

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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CONSTRUCTION OF THE CANADIAN NAVY MONUMENT BEGINS

Canada's Capital Region — Today, the National Capital Commission (NCC) and the Canadian Navy officially broke ground for the national naval monument at Richmond Landing, in the core of Canada's Capital.

The monument, designed by artist Al McWilliams, architects Joost Bakker and Bruce Haden, all from Vancouver, British Columbia, will be a public symbol in the heart of Canada's Capital that will pay homage to the hundreds of thousands of Canadian men and women who have served Canada in peace and war in our naval forces during the Canadian Navy's first century of existence.

Not only will the monument honour the navy's past, it will recognize the achievements of the current navy and serve as a symbol of the navy's ongoing commitment to Canada and to the future. As a public focal point, the monument will help meet the centennial's objective of bringing the navy to Canadians. A unique symbol, this monument will also become a gathering place for celebrations and recognize the special relationship between the navy and Canada's Capital.

The monument will be unveiled in spring 2011, at Richmond Landing, after a year of celebration of the 100th anniversary of the Canadian Navy.

ON GUARD FROM SEA TO SEA TO SEA

Today's sod-turning also saw the launch of an exceptional photo exhibit on the history and accomplishments of the Canadian Navy. Twenty-four meaningful images – chosen to represent the Navy's past, present and future – will be showcased in the Capital on the Plaza Bridge in Confederation Square, until October.

In addition, a special banner series marking the centennial of Canada's Navy was presented at today's event. The banners, that celebrate this significant milestone in Canadian history, as well as the Confederation Boulevard banners featuring Canada's capital cities, will fly until late fall along the Capital's ceremonial route.

Please visit the Canadian Navy's website at <http://www.navy.forces.gc.ca/centennial> for more information regarding the Canadian Navy Centennial.

For more information, the public may contact the NCC at **613-239-5000, 1-800-465-1867**, 613-239-5090 (TTY) or 1-866-661-3530 (toll-free TTY) or visit the NCC's website at **www.canadascapital.gc.ca**.

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