



## NANAIMO MUSEUM

November 25, 2014

### **Bastion on BC's Best Buildings List**

Nanaimo – Nanaimo's iconic Bastion is one of the best 100 buildings in BC, according to BC's Best Buildings Contest. The historic structure placed third in the Vancouver Island region. BC's Best Buildings Contest was hosted by the Architectural Foundation of BC to mark 100 years of architecture as a profession in this province. The Bastion will receive a commemorative plaque to mark this honour.

The Bastion ranked third on Vancouver Island after the Empress Hotel and Parliament Buildings in Victoria. The judges noted that the Bastion is a relic of Nanaimo's early Hudson's Bay Company history that remains significant to regional history and a source of pride for Nanaimo residents.

Over 450 entries were received and evaluated by a panel of judges, including heritage expert & noted BC historian Michael Kluckner, journalist and architecture specialist Shelley Fralic and David M. Hewitt an award-winning architect and Chair of the AFBC. The public was invited to vote online for their favourite buildings which identified the most popular and ranked the top 25 in each region including Interior, Vancouver Island, Northern and Southern. The panel of judges assessed the top 25 nominations for appearance, sentimental value, historical significance and originality.

The Bastion is operated by the Nanaimo Museum and owned by the City of Nanaimo. "We are thrilled to be in league with two of BC's most well-known buildings, the Empress and Parliament Buildings," says Aimee Greenaway, "It's remarkable to think that a building constructed with limited access to tools, labourers and building materials is ranked alongside buildings that were designed by a prominent architect with access to the top of the line materials and craftsmen." For historical information related to the Bastion, please go to the City of Nanaimo's Heritage Register web page at:

[www.nanaimo.ca/heritage/search.aspx](http://www.nanaimo.ca/heritage/search.aspx)

The Bastion is open to the public from May long weekend through Labour Day. The Nanaimo Museum is located in the Vancouver Island Conference Centre and open Monday-Saturday 10-5. For more information please visit [www.nanaimomuseum.ca](http://www.nanaimomuseum.ca) or call 250 753-1821.

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About the Architecture Foundation of BC

The Architecture Foundation of BC was conceived by a group of senior BC architects to recognize and encourage excellence in architecture. Incorporated in early 2001, the Foundation has held various programs and fundraising events from which it can provide grants to support and fulfill its mission to promote awareness, understanding and appreciation of architecture and design in BC.