

## High praise for this historic designation

### *McDougall United Church officially designated as a historic resource*

The City of Edmonton has formally designated McDougall United Church as a municipal historic resource. Built in 1910, the two-and-a-half storey brick church is one of the oldest religious institutions in Alberta. McDougall United Church is located on a prominent corner in Downtown Edmonton near the edge of the river valley.

"Over the course of its history, McDougall United Church has served not only as a place for religious worship, but also as an important social and cultural centre," says Robert Geldart, Senior Heritage Planner with the City of Edmonton. "It has also hosted a number of significant events, including political debates and rallies for social justice. The Church is well-known for its superb acoustics and is one of Edmonton's favourite concert venues."



The church is named after Reverend George McDougall. The first church on this site was a modest wood structure that opened in 1873.

During Alberta's settlement boom before the First World War, settlement boom in Alberta, Edmonton's population swelled and a much larger place of worship was needed. The current church opened in November 1910 and was one of the largest Methodist churches in Western Canada. In 1925, the church became known as McDougall United Church after Methodists, Congregationalists and Presbyterians joined to form the United Church of Canada.

Designed by prominent architect H.A. Magoon, McDougall United Church is a commanding structure that reflects the aspirations of a booming, pre-First World War Edmonton. Features of the church's exterior include two towers and brick piers flanking the main entrance. The interior design of the church is more modest, but the scale and grandeur of the building convey the optimism of a growing congregation in the heart of one of western Canada's major urban centres.

McDougall United Church has also been designated as a Provincial Historic Resource.

The City's [Historic Resource Management Plan](#) outlines the City's mission to identify, protect and promote the preservation and use of historic resources. The plan contains 24 policies and 88 action items that direct how Edmonton's heritage should be preserved and celebrated. Designation as a Municipal Historic Resource ensures protection from demolition or inappropriate alterations to a historic resource.

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#### For more information:

[edmonton.ca/historic-resources](http://edmonton.ca/historic-resources)

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