

On June 8<sup>th</sup> and 9<sup>th</sup> 2013, Halifax will launch its first Doors Open event to celebrate the great buildings of our city. Culturally important, functionally relevant, historically significant and architecturally interesting buildings, from the past and present, will open their doors to the public free-of-charge. Visitors will have an opportunity to walk through buildings not normally open to the public and learn something about their design, their past, and the kind of work and activities that takes place behind their walls.

The Doors Open Program was launched in Europe in 1990 and arrived in Canada in 2000. It is hugely popular in numerous Canadian cities. Ottawa has had 600,000 visitors at its venues since 2002, Winnipeg has had 250,000 visitors since 2004, and the City of Toronto had 200,000 visitors in 2012 alone.

The Doors Open Halifax Heritage Society has been established as a registered non-profit society to introduce and operate Doors Open Halifax. The Society Board of Directors is comprised of:

- Ms. Dale Noseworthy, Vice President, Killam Properties Inc.
- Mr. George Gray, Vice President, Black Educators Association of Nova Scotia
- Mr. John MacLeod, Senior Archivist, Nova Scotia Archives and Records
- Ms. Kimberly Crane, Director, North Atlantic Trading Limited
- Mr. Peter Delefes, Past-President, Heritage Trust of Nova Scotia
- Mr. Hugh MacKay, President, Pier 12 Management Inc.

The event has support from the Nova Scotia Association of Architects, the Heritage Trust of Nova Scotia, the Dalhousie University School of Architecture, the Association of Nova Scotia Museums, the Heritage Canada Foundation and other community stakeholders.

Our branding, event management and public relations is being handled by MT&L PR, a leading Halifax public relations firm.

Halifax has a rich architectural heritage which can be expressed and celebrated through this event. Our buildings are the story-books of our history. They are the tangible evidence of the development of our society, our values and our shared history. Many of these buildings are part of our everyday lives, yet most are generally unavailable to the public. By providing public access into these previously unviewed buildings, Doors Open Halifax will increase advocacy in the preservation of our local heritage and become a major event on the cultural calendar of Nova Scotia.

For additional information, please contact:

Hugh MacKay President Doors Open Halifax