

15th EHHF ANNUAL MEETING IN ESTONIA NEW DATES – 8-11th SEPTEMBER 2021

PLAN A: TALLINN SEPT 2021 / PLAN B: DIGITAL SEPT 2021

Tallinn, March 2021,

To the attention of all the members of the EHHF,

Dear colleagues, dear friends,

First of all, and given the circumstances that kept us apart for such a long period of time, I hope this letter will find every one and each of you well and safe. We also care very much about your staff and all the people involved in keeping our sector up and running. We share with all of you, our gratitude and best wishes for a safe and fair recovery.

About a year ago, my troika colleagues and I came to an unfortunate, although reasonable agreement. We had to postpone the 15th edition one year forward. Initially planned in Tallinn in 2020, it was decided to move it to May 2021. This decision was not easy. Despite all the digital efforts we deployed in 2020, the EHHF remains very much defined by this unique opportunity we have to gather once a year in a different, fascinating location; to experience cultural heritage together, and to share information and good practice about its conservation throughout Europe.

For the last few weeks, our steering committee followed the development of the covid-19 situation in Europe, in order to share with you a clear decision as soon as possible. Unfortunately, our ambition to host a proper annual meeting this spring had to be reconsidered. Our new priority is now to gather physically in September in Tallinn, on the occasion of the European Heritage Days. In case travel restrictions are still ongoing, the Estonian National Heritage Board would then organize an innovative digital forum instead, before handing the troika chairmanship over to the next host. The 16th edition is still meant to take place in Scotland in May 2022.

Until we are able to confirm definitive plans for September, we strongly encourage our memberadministrations to use all means available to exchange information, to share experiences, data and initiatives. The new <u>www.ehhf.eu</u> was designed to help in that matter.

Once again, the Estonian National Heritage Board and the EHHF Permanent Secretariat of course remain available should you need anything.

Most sincerely,



Mr. Siim Raie, Director General Estonian National Heritage Board

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