



July 23, 2024

Association Heritage New Brunswick  
163 rue, St. John Street  
Fredericton, New Brunswick  
E3B 4A8

Dear Gerry Gillcash,

I appreciate the opportunity to share the Green Party of New Brunswick's perspective on preservation and promotion of New Brunswick's rich cultural heritage.

The Green Party recognizes the invaluable contribution of New Brunswick's heritage sites and museums to our tourism industry and overall cultural landscape. To safeguard and preserve these provincial treasures, we are committed to immediately filling all vacancies within the Heritage Branch at the Department of Tourism, Heritage, and Culture. Additionally, we pledge to consult with relevant stakeholders to develop a new Heritage Plan. This plan will determine the appropriate staffing capacity within the Heritage Branch, though for a start, I am committed to the addition of an engineering position within the Department to ensure the availability of necessary expertise. We will also review the adequacy of the *Heritage Conservation Act* in consultation with the sector.

When it comes to budget allocations, we would increase funding for historical societies and local museums to better support their marketing initiatives and help maintain their buildings. Recognizing the urgency of revitalizing the New Brunswick Museum, we are dedicated to establishing a firm schedule for its renovation and reopening, ensuring it continues to serve as a beacon of our shared history and heritage.

We acknowledge the importance of skilled workers in preserving our heritage buildings and are committed to work with both CCNB and NBCC to incorporate heritage restoration among their trades' training programs.

Our party recognizes the significance of retrofitting buildings, not only to address New Brunswick's housing shortage, but also to reduce carbon emissions. Therefore, we will work with the Department of Transportation and Infrastructure and the New Brunswick Housing Corporation to ensure that our historical buildings can be retrofitted, where appropriate, to address social needs.



Finally, building meaningful relationships with First Nations, Black, and Acadian communities and fostering reconciliation is a priority for our party. As an MLA and as a political leader, I take this work seriously and pursue it with a passion. To address historical injustices concerning heritage conservation, we are committed to working with representatives of these communities to do just that.

Thank you once again for your important work and for giving me the opportunity to share my vision for New Brunswick's heritage sector.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "David Coon". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

David Coon  
MLA, Fredericton South  
Leader, Green Party of New Brunswick