Mr. François LeBlanc, Ottawa, Ontario

As an architect, preservationist, author and educator, François LeBlanc has worked tirelessly and effectively for more than 40 years to build a strong heritage conservation community in Canada and abroad.

Widely respected and admired by his peers, Mr. LeBlanc is regarded as an outstanding thinker in the heritage conservation field. Known for his jovial and approachable nature, generosity and genuine passion for heritage conservation, he has had a career that most could only dream of.

It began in 1971 with Parks Canada, where Mr. LeBlanc worked as the Chief Architect for monuments of the French Period before moving to the Quebec region as Chief of engineering and architecture responsible for such important national historic sites as Les Forges de-Saint-Maurice, Fort Chambly, the Lachine Canal and the Quebec Fortifications.





From there, Mr. LeBlanc moved to the National Capital Commission as Chief Architect responsible for the conservation and renovation of numerous properties in the National Capital Region, including the Prime Minister's residence, Rideau Hall, Stornaway, and many other official residences.

With his reputation reaching beyond Canada's borders, it was no surprise when the Getty Conservation Institute came calling in 2001. Mr. LeBlanc spent the next six years as Head of Field Projects in Los Angeles where he participated in various heritage conservation projects in more than 24 countries around the world.

Between 1979 and 1983, he served as Director of the International Council on Monuments and Sites (ICOMOS) and Advisor to UNESCO in Paris.

Returning to Canada, he then joined the Heritage Canada Foundation, where he spent nine years as Vice-President of Programs overseeing such ground-breaking initiatives as Heritage Regions and Main Street Canada. These programs touched more than 100 communities across the country from Whitehorse, Yukon to St. John's, Newfoundland.





In addition to his professional commitments, Mr. LeBlanc has shared his expertise and talents with a number of heritage conservation organizations in a voluntary capacity, including ICOMOS Canada and the Association for Preservation Technology (APT). Mr. LeBlanc has been awarded the ICOMOS Canada Jacques Dalibard Medal and the APT Harley J. McKee Award. He is a member of the ICOMOS Academy and APT's College of Fellows.

Mr. LeBlanc is a graduate of the University of Montreal's School of Architecture and holds a specialization in historic buildings conservation from the University of York in England.

François LeBlanc currently works as a heritage consultant and lectures at Carleton University in Ottawa and the Willowbank School of Restoration Arts in Niagara-on-the-Lake, Ontario.

François LeBlanc was nominated by Michel Bonnette, OUQ, Honourary Member of CIVVIH.