



### CS#5.3 Reconciling Heritage Value: Diversity, Dissonance and Authenticity

#### Session Chair: Beth Hanna

**Presenter:** Beth Hanna, Chief Executive Officer, Ontario Heritage Trust

**Presentation title:** We protect what we value: Re-imagining our evaluation and protection models

**Presentation summary:** The introduction to the session examines traditional evaluation and protection models; explores the current challenges of protecting the living context of place and considers international models that consider multi-faceted site values and layers of history. Leading into the panel presentations, Hanna will propose options by which to broaden the protection framework to more accurately reflect the story, values and diverse composition of our communities.

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**Presenter:** Anne Taylor, Cultural Archivist, Curve Lake Cultural Centre

**Presentation title:** All Land Is Sacred

**Presentation summary:** The presentation will be explored through a brief talk on how First Nations rights are tied to land use, including how archaeology and cultural heritage must be understood to be a significant part of those rights. I will briefly discuss the idea of First Nations lead archaeology, how that would look and how this would create a partnership between First Nations and Archaeologists. I will speak about why First Nations honour the land and how that connects us to each other and to the place we stand.

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**Presenter:** Joanie and Gary McGuffin, Group of Seven explorers, conservation photographers, writers, Co-producers of the award-winning film *Painted Land: In Search of the Group of Seven*

**Presentation title:** Group of Seven Heritage Landscapes, Identification, Conservation, Interpretation

**Presentation summary:** During the formative years of Tom Thomson and the Group of Seven, a great swath of northern Ontario landscape was enthusiastically captured in copious plein aire sketches to large studio canvases. Georgian Bay, Algonquin Park, Bon Echo Park, and the Algoma and North Shore regions bordering Lake Superior were the enduring subjects captured by these landscape painters in scenes that have drawn international acclaim. Our project sought to discover, *within a vast wilderness both changed and unchanged*, the exact locations from where the painters painted to the exact scenes themselves. Identifying, documenting and interpreting these sites has involved maps, journals, letters, conversations but most importantly hundreds of hours in the field, with binders of paintings, riding the rails, paddling canoes, hiking the hills, finding the vistas, recognizing the rocks. Many sites have been found, many more remain to be discovered. The challenge now is how to preserve these sites while at the same time ensuring their cultural value is celebrated and shared.

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**Presenter:** John Lorinc, Freelance Writer

**Presentation title:** Social history, erasure and built form: on recognizing the heritage of marginalized neighbourhoods/communities

**Presentation summary:** The Tenement Museum in New York's Lower East Side in recent years has offered a powerful lesson about the compelling historic and educational value of architecturally unremarkable buildings that were long stigmatized (and then demolished) because they were seen as unworthy of preservation. Traditionally, heritage preservation has been directed at important institutional structures or the architecturally distinctive dwellings of the affluent. But growing public and academic interest in social history can and should be reflected in heritage preservation goals and practices, so we avoid erasing all traces of the built forms associated with the narratives of those who lacked capital and power.