



Canadian Association for  
Conservation of Cultural Property  
Association canadienne pour la  
conservation et la restauration  
des biens culturels

Honourable Gene Makowsky, MLA  
Minister of Parks, Culture and Sports  
Legislative Building  
2405 Legislative Drive  
Regina, SK  
S4S 0B3

21 Aug 2020

Dear Minister,

As President of the Canadian Association for Conservation of Cultural Property (CAC), I am writing to draw your attention to the Royal Saskatchewan Museum's (RSM) need for a suitable facility to replace its current Research and Collections Building (REC).

The RSM cultural heritage collection has been housed in a "temporary" facility (2340 Albert Street, Regina, SK) for the past 35 years. Although this building contributes to the basic protection of the collection, it does not provide the conditions necessary for long-term preservation. Indeed, the REC, as a designated heritage building, was never designed with modern standards for conservation in mind. It does not provide adequate protection to the collection in terms of climate control, pest management, or the safe and efficient movement of collection objects. This leaves the collection at high risk of irreversible damage. Furthermore, the REC is reaching its maximum storage capacity and will not be able to fully house the RSM's growing collection within the next five years.

The development of a new building to house the RSM collection and research programs is integral in following the Honourable Premier Scott Moe's vision for a *Strong Saskatchewan*. As highlighted in the Ministry of Parks, Culture and Sports Plan for 2020-2021, the improvement of the current RSM infrastructure is a key action toward a stronger economy and a more vibrant community in the province. Not only would a new Centre improve the preservation of collections, but it would also facilitate increased museum attendance and participation by maximizing safe accessibility for the public.

The CAC fully supports the RSM's request and asks the Government of Saskatchewan to take the necessary steps to provide the RSM with an efficient and accessible collection care facility. The RSM's unique and invaluable natural history collection, as well as their holdings on behalf of indigenous communities, must be preserved for current and future generations of Saskatchewan citizens.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads 'Alison Freake'.

Alison Freake,  
President,  
Canadian Association for Conservation of Cultural Property |  
Association canadienne pour la conservation et la restauration des biens culturels

CC:  
Honourable Scott Moe, Premier