

THE HERITAGE CONSERVATION ACT

What is a blanket Heritage Inspection Permit?

The first step in moving forward with this project is to have an Archaeological Impact Assessment undertaken on both public and private properties. Conducting an archeological investigation to locate or investigate an archeological site requires a permit issued by the provincial Archeology Branch in the Ministry of Forest Lands and Natural Resource Operations.

Ministry staff have recommended that a Section 14 blanket Heritage Inspection Permit (blanket permit) is the best option for the District, as it allows for both the District and private property owners to be included in the permit. Time and cost savings are expected by conducting an Archeological Impact Assessment under a blanket permit. This is primarily related to:

- preparation of a single permit application (rather than one for each private property);
- field work can be completed more efficiently when assessing multiple locations in a set period of time;
- abbreviated interim reports replace the need for multiple large-scale Final Reports;
- there are less administrative costs for the Archeology Branch; and
- there are efficiencies related to liaison with the client, the Archeology Branch and First Nations.

In addition to the District of Oak Bay, participating property owners would be signatories to the blanket permit.

A blanket permit does not absolve private property owners from full responsibility for protection of archeological sites that may be discovered on their property. Property owners are advised to contact the Archeology Branch directly prior to undertaking work on their property. https://www.for.gov.bc.ca/archaeology/property_owners_and_developers/index.htm

Estimates below reflect the financial efficiencies of proceeding with a blanket permit.

*Information presented by Golder and Associates, archeology consultants working with McElhanney on this project.

Table 1. A property owner's generic budget for an Archeological Impact Assessment for a 25 m pipeline right-of-way conducted under a standalone Heritage Inspection Permit

Phase	Fees	Expenses	Subtotal
Planning and Permitting	\$1,800		\$1,800
Archeological Field Assessment	\$1,500	\$200	\$1,700
Analysis and Reporting	\$4,400		\$4,400
Total Estimate			\$7,900

Table 2. A property owner's generic budget for an Archeological Impact Assessment for a 25 m pipeline right-of-way conducted under a blanket Heritage Inspection Permit

Phase	Fees	Expenses	Subtotal
Planning and Permitting	\$950		\$950
Archeological Field Assessment	\$1,500	\$200	\$1,700
Analysis and Reporting	\$2,000		\$2,000
Total Estimate			\$4,650

Table 3. A single property owner's budget for the cataloguing and analysis of up to 50 artifacts and/or faunal remains

Phase	Fees	Expenses	Subtotal
Archeological Field Assessment	\$1,500	\$200	\$1,700
Analysis and Reporting	\$3,000		\$3,000
Total Estimate			\$4,700