

Call to Action: Save Navy Jack House

The future of Navy Jack House was added to the West Vancouver Council agenda for Monday, October 5, 2020, on the afternoon of Thursday, October 1, equivalent to four days public notice.

The staff report to council is recommending demolition and site commemoration.

This notice is the only way to inform the community of this late addition to the council agenda. Please circulate widely and inform West Vancouver Mayor and Council of your views.

Here are two ways you can help protect Navy Jack House:

- PHONE, EMAIL, WRITE TO SHARE YOUR VIEWS**

| | |
|--|--|
| Mayor Mary-Ann Booth 604-925-7000 mbooth@westvancouver.ca |  |
| Craig Cameron 604-828-0805 ccameron@westvancouver.ca | Bill Soprovich 604-561-3219 bsoprovich@westvancouver.ca |
| Nora Gambioli 604-653-8823 ngambioli@westvancouver.ca | Sharon Thompson 604-209-4621 sthompson@westvancouver.ca |
| Peter Lambur 604-644-1769 plambur@westvancouver.ca | Marcus Wong 604-219-0064 mwong@westvancouver.ca |

Write to Mayor and Council: Municipal Hall, 750 17th Street, West Vancouver BC, V7V 3T3

- CIRCULATE THE CASE FOR NAVVY JACK HOUSE FAR AND WIDE**

At this time, the report is available online only, at the West Vancouver Historical Society site [–West Vancouver Historical Society - Navy Jack House](#)

The report is thorough, and lengthy! We recommend beginning with the Executive Summary and Appendix A, Use & Blue-Sky. We hope to make print copies available through the WV Historical Society.



The Case for the Restoration and Preservation of Navy Jack House

Background

The Case for the Restoration and Preservation of Navy Jack House was prepared by the Navy Jack House Citizen Group, under the umbrella of West Vancouver Historical Society, established to prevent the demolition of Navy Jack House, a decision made at a closed meeting of council in June 2020.

The house is significant as the oldest building in West Vancouver, as a rare survivor of its time, and for the stories it carries. Recent research indicating the house was built in 1872 means it will be 150 years old two years from now.

Vision and Inspiration

The Navy Jack House Citizen Group worked to provide viable, adaptable, sustainable options, with a blend of public and commercial use, to create a future for the house for the use and benefit of the community.

The heritage and historical value of Navy Jack House, thanks to the five families it housed over the years and their contributions to the community, was always front and centre. Its site on the Ambleside waterfront is the ideal location to represent our community history.

One member of the NJH Citizen Group said it best:

“Our heritage resides in this building; the stories it holds need to be told.”

DWV Staff Report to Council

The staff report to council supports West Vancouver's position that the house is derelict and that the community does not wish to financially support its restoration and repurposing for the use and benefit of the community. The Navy Jack House Citizen Group, many of which are technical experts, found the original structure of first growth North Shore timber is as solid and robust as it was when the house was constructed almost 150 years ago.

A note about special provincial heritage funding that would underwrite some of the restoration costs was delivered to West Vancouver on September 21.

The date of the staff report to council, September 22, suggests that neither district staff or Mayor and Council would not be aware of this significant funding opportunity. The caveat is that the funding window runs from October 1 to 29.

Timing

Consideration of the future of Navy Jack House was added to the agenda on the afternoon of Thursday, October 1, for the Council meeting on Monday, October 5.

The posting on the district website is **the only public notice** of this change to the council agenda. The timing leaves **a window of three days** for the community to express its support of a future for Navy Jack House.

Support can be in writing, via email or by telephone to West Vancouver Mayor and Council.

The public can also register to speak (virtually) on behalf of Navy Jack House at the council meeting on October 5th. Each speaker will have three minutes to express their views.

THOSE THREE MINUTES COULD BE ENOUGH!

