

## Resources

For further information or advice, contact:

Nigel Beattie, Director of Building & Planning  
at (250) 598-2042, extension 2224 or by  
email at [nbeattie@oakbaybc.org](mailto:nbeattie@oakbaybc.org).

You can also check out the Oak Bay  
Heritage Steering Committee website at  
[www.oakbaybc.org/heritage/obchc](http://www.oakbaybc.org/heritage/obchc).

## Other Useful Links

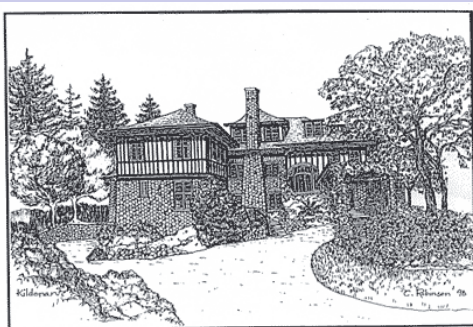
Heritage Canada Foundation  
[www.heritagecanada.org](http://www.heritagecanada.org)

Heritage Society of BC  
[www.heritage.bc.ca](http://www.heritage.bc.ca)

Heritage Victoria  
[www.heritage.vic.gov.au](http://www.heritage.vic.gov.au)

The Land Conservancy of BC  
[www.conservancy.bc.ca](http://www.conservancy.bc.ca)

Heritage Legacy Fund  
[www.heritagelegacyfund.ca](http://www.heritagelegacyfund.ca)



**Kildonan House located at 931 Foul Bay Road. Designated heritage since 1987.**



**Corporation of the District  
of Oak Bay**

2167 Oak Bay Avenue  
Victoria, BC V8R 1G2

Phone: 250-598-2042, ext. 2224  
Fax: 250-598-9108  
Website: [www.oakbaybc.org](http://www.oakbaybc.org)  
Email: [nbeattie@oakbaybc.org](mailto:nbeattie@oakbaybc.org)

# Alteration & Demolition Permits for Older Homes



## Heritage Oak Bay



Working to preserve architectural, cultural  
and natural heritage in the district of Oak Bay

## Background Information

The Oak Bay Heritage Steering Committee is an appointed volunteer committee, mandated to advise the Oak Bay Municipal Council and Oak Bay homeowners about heritage issues.

As a group of volunteers, who are also Oak Bay residents, we are all conscious of the changes that are happening to the character and streetscapes of our community.

If you are considering applying for an alteration, demolition or building permit on an older home, the following questions and answers may be of value.

### **What are “Heritage Revitalization Agreements”?**

These are heritage tools which are being used more frequently by municipalities. They are essentially legal contracts between the homeowner and the municipality empowering the municipality to change use and siting in order to legally protect a home. This tool benefits both the municipality that saves a building; and the homeowner who is granted a beneficial variance. There are currently two HRA’s in Oak Bay—one allowing a higher density of occupancy and the other relaxing certain conditions that came about from a subdivision. In both cases, the homes were saved.

### **After careful consideration, I have decided to demolish my home. Why should I consider moving the building?**

The committee would like to see buildings with heritage value saved or renovated. The committee recognizes that in some cases such

buildings will be demolished because they no longer meet the needs of the property owner. In those instances, to move a building is a better option than to demolish it. The house can still survive in another location and the demolished materials will be kept out of the landfill. For structures with heritage value and a demolition permit, the committee will ask the owner if it can photographically document the building for the Oak Bay Archives.

## Alteration Permits

### **Where should I start looking for information regarding the original appearance of my home?**

An informational brochure entitled “Researching Your Oak Bay Home” is available at the Municipal Hall.

The brochure details resources that will aid in the search for the history and/or photographs of your house.

### **Who should I contact for advice regarding alterations to my older home?**

The committee meetings are held once a month and are open to the public. The public is welcome and, with advance notice, can ask for advice from the committee. The committee can provide you with information regarding age appropriate materials and resources for restoration.

## Demolition Permits

### **Who should I contact for advice regarding alternatives to demolition?**

The committee can provide information about heritage tools, such as Heritage Revitalization Agreements, and adaptive re-use of buildings that might provide alternative solutions to demolition.

### **I have an Oak Bay home that I feel may be worthy of heritage designation. What advantage is this for the homeowner?**

There are currently 19 homes in Oak Bay which are officially recognized through a municipal bylaw as being “designated”. Owners of these “designated” homes can apply for grants from the Oak Bay Heritage Foundation to assist with renovation projects such as painting and re-roofing. These homes are also subject to certain restrictions when applying for a building permit. The Committee is involved in advising the Oak Bay Municipal Council regarding the appropriateness of those alterations.

