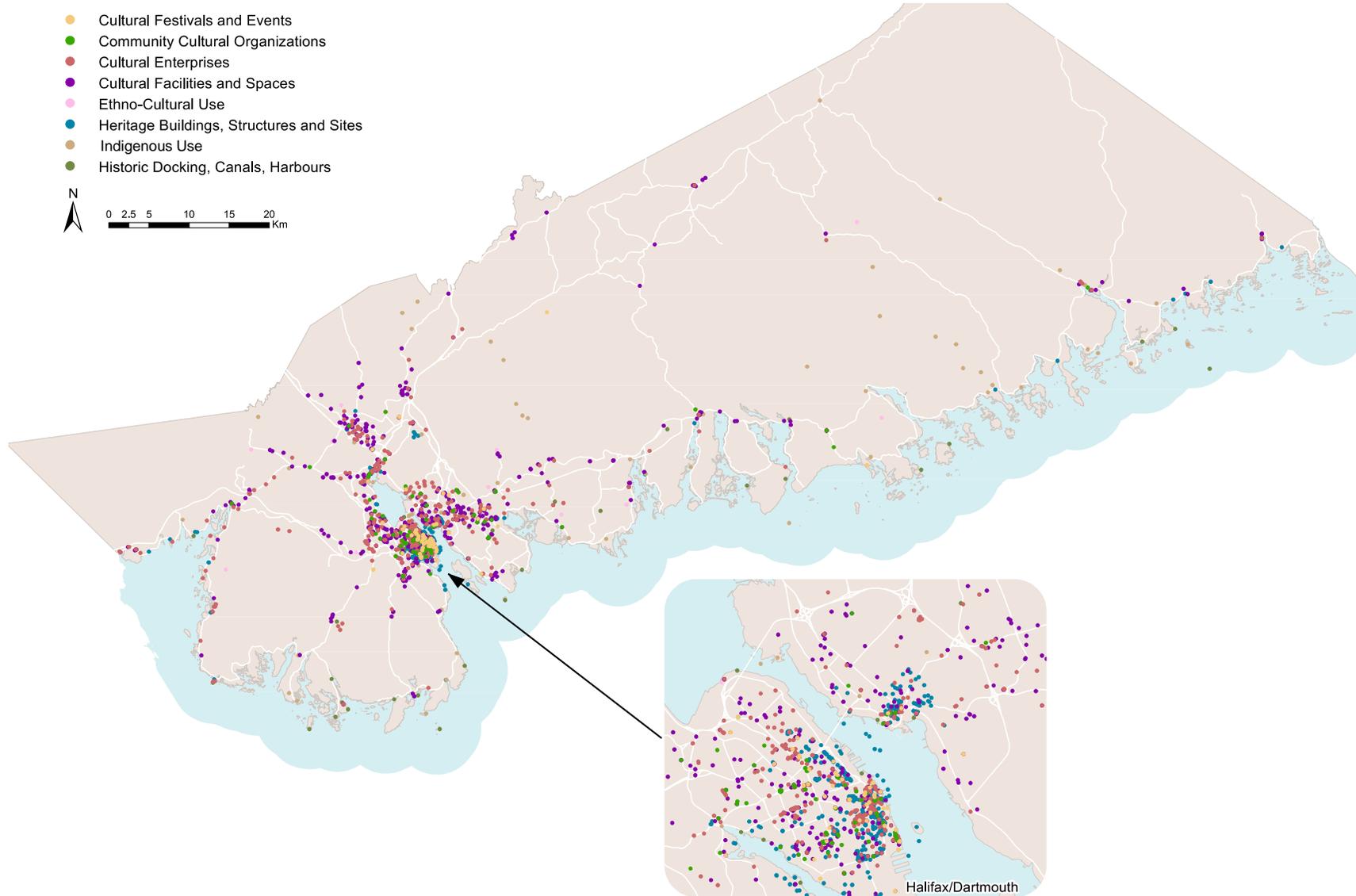
## What is the value of the inventory information?



- Will help identify clusters of cultural assets for future investment or protection
- Defined Standard Categories for future analysis
- Gives us a baseline for future analysis and established GIS practices (privacy concerns, public information, and technology limitations)
- Results have not been published, the validation process will be future work aligned to the Cultural Spaces Plan

# Phase 1

- Cultural Festivals and Events
- Community Cultural Organizations
- Cultural Enterprises
- Cultural Facilities and Spaces
- Ethno-Cultural Use
- Heritage Buildings, Structures and Sites
- Indigenous Use
- Historic Docking, Canals, Harbours



# Phase 2

SHARING  
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SUPPORTING CULTURE  
AND HERITAGE IN HRM

**HALIFAX**

PARTAGER  
**NOS  
HISTOIRES**



APPUYER LA CULTURE ET LE  
PATRIMOINE DANS LA RÉGION  
D'HALIFAX

**HALIFAX**

SESA'TUK  
**AKNUTMAQN WJIT  
TA'N TELO'LTIMK**

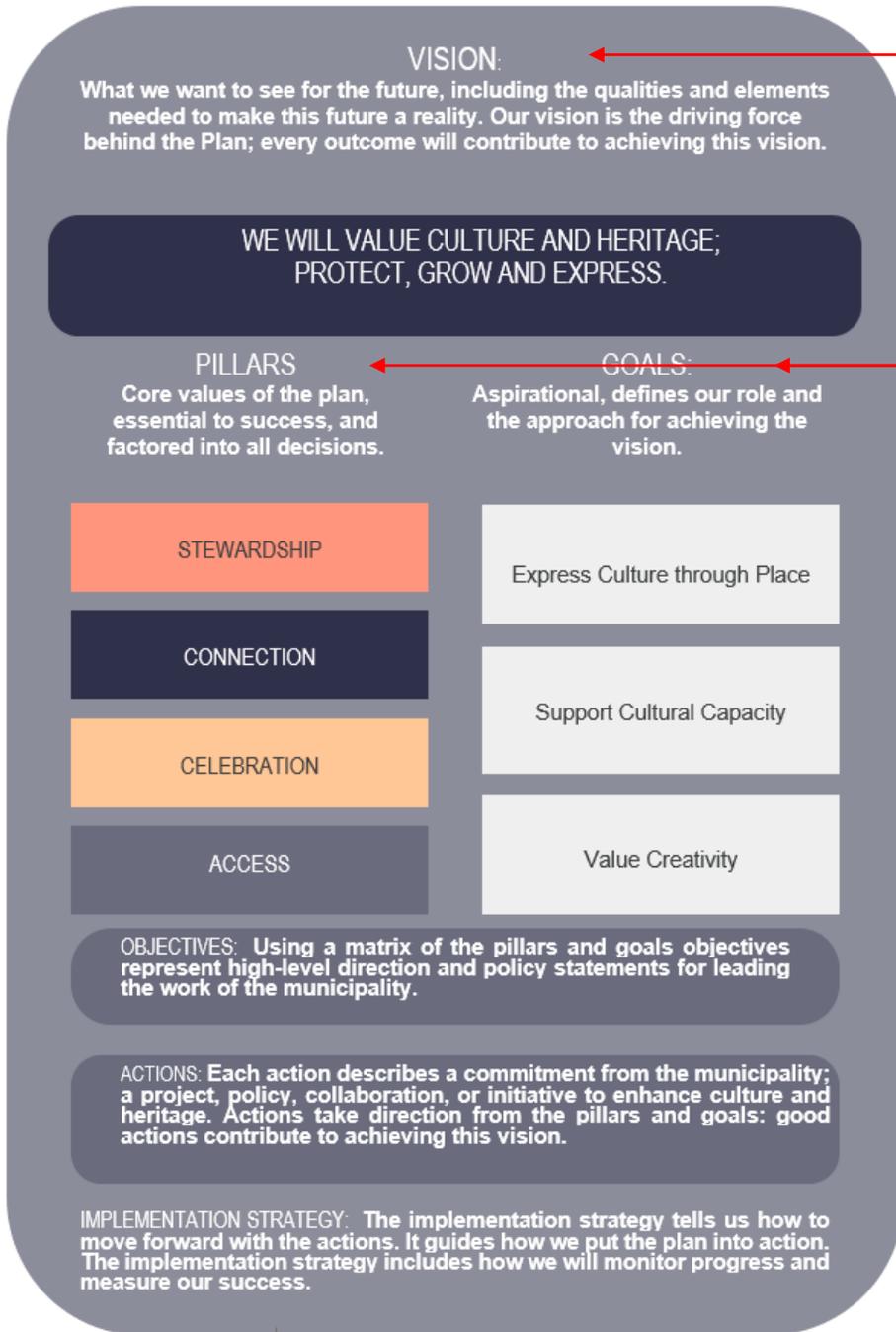


APAJI-MLKIKNEWA'TUMK TA'N  
TELO'LTIMK AQQ ME' EKINA'MASIMK TA'N  
WETAPEKSULTIJIJK WENIK KJIPUKTUK AQQ  
KIWTO'QIW.

**HALIFAX**

## Phase 2: Ideas from Early Engagement

- Make participation in cultural activities **more accessible, affordable and inclusive and reflective of HRM's diversity**
- Recognize **historically underrepresented communities, their stories identities and community boundaries**
- Facilitate **Culture-led Economic Development** in communities
- Promote cultural literacy and awareness opportunities through **cross-cultural experiential learning**, interaction and exchange
- Establish **inclusive central cultural hubs and creative spaces** at Community centres, public libraries and schools to offer arts and culture programs, bring people together to exchange ideas, encourage participation in cultural activities, and provide resources and training to support artists and arts and culture organizations.
- Foster more partnerships and **strengthen collaboration with communities on sustainable annual community cultural festivals and celebrations** – food, music, dance etc.
- Invest in arts and culture through **accessible financial supports and equitable grant application processes by exploring needs-based approaches**
- **Diversify engagement methods** used by HRM and adopt a cultural lens in engagement practices
- Invest in **development of transportation infrastructure to marginalized cultural and heritage sites**
- Provide **targeted support for digital transformation** in the culture and heritage sectors as technology offers opportunities for supportive marketing, communications and increased visibility of underrepresented culture and heritage
- Develop **community-specific and culturally relevant programming for children and youth**  
Break down silos and facilitate **collaboration across culture sectors and with other sectors**, large and small organizations, municipalities and ministries to help strengthen the sector and, in turn, enhance creative and economic benefits for the region.
- Provide **sustained, reliable funding** for artists and small cultural organizations.
- Broaden and Develop the City's Role in **cultural tourism** and build partnerships in Arts, Culture and Heritage



What we want to see for the future, including the qualities and elements needed to make this future a reality. Our vision is the driving force behind the Plan; every outcome will contribute to achieving this vision.

Aspirational, defines our role and the approach for achieving the vision.

Using a matrix of the pillars and goals objectives represent high-level direction and policy statements for leading the work of the municipality. The implementation strategy tells us how to move forward with the actions. It guides how we put the plan into action. The implementation strategy includes how we will monitor progress and measure our success.

# Culture is what connects us.

*It connects us to our ancestors, our past, to each other and to the future of the HALIFAX region. Culture connects people to places through arts, expression, stories, traditions, language, craft and architecture.*

**HALIFAX will value Culture and Heritage – protect, grow, and express it.**



We will celebrate culture to strengthen our sense of place and belonging.

We will support connection and inclusion through cultural expression. We will uphold the principles of Truth and Reconciliation.

We will create a region that reflects the diversity of the people who live here.

We will be stewards of our heritage and cultural resources and look to the past to enrich the future.

We will value and support creators, artists, and performers.

We will promote the cultures of the Halifax Region and share our stories.

## Draft Pillars

### Stewardship



- Strengthening our role as caretakers for the region.
- Stewardship is about nurturing our cultural resources, maintaining them, protecting, and renewing them.

### Connection



- Reaching out to communities to build and repair trust.
- Connection is about recognizing and valuing the unique yet often underrepresented or untold stories and histories within our region.

## Draft Pillars

### Celebration



- Celebrating a diversity of expression among community and creators.
- Supporting all people that live here, including newcomers, and people of all ages, abilities, cultural heritage, and interests.

### Access



- Providing opportunities for everyone to participate and enjoy culture and heritage.
- Improved coordination and distribution of resources among the diverse geography and communities in the region.

## Draft Goal 1

### Express culture through place

Place-making is about how we build the Halifax Region. It's community-building, storytelling through the built fabric, and protecting heritage. It's about the physical environment as a reflection of who we are as a region. Placemaking helps us to identify and tell the stories of specific people and places by protecting community - our presence on the land or in settlement patterns. Place-making guides new development to reflect existing and emerging cultures and affects our connection to our environment.

## Draft Goal 2

### Support Cultural Capacity

This is about how we will replenish, renew or develop cultural services - cultural facilities, access to artifacts, events programming and use of spaces. The municipality is providing cultural support and services throughout the Halifax Region in many different forms including through investment in institutions like libraries, museums and archival resources. By better defining the municipal role in cultural capacity building, we can create a stronger network of resources through partnerships, collaboration and coordination across the region.

## Draft Goal 3

### Value Creativity

This is about how we develop a platform for creativity by showcasing our culture and heritage. We value artists and creators because they have a unique role in developing culture. We commit to encourage and support excellence in artistic expressions through events, direct funding to professional arts organizations, nonprofits and community organizations. By sharing resources and developing partnerships among arts, culture and heritage groups, as well as the municipal and private sector, we can enhance the vibrancy of the region.

## Draft Policy Objectives

Goals	Pillars			
	Stewardship	Connection	Celebration	Access
<i>Express Culture through Place</i>	Design community to protect heritage assets and cultural landscapes that tell the story of the region.	Enhance and protect places that tell underrepresented stories to promote healing.	Support community-led identification and protection of important places.	Improve physical access to and distribution of heritage assets and cultural landscapes.
<i>Support Cultural Capacity</i>	Protect heritage and cultural resources including archives, artifacts and information.	Invest in cultural and heritage resources that renew relationships and that contribute to Reconciliation.	Invest in diverse arts practices, events and cultural programming throughout the region.	Enhance collaboration and improve access to cultural spaces, services and resources.
<i>Value Creativity</i>	Enhance the role of creators in the protection and interpretation of heritage and cultural resources in the region.	Prioritize support for creators, events, and projects that contribute to remembrance and promote untold stories.	Enable communities and creators to nurture and reflect unique identities and histories.	Reduce barriers and improve coordination for access to grants and programs for creators and community.

# What is Next?

- Continued stakeholder engagement over last few weeks of 2019
- In early 2020, we will regroup with stakeholders to receive feedback on the draft framework as presented here today (Vision/Pillars, Goals/Outcomes)
- We will bring a draft 'Sharing Our Stories Plan' back to Community Planning and Economic Development Committee next year (March 2020 target), and complete another round of broader public engagement on that draft document.
- After this we will integrate public feedback into the document, finalize the Plan and bring forward to Community Planning and Economic Development Committee and Regional Council.