



BUILDING RESILIENCE:

Practical Guidelines for the Sustainable Rehabilitation of Buildings in Canada

“Heritage conservation contributes to creating sustainable built environments and resilient communities”

This is the foundational principle behind **Building Resilience**, scheduled for release in spring, 2015. The document is the result of a collaboration between Parks Canada’s Federal, Provincial and Territorial Collaboration (FPT) on Historic Places and the BC Heritage Branch.

Historic place conservation is earning a significant position in the broader green building and community sustainability agenda through increased recognition of the heritage and sustainability connection and enhanced government policies and programs. This guide is a “green building tool” that builds on best practices contained in the *Standards and Guidelines for the Conservation of Historic Places in Canada (S&Gs)*.

The document encourages an integrated approach to achieving sustainability in traditional construction, and provides guidance for renewing, upgrading and adapting our historic and existing buildings, neighbourhoods and communities. It responds to a growing awareness of the resilience and durability of traditional building construction and design, and helps to facilitate retention and continued use of Historic Places as models of stewardship for the existing built environment.

Building Resilience targets a broad spectrum of users and incorporates familiar as well as less mainstream concepts including:

- Understanding how buildings are inherently sustainable in design and function *before* making intervention decisions
- Understanding that more modern buildings present unique conservation challenges as their materials and assemblies age
- The arrangement of interior spaces in traditional construction and their important relationship to exterior form and building function

Each chapter of **Building Resilience** systematically defines the issues, describes the sustainable elements and challenges, explains interrelationships with other building elements and functions, and recommends strategies for sustainable intervention.

A series of illustrated case studies provides real-life examples drawn from across Canada.

