

August 19, 2018

## Good News! Supplementary Financial Support for the Restoration of St. Stephen's Church

The Fabrique of the Parish of St. Stephen's is pleased to share with you that it has received approval for an additional \$91,274 in financial support as announced recently by Madame Marie Montpetit, Minister of Culture and Communications. Earlier this year, the Fabrique approached the Conseil du Patrimoine Religieux du Québec (CPRQ) for supplementary funding to help us complete our church restoration project at a level of quality and in a manner respectful of the heritage status of our building.

In 2015, the CPRQ and the Quebec Department of Culture and Communications announced the approval of \$168,336 in financial assistance for the restoration of our church's storm windows, some structural work, and the significant work to repair and restore the roof. The technical analyses done in 2016 and 2017 showed that the actual cost of the restoration of the building would be higher than originally anticipated due to the contractual requirements for a religious heritage building to remain as authentic as possible to the materials and styles used at the time of its 19<sup>th</sup> century construction. That led the Fabrique to apply for increased financial support.

As you know, the restoration project is already well under way. The storm windows of the church have been removed and are being restored off site. They will be re-installed in August. The *cornices* and *frontons* will be repaired and repainted at the same time. The supplementary funding recently approved, will see the church roof restored in the traditional Québécois style of "*en tôle pincée*" or "*à la baguette*"<sup>1</sup> with quality workmanship as stipulated by the CPRQ. It is expected that these restorations will be completed in 2019 or 2020.

It should be noted that the supplementary financing increases the Church's 30% commitment from \$67,334 to \$106,452. More than half of these funds were raised in 2017 during our special 'Major Restoration' funding drive. The balance will come from our budget and the sale of some land on which the Fabrique has been working for some time.

The Fabrique of St. Stephen's wishes to acknowledge the active support of Monsieur Jocelyn Groulx, director of the CPRQ and its Outaouais Regional Table, under the direction of Madame Marie Roy, which led to the award by the Ministry of Culture and Communications. We are very grateful for their initial and continuous advice and assistance in acquiring the financing that will allow us to complete the restoration needed by our beautiful church building and to maintain its religious heritage status as part of Chelsea's history.

Parishioners wishing more information on the project are invited to contact Jérôme Doutriaux at 819-827-0694 or by email: [doutriaux@sympatico.ca](mailto:doutriaux@sympatico.ca).

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<sup>1</sup> The terms "*en tôle pincée*" or "*à la baguette*" are not translatable into English however online Google searches for them will reveal explanatory images.