

## **Sandy Hill: Creating Past Informed Futures Cultural Memory Workshop**

Date: January 17, 2018

Time: 6-9 pm

Location: All Saints, 317 Chapel Street, Ottawa

### Goals

To bring diverse community members together to discuss challenges facing Sandy Hill and to develop collective priorities and ideas for managing change. Through the workshop, the participants will be able to *explore the potential* for various community-based interventions to preserve what is valued in Sandy Hill, to attract positive development, and to build community cohesion.

### Program

**Presentations:** Three speakers will represent Sandy Hill's past, present, and future. The first speaker will discuss Sandy Hill's history and heritage. The second speaker will discuss Sandy Hill's changing demography and the pressures being brought to bear on our community. The final speaker will discuss City of Ottawa economic development, planning, and cultural priorities, and their projected impacts on Sandy Hill. Each speaker will present for 10 minutes. The presentation section of the workshop is designed to bring community members up to speed on the most pressing issues facing Sandy Hill, demographic trends, and its current development trajectory. It will be followed by a short break, whereafter participants will be asked to join one of 5 groups for the group challenge component of the workshop.

**Group Challenges:** The workshop participants, assembled into 5 groups of equal number and equal diversity (to the degree possible), will each work on a single theme-driven challenge with the assistance of a facilitator. The themes-driven challenges are:

1. Student Housing: How can we create and *integrate* affordable student housing units without sacrificing the neighbourhood?
2. Heritage: What do we want to preserve (and at what cost?) and what are we willing to offer up for change? How do we wish to direct that change?
3. Amenities: What amenities do we need in Sandy Hill and what are we willing to go outside of our neighbourhood for?
4. Diversity: How do we attract the economic diversity of residents necessary to bridge the growing divide between students and homeowners and to renew our community?
5. Inclusion and cohesion: How do we build and sustain inclusiveness and community cohesion such that both long and short-term residents are actively engaged in building a better Sandy Hill in perpetuity.

The individual groups will have 45 minutes to discuss their ideas, which the facilitator will document on a flipchart in bullet point format. At the end of the 45-minute group worksessions, and following a short break, all participants will reconvene and a presenter for each group will give a 5-minute synopsis of the challenge and ideas of their group for a total of 25 minutes.

**Group Discussion:** The entire group will have a 30-40 minute Q and A and discussion session.

**Follow-Up:** Part of the group discussion will be to assess next steps and to gauge the appetite and potential for a larger community-visioning process and the development of a 'community action-plan' or other community-planning instruments.

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This workshop was conceived by the Cultural Memory Workshops team in collaboration with ASH Director Trina Cooper-Bolam. It funded by the Cultural Memory Workshops initiative as part of its 2017-2018 series. The program for the Sandy Hill workshop was developed by Trina Cooper-Bolam and Guillaume Vincent of ASH as a means of touching base with the greater community of Sandy Hill and of generating broad community interest in heritage and planning.

About Cultural Memory Workshops:

Developed by University of Ottawa post-doctoral researcher Rebecca Dolgoy, with the support of Carleton University's Centre for Public History, the Cultural Memory Workshops initiative and partnerships-development program explores collective memory, place-making, and stimulates collaborative public historical practice.

Each workshop in the series is designed to engage communities in exploring questions of cultural memory - the presence of the past in contemporary culture. All workshops are open to the public. New workshops are continuously being developed, mostly inspired and instigated through the ideas and collaborations formed in previous workshops.

Each session has its own format and subject. The organizing principle of this year, 2017-2018, is the 'local' or 'Ottawa'. In this series, Ottawa's neighbourhoods and institutions are explored through a series of diverse, exciting, and thought-provoking activities and events across the city.

Visit: [culturalmemoryworkshops.ca](http://culturalmemoryworkshops.ca) for more information.