

STEWARDING THE FUTURE

Cathedral Basilica Foundation NL
Strategic Plan Summary



Honouring heritage. Strengthening stewardship. Inspiring generations.

A Living Landmark for Everyone

For generations, the Cathedral Basilica has stood over St. John's - its twin towers a defining feature of the city skyline and one of Newfoundland and Labrador's most recognizable historic landmarks.

More than a building, it is a place where people have gathered to mark life's milestones, celebrate culture, and connect with one another. Visitors from around the world come here to experience the artistry, craftsmanship, and history that helped shape our province.

The Basilica is part of the story of St. John's and Newfoundland and Labrador - a place that belongs to the wider community.



A Moment of Transition

When the future of the Basilica Block became uncertain, our community faced an important decision: allow this landmark to decline, or take steps to protect it for the future.

The Cathedral Basilica Foundation stepped forward to ensure that this extraordinary place - an architectural, historical, and cultural treasure - would be preserved and maintained as a public landmark.

Today, our work is about more than maintaining stone and stained glass. It is about safeguarding a place that tells the story of our people, our city, and our shared heritage.



Our Commitment: Five Priorities for the Future



Protecting Our Heritage.

Moving from reactive repairs to long-term conservation planning that preserves the Basilica Block for generations.

Building Sustainability.

Developing stable and diverse funding sources to ensure the long-term care of this historic site.

Strengthening Leadership.

Building governance and leadership structures that match the scale and importance of this landmark.

Growing Community Connections.

Creating partnerships that expand programming, cultural activity, and community engagement.



Getting It Right.

Putting in place the professional systems, expertise, and planning needed to steward a site of national significance.

The Journey Ahead: 2026–2030



Year 1–2: Stabilize

Strengthen governance, planning, and financial systems to support long-term stewardship.

Year 2–3: Enable

Build organizational capacity and develop a comprehensive conservation strategy.

Year 3–4: Amplify

Expand partnerships, programming, and community access once strong foundations are in place.



What Success Looks Like

By 2030 Imagine:

- Walking through a carefully preserved historic landmark where every architectural detail tells part of our story.
- Attending concerts, cultural events, exhibitions, community gatherings, and services that continue the Basilica's long tradition as both a place of faith and a gathering place for the wider community.
- Knowing that future generations will experience the same sense of wonder and connection.
- Being part of a community that chose to protect one of its most important historic places.

THIS IS YOUR INVITATION

The future of the Basilica is not shaped by one organization alone—it is shaped by the community that values it. You can be part of the work as a:

DONOR

Helping protect a landmark that belongs to all of us.

VOLUNTEER

Sharing your time and talents.

ADVOCATE

Helping raise awareness of this important heritage site.

VISITOR

Experiencing the history and beauty of this remarkable place.

PARTNER

Working with us to expand what is possible.




Together, We Are Preserving a Landmark and Investing in the Future.




VISIT OUR WEBSITE



 **Maria Conkey**
Executive Director

 **Aiden Decker**
Administrative &
Accounting Coordinator

 **Glenn Etchegary**
Board Chair

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