



27 April 2012

AHCAC  
c/o Marc Desjardins  
City of Ottawa  
100 Laurier Avenue West  
Ottawa ON K1P 1J1  
(Internal Mail Code 01-71)

Dear Mr. Desjardins

**Re: Nomination of Linda Russell for the Heritage Community Recognition Award**

I support the nomination of Linda Russell for the Ontario Heritage Trust's Heritage Community Recognition Programme award for her leadership in bringing Doors Open to Ottawa.

Linda called me in 2001 to see if I would like to help her with the event. She explained that similar events were very popular in Europe and that Toronto had held its first event the previous year. Within weeks, she had gathered a group of heritage enthusiasts from the community, and her workplace at the time, the CBC, and had set up a committee structure, including an advisory council. Doors Open hosted its first event that year.

Linda's enthusiasm for the project was infectious and we all marveled at how much work she did to bring the event here. In the early years she dedicated hours to committee work, talking the project up with property owners, getting the Ottawa Citizen on as a sponsor etc.

There are now Doors Open Events across Ontario every year and Ottawa's goes from success to success. Linda's early vision, enthusiasm and hard work made Ottawa a leader in the movement for municipalities to organize Doors Open events in the province.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads 'Sally Coutts'.

Sally Coutts, MCIP, RPP  
Heritage Planner  
Planning and Growth Management

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