



MEDIA RELEASE

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Location: O'Dell House Museum
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The preservation and revitalization of one of the most prominent and distinctive heritage buildings in the National Historic District of Annapolis Royal is long overdue.

The Annapolis Heritage Society is seeking financial support for the acquisition of Annapolis Royal's historic Post Office Customs & Inland Revenue Offices Building and its repurposing into a Centre for Historical Research & Heritage Preservation.

"The Old Post Office is a landmark building in the National Historic District of Annapolis Royal" said William MacDonald, Chairman of the Annapolis Heritage Society's Old Post Office Committee. "The preservation and repurposing of this iconic building will allow it to once again be a vital part of the social and economic life of the town. The successful completion of this project will have a transformative effect on this part of the community."

Annapolis Royal's 1890 brick and stone Post Office Customs & Inland Revenue Offices Building was commissioned by Sir John A Macdonald, a Father of Confederation and Canada's First Prime Minister, and designed by Chief Dominion Architect Thomas Fuller – architect of the Parliament Buildings and Library of Parliament in Ottawa and the Halifax Armoury.

The proposed Centre for Historical Research & Heritage Preservation will house the operations of the Annapolis Heritage Society, including its Archives and Genealogy Centre – allowing for improved public access to the Society's significant collection of artifacts and historical records. Including, early Acadian (pre-expulsion) settlement records, and eighteenth century New England Planters and United Empire Loyalist records. A repository and exhibit of historic costumes will display how Annapolitans dressed through the centuries – and chronicle costumed interpreting at historic sites in and around Annapolis Royal.

The repurposed building will provide rental and meeting space and public access to computer workstations and office equipment – as well as a much needed public washroom (with handicapped accessibility) open 24 hours a day and 7 days a week.

For more information please contact **Ryan Scranton, Executive Director, Annapolis Heritage Society**, 902-532-7754 or historic@ns.aliantzinc.ca.