



309B Macleod Trail SW  
High River, Alberta Canada T1V 1Z5  
P: 403.652.2110 F: 403.652.2396  
[www.highriver.ca](http://www.highriver.ca)

February 16<sup>th</sup>, 2012

Chamber of Commerce  
High River & District  
P.O. Box 5244  
High River, AB T1V 1M4

Attention: Lynette McCracken, Executive Director

#### RE: DOWNTOWN HERITAGE INVENTORY PROJECT

As High River grows and develops, it is important to ensure that we maintain our identity and protect those heritage buildings which are an integral part of our town's unique character. The first step toward protecting this heritage is to identify and list those buildings which are architecturally or historically significant to High River, and then evaluate those resources that would merit conservation. These lists are referred to as "Heritage Inventories" and the Town of High River has received a grant from Alberta Historical Resources Foundation's Municipal Heritage Partnership Program (MHPP) to prepare such an inventory of the downtown area.

The services of Community Design Strategies Inc (CDS) have been contracted to provide technical expertise in compiling and preparing this Heritage Inventory. With the help of the Town's new Heritage Advisory Board, the CDS consultants have now compiled a list of potentially significant buildings in the downtown district and have begun their process of photographic documentation and research.

As an important component of their initial review and analysis, CDS is now seeking assistance from the downtown community organizations and residents of High River. Therefore, on behalf of CDS and the Town of High River, we wish to invite anyone

interested in local heritage or with stories to share about the history of local places, people or events, particularly as they relate to the downtown area, to join us at this open house on February 28<sup>th</sup>. While this event is partly intended to provide background information on the heritage inventory project, and what it means for property owners to have their buildings designated as “historic”, it is more importantly about having conversations with our community members – about your memories of the Town and the things you value. We encourage you to bring your photo albums, scrapbooks, and any other memorabilia you feel will add to your stories!

The evening’s program will be as follows:

- **4:00 – 4:30 PM:** *Meet and greet, with opportunity to review display boards and other resources*
- **4:30 – 5:30 PM:** *Presentation on the Municipal Heritage Partnership Program and the heritage inventory process with Q & A to follow*
- **5:30 – 6:00 PM:** *Project overview presentation by CDS Inc. with Q & A to follow*
- **6:00 – 8:00 PM:** *Informal story sharing sessions with CDS consultants*

If you would like further information about this Heritage Inventory Project or the Open House, please contact Vidya John, Heritage and Culture Planner, at 403-603-3418 or [vjohn@highriver.ca](mailto:vjohn@highriver.ca). More detailed information may also be found on the Town’s website, [www.highriver.ca](http://www.highriver.ca), under the Public Forum tab.