

Barry Lord (1939-2017)

It is with great sadness that we announce the death of Barry Lord, co-founder of Lord Cultural Resources, a pioneer in museum planning and arts management, and a celebrated author.

Born in Hamilton in Canada, Barry graduated from Delta Secondary School and McMaster University, and studied at Harvard University. He enrolled in the National Gallery of Canada's museum training programme, launching a career that would transform our thinking about museums and cultural organisations.

In his early career at National Museums of Canada, Barry perceived the need for a more systematic approach to planning museums. Museum planning as a profession, however, did not exist – so he invented it. In 1981, with his wife Gail Dexter

Lord, he founded Lord Cultural Resources, and in 1983 published the world's first book on museum planning, titled *Planning our Museums*. The approach was elegant in its simplicity with three sections: Planning for People, Planning for Collections, and Planning for Facilities. Putting the public first was a new idea at the time and has been the hallmark of the firm, its publications and its practice ever since.

This message resonated with museum professionals around the world. Barry's thirst for knowledge and care for people's cultures enabled him to engage deeply and tirelessly with museum planning projects in every province and territory of Canada, throughout the US, the UK, Europe, and South, East, and West Asia.

In the UK notable projects included the feasibility and business plan for the relocation of the Design



Barry Lord was a pioneer in museum management

Museum to Holland Park, as well as curatorial services, interpretive plan and exhibition project management for Glasgow's Glasgow, a major exhibition celebrating the heritage and potential of a city that was designated the 1990 European City of Culture.

Barry believed that sharing

knowledge leads to new knowledge. That's why he wrote and involved colleagues in writing the books that would become core texts for the museum world, which include: *The Manual of Museum Planning* (2012; 2003; 1999; 1991); *The Manual of Museum Management* (2009; 1997); *The Manual of Museum Exhibitions* (2014; 2001); and *The Manual of Museum Learning* (2015; 2007).

Speaking at conferences and lecturing on museum studies were an important part of Barry's practice. He loved teaching and his students loved him. In his last year, Barry was awarded an honorary LLD from his alma mater.

We at Lord Cultural Resources are committed to carrying on the tradition Barry established of helping museums to be better places for people.

From the staff at Lord Cultural Resources