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# **Hallmark Heritage News**

Your voice for heritage in the Capital Region and the Islands since 1973

## **Hallmark Lecture & AGM**



Please join us on Tuesday, September 26, 2023 at the Wentworth Villa, 1156 Fort Street for an interesting talk "Craigdarroch Military Hospital, A Canadian War Story" with Bruce Davies, Curator at Craigdarroch Castle. Bruce Davis will describe Canada's system of medical care for soldiers during and just after the Great War. His illustrated lecture will explain how Craigdarroch's building fabric and its landscape was transformed in order to help disabled men return to civilian life. The talk will be preceded by the Hallmark Heritage Society AGM.

Tea, Coffee and light refreshments will be available.

Please book a ticket.

Book a free ticket for Sept. 26 lecture.



1702 Quadra, existing Abby

### 1702 Quadra - The Abby Apartments

On Thursday, September 14th, Victoria City Council Committee of the whole considered a proposal for a 13 story building at 1702 Quadra Street replacing the Abby Apartments.



1702 Quadra - Proposal of December 2021



17092 Quadra - Proposal approved at COW meeting Sept 14, 2023.



First United Church - Balmoral & Quadra

the Abby Apartments, a two-storey brick building constructed circa 1915. The current plan fails to preserve the façade although they say they will try and re-use some of the old bricks and there will be a stainless screen illustrating the original owners, similar to the screen that can be seen on the Amazon facility out near the airport.

The design currently being proposed now has balconies jutting out from the façade along Fisgard Street and the building starts to look like it will "take off" in a high west wind.

City staff was trying to get the building owners to change the colours and textures of the exterior materials as the ones proposed did not meet the City guidelines for a new building within 90 meters of a historic building, in this case the First United Church, immediately across the street but City Council basically told the owners to ignore staff and go ahead with the proposed design.

These will be high-priced rental units at "what the market would bear" with only 4 parking spots (Council "hopes" the lack of parking will reduce rental rates) and City staff have stated they are trying to "shape people's behaviours".

City Council and staff are now approving any new building that can fit through the wide, wide doorway of the Official Community Plan (OCP)and, without any input from the general public as they voted not to hold a public hearing, this is now possible as a result of recent changes at the Provincial level.

Council speaks of "balance" between the heritage sections of the OCP and the need for more residential units in the City but, when the heritage disappears, there is no balance!

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Now is the time to renew your Hallmark Heritage Society Membership. CLICK HERE!

#### **UPCOMING EVENTS:**

Wednesday, September 20th at 7:00 pm in the Windsor Park Pavilion, Jordan Stanger-Ross speaks on "The Campaign to Expel Japanese Canadians".

Sunday, September 24th at 2 pm in the Newcombe Hall, Royal BC Museum, The Friends of BC Archives will be presenting a talk be Dr. Sean Carlton - "Truth before Reconciliation: Unsettling British Columbia's History of Schooling and Settler Colonialism".

Thursday, September 28th at 7:30 pm the Victoria Historical Society will have a general meeting at 234 Menzies Street featuring a talk by Hamar Foster about the controversial first Chief Justice Matthew Baillie Begbie, on September 28th.

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