Dear Colleagues:

A year ago the prospect of a new professional training program for heritage resource management archaeologists was little more than a dream. Today, thanks to the hard work of many, SFU’s Professional Graduate Program in Heritage Resource Management is shaping up as the first-ever online Master’s and Certificate delivered by and for cultural heritage management archaeologists.

I am writing today to let you know that on 2 February, SFU approved the certificate option (4 courses) for the new Professional Graduate Program in HRM Archaeology.

I also hope this message will prompt you to apply or refer applicants to us by forwarding this information along.

Both the certificate and MA options address key professional challenges facing many junior HRM archaeologists.

A graduate degree is often critical to career advancement in many HRM companies, and more and more Canadian
provinces, as well as the Register of Professional Archaeologists, now require professionals to obtain an MA/MSc (with a thesis) to qualify for professional status.

The options for graduate studies are limited for Heritage Resource Management professionals, and typically consist of archaeological education based within an anthropology department. HRM archaeology is increasingly complex and requires deep proficiencies in four essential areas—law & policy, ethics and practice, business & management, and research design & methods—so established pathways offer little in the way of the specialized training required by heritage management professionals.

To top it off, many Heritage Resource Management professionals can’t afford to leave their jobs or home bases for full-time or residential graduate education, especially for a master’s degree that may add little to their professional capacity.

And that’s where SFU’s new program comes in. Two new streams, based within SFU’s Department of Archaeology, are now open for applications for Fall 2016:

- **Professional Master’s Degree in Heritage Resource Management (thesis-based)**
- **Graduate Certificate in Heritage Resource Management Archaeology (coursework-only)**

These programs are for students who hold a BA or BSc (or equivalent) and have been employed in Heritage Resource Management for a year or more.

Four required courses integrate ethical, legal, business and research priorities tailored to Heritage Resource Management needs. The required thesis in the Master’s stream fulfills the requirements for specific jurisdictions and the Register for Professional Archaeologists.

The program’s unique online delivery and flexible part-time study option accommodates students with family and professional obligations, and enables participation from those
living outside of British Columbia and Canada.

The future of Heritage and Cultural Resource Management rests on training the next generation of leaders in heritage stewardship. Please visit our website for more information and to help us spread the word about this innovative new program.

APPLY NOW. Review of applications will begin on March 15, 2016.

Thank you,
John
welch@sfu.ca
Professor and Director of the Professional Master's Program in Heritage Resource Management
Department of Archaeology and School of Resource and Environmental Management
Simon Fraser University

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Heritage Resource Management Graduate Program
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