[DATE]

[YOUR CITY COUNCILLOR]

[ADDRESS]

Dear [YOUR CITY COUNCILLOR],

As a member of the arts and heritage community of [INSERT CITY/TOWN], I would like to express my concern for the lack of necessary funding for the conservation of cultural property held in the city’s public trust. Our city [OR TOWN] is fortunate to have a wealth of cultural property, in the form of public art, archives, and our civic museum collection [IF POSSIBLE, REPLACE THIS LIST WITH SPECIFIC CIVIC HOLDINGS IN YOUR COMMUNITY]. Together, these rich collections help form our city’s cultural and historical identity. However, these collections are continually at risk of degradation and loss without the intervention of heritage conservation professionals and the application of funding for proper collections care.

I would like to formally request that the city invest in the care and preservation of its public collections by providing funding and grants to the institutions that house them and by encouraging the hiring of art and heritage conservation professionals to carry out necessary preservation work. If it has not already been done, I urge the city to have an overall condition survey undertaken to identify the preservation needs of the city’s public art collections. Without having the necessary financial resources dedicated to these projects, we leave our city’s public cultural property exposed to major threats of deterioration that may render them inaccessible.

This investment in the preservation of our city’s cultural property will not only ensure that these collections remain accessible to all citizens, but will stimulate the city’s cultural economy by creating employment opportunities for trained conservation professionals, by raising awareness about the cultural treasures within the city’s holdings, and assuring continued tourism revenue from these collections into the future. As these collections are held in the public trust, the city of [INSERT NAME OF CITY/TOWN} carries a responsibility of stewardship to ensure they are preserved and accessible for current and future generations.

Sincerely,

[YOUR NAME]

cc

[INSERT NAME AND TITLE OF YOUR MAYOR AND THEIR CONTACT INFORMATION]

[YOUR LOCAL AND PROVINCIAL HERITAGE ORGANIZATIONS OR INSTITUTIONS]

President, Canadian Association for Conservation of Cultural Property president@cac-accr.ca