

City urged to protect McClung home

CALGARY HERALD

The Calgary home of Nellie McClung, who helped win women the right to vote, is poised to be preserved as a municipal historic resource.

The city's land-use, planning and transportation committee will be asked today to approve the designation for the 101-year-old home at 805 15th Ave. S.W.

The house was designated a provincial historic resource 30 years ago.

Bob van Wegen, with the Calgary Heritage Initiative, said it has significance both as a building and for the person who occupied it for nine years.

"It's very important because of the association with Nellie McClung and her importance in Canadian history," he said.

Van Wegen also pointed out the structure is just an "average" house in the Beltline, representative of what many Calgarians would've been living in during the early part of the 1900s.

McClung lived in the home between 1923 and 1932.

From 1921 to 1926, McClung was one of Alberta's first three female MLAs.

A report going to committee says she entertained other members of the Famous 5 in the 15th Avenue home.



Calgary Herald Archive

Nellie McClung's former residence in the Beltline is 101 years old.

The group of five women petitioned to have the word "person" in the British North America Act include females, which would allow women to sit in the Senate.

In 1916, she had been part of the effort to win women the vote in Alberta and Manitoba.

McClung, who died in 1951, also authored a number of novels, including

three she completed in her second-storey bedroom in the house on 15th Avenue, according to the report.

The designation also requires approval from city council.

"She's one of our most important historical figures and it's fitting that her home is preserved for future generations," Ald. Druh Farrell said of McClung.