

POLICY MANUAL

POLICY NUMBER:

**SUBJECT: COMMUNITY STANDARDS POLICY
BELL HOMESTEAD NATIONAL HISTORIC SITE**

MISSION STATEMENT

The Parks & Recreation Department of the City of Brantford collects, preserves, researches and exhibits, for the education and enjoyment of the public, the historic resources of the Bell Homestead National Historic Site for the purpose of interpreting the 1870 to 1881 household of Alexander Melville and Eliza Bell, the events surrounding the invention of the telephone by Alexander Graham Bell, and the origins of Canadian Telephone operations to 1880.

POLICY STATEMENT: (Purpose/Objective)

In keeping with the Bell Homestead National Historic Site's (Mission Statement, the Bell Homestead N.H.S. endeavours to be a steward of the historic resources it holds in-trust for the community of the City of Brantford, with the goal of preserving and interpreting:

- the 1870 to 1881 household of Alexander Melville and Eliza Bell;
- the history of the events surrounding the invention of the telephone by Alexander Graham Bell;
- the history of the origins of Canadian telephone operations to 1881.

RELATED POLICY PROCEDURES/GUIDELINES:

1.0 Community Needs and Interests

1.1 The Bell Homestead N.H.S. will provide services and programmes consistent with its Mission Statement. Such services and programmes will strive to educate and entertain - within the provisions set forth in the site's Exhibition, Education & Interpretation, and Research Policies - with a view to meeting the needs and interests of the community and visitors from abroad.

1.2 The Bell Homestead N.H.S. will exhibit historical resources from its own collection, from other public institutions, or from private sources, in order to satisfy the site's Mission Statement, Exhibition and Research Policies and to meet the needs and interests of the public.

2.0 Public Participation

The Bell Homestead N.H.S. will allow all sectors of the community to participate in the site's decisions, goals and directions that may affect them or reflect on them. This goal is achieved through participation with the Bell Homestead Committee (within the provisions set forth in the Bell Homestead Constitution), sub-committees of the Bell Homestead Committee (e.g. Community Outreach Committee), public meetings and surveys, and through partnerships with community groups, organizations, businesses and citizens at large.

3.0 Community Inclusion

The Bell Homestead N.H.S. is committed to including members of the community in all site activities and programming. As an educational and cultural service of the Brantford Parks & Recreation Department, the site operates for the community's betterment with publicly accessible historic resources.

4.0 Community Partnerships

Employing a Community Development Model when possible, the Bell Homestead N.H.S. will pursue appropriate community partnerships for the development and delivery of programmes and services, resource sharing, and funding opportunities.

5.0 Promotion of Resources, Services, and Programmes

The Bell Homestead N.H.S. will provide equality of access to information regarding the site's resources, services, and programmes through adequate promotion.

6.0 Accessibility

The Bell Homestead N.H.S., is committed to providing equal access to all members of the community, both physically and intellectually, to the site's historic resources information, services and programmes.

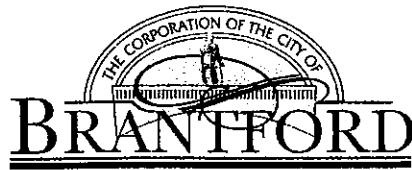
This responsibility is reflected in Corporate Policy 034, Customer Service Accessibility Standards, of the City of Brantford that states:

"The City of Brantford is committed to providing equal access to people with disabilities with respect to the use and benefit of City goods, services and programs.

The City of Brantford will make reasonable efforts to ensure:

1. that goods and services are provided in a manner that respects the dignity and independence of persons with disabilities;
2. the provision of goods and services to people with disabilities, and others, are integrated unless an alternate measure is necessary, whether temporarily or permanently, to enable a person with a disability to obtain, use, or benefit from the goods and services provided by the City of Brantford; and
3. people with disabilities are given an opportunity – equal to that given to others - to obtain, use and benefit from the goods and services provided by the City of Brantford."

Date of Enactment: May 24, 2011	Related By-law Number/Staff Report Number: Report No. EN2011-066
Review and Amendment Dates: November 2, 2010/ May 24, 2011	Department Responsible for Review: Parks and Recreation
Date of Next Review:	Applicable Legislation/Legislative Authority: Community Museum Operating Grant Program, Ontario Ministry of Tourism and Culture, Culture Programs Unit



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