

New Historian Laureate keeps Edmonton's history alive

April 5, 2016

The City of Edmonton is proud to announce Chris Chang-Yen Phillips as Edmonton's new Historian Laureate.

Born and raised in Edmonton, Chang-Yen Phillips is a natural storyteller, who has a passion for the small cultural communities that get bypassed in official histories. As an active member of the historical community, Chang-Yen Phillips founded Shareable Neighbourhood, a grassroots community group that organized tours and workshops about the culture, ecology and history of Mill Creek and Old Strathcona.



"I'm honoured to follow in the footsteps of Ken, Shirley and Danielle as Edmonton's next Historian Laureate," says Chang-Yen Phillips. "I hope to use my term to weave together Edmontonians who have a curiosity about our past, to share stories that don't usually make it to the official narrative and to get people excited to learn more about where we've come from, and where we are going."

Chang-Yen Phillips is the fourth Historian Laureate with the City of Edmonton and will begin his two-year term in the position April 5, 2016. Throughout the term, he will work closely with the Edmonton Heritage Council and Edmonton Historical Board, which administers the Historian Laureate program.

"On behalf of the Edmonton Historical Board, I am delighted to welcome Chris as the fourth Historian Laureate," say Erin McDonald, Chair, Edmonton Historical Board. "I look forward to hearing his fresh perspective on interpreting our City's history and the events that have created our distinct spirit and character."

The City of Edmonton became the first municipality to appoint a Historian Laureate in 2010 to identify the importance of preserving Edmonton's dynamic history. The Historian Laureate is the City of Edmonton's official ambassador on historical matters and promotes the history of Edmonton through several projects throughout the term. The Historian Laureate is selected by a committee comprised of members of the Edmonton Historical Board and the Edmonton Heritage Council.

For more information:

edmonton.ca/historianlaureate

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