

Engagement Planning, Public Art, and Urban Design

Community Lab applied study with the City of Lethbridge

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SITE SUMMARY

About: Owned by the Chinese National League Society of Lethbridge. In 2011, their chapter building was demolished.

Location: 309 2nd Avenue South, Lethbridge, in the historical Chinatown District of Downtown.

Measurements: Approximately 7.5m wide and 38m deep and an area of 0.07 acres (290 m²).

Zoning: C-D, Downtown Commercial development, which allows for the zoning of a variety of commercial, residential, institutional, cultural and recreational uses.

Aerial map of site boundaries (light blue) and gas lines (yellow lines)



Aerial map of water lines (dark blue)

*There is evidence of in-ground water lines on the site, however, they are not apparent on the map.



COMPLETED DURING SPRING 2023

- Artist -led Engagement Brief
- Decolonizing Planning Brief
- Economic Impact and Relevancy of Chinatowns Report
- Plan Area Brief
- Planning History of Chinatowns
- Statement of Work

GUIDING FRAMEWORKS

IDEA: Inclusion, Diversity, Equity, Access

- Addressing systemic barriers and biases by promoting fairness, respect, and equal opportunities for all individuals and groups, regardless of their background, ability, or identity.

Decolonizing Planning

- Acknowledging and challenging the historical and ongoing impacts of colonialism embedded within planning practices and policies.

Critical Heritage Perspective

- Recognizing the historical, political, economic, and social factors that shape our understanding of the past to promote critical examination of power dynamics that influence what is preserved as heritage, who benefits from it, and whose histories are left out.

Placemaking

- Collaborative process of transforming public spaces into a vibrant and inclusive place that reflects the community's needs, values, and aspirations.

OVERVIEW

This project focuses on co-producing a public realm enhancement project to commemorate the Chinese National League Society (CNLS) and their history in Lethbridge. The site revitalization must honour the representation of Chinese history that the CNLS deems important to highlight in Lethbridge. The priority is facilitating the CNLS's vision for the site; this approach aligns with several City of Lethbridge policies already in place.

CITY POLICY SUPPORT

- Downtown Area Redevelopment Plan
- Heart of Our City Master Plan
- Public Realm and Transportation Study
- Municipal Development Plan

