



MEDIA RELEASE

Ottawa Heritage Day 2017 – a ‘Milestone Event’!

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Ottawa, February 14, 2017 - The **City of Ottawa Museums and Heritage Programs Branch** and the **Council of Heritage Organizations in Ottawa | le Conseil des organismes du patrimoine d'Ottawa (CHOO|COPO)** are proud to co-host **Heritage Day on Tuesday, February 21st, 11:30 am - 2:00 pm** in Jean Pigott Place at City Hall.

And, excited to embrace the National Trust for Canada 2017 heritage month theme: ***My Canada! | Mon Canada!*** celebrating the 150th Anniversary of Confederation and inspiring Canadians to ‘embrace, explore and enjoy our heritage places and spaces’.

“The My Canada! theme and inspiration is most fitting for Ottawa, Canada’s Capital - especially as we welcome visitors from across the country and around the world to join us during this milestone Sesquicentennial year,” said **CHOO|COPO Executive Director Catherine Lindquist**.

Also apropos in this 150th Anniversary year, during his Heritage Day proclamation, **Mayor Jim Watson** will recognize two organizations and their own special anniversaries:

- **celebrating its 100th Anniversary is Musée Bytown Museum** which explores the stories and values of an evolving city and its residents from its first inhabitants and early days as Bytown to present day Ottawa; and
- **marking its 25th Anniversary is the Council of Heritage Organizations in Ottawa** which serves as a dedicated steward of and connects Ottawa to its rich history and heritage.

Accepting a framed copy of the proclamation on behalf of the Museum will be its **Board President Tom Caldwell**, and **Executive Director Robin Etherington**; and accepting on behalf of the Council (CHOO|COPO), will be **Board Director Joan Bard Miller** and **Executive Director Catherine Lindquist**.

Still additional anniversaries, to be marked more fully on other occasions, will be noted at the event, including: the Peace Tower’s 90th, Carleton University’s 75th, Heritage Ottawa’s 50th, and food contributor Johnny Farina’s 20th!

Featured will be traditional performances by the **Eagle River Singers from the Kitigan Zibi Anishinabeg First Nation** and a participative **Ottawa Public Library photo booth** and **Ottawa Guild of Potters’ Populace makers’ station**. “CHOO|COPO is proud to be a co-steward of the **Ottawa 2017 Arts, Culture and Heritage Investment Program**, supported by **CIBC** during their 150th year, which is funding fourteen exciting initiatives, including *Populace*,” said Ms. Lindquist. “Plan to participate in this popular project by crafting some of the nine thousand ceramic pieces that will magically transform the Canadian Museum of Nature landscape this summer - and make *your* makers’ mark!”

The FREE Ottawa Heritage Day event will showcase a wide variety of heritage groups and interests, including: museums, archives and historical societies, Franco-Ontarian and Indigenous heritage, genealogical research, built heritage, archaeology, museum educators and natural heritage groups. Light refreshments will be served.

"Heritage Day is an annual showcase of the impressive heritage offerings of our Members across Ottawa and a celebration of shared heritage across Canada. A place for our members to meet and greet Ottawa residents and elected representatives, and invite them to discover more of our history - past, and in the making," said Lindquist.

- 30 -

Photo/Film Opps:

Algonquins of Pikwàkanagàn First Nation Elder Shirley Kohoko will offer a traditional welcoming ceremony and **Chief Kirby Whiteduck** will be in attendance; **CHOO|COPO Executive Director Catherine Lindquist** will welcome all and **Ottawa Mayor Jim Watson** will provide official remarks and present proclamations to the two recipient groups, with photo opps with other **Members of Council**. **Eagle River Singers from the Kitigan Zibi Anishinabeg First Nation** will perform, **Master Town Crier Daniel Richer** will be resplendent in his ‘Canada’ regalia; **costumed characters** and a **Heritage Showcase of 40 exhibitors** with a variety of displays will engage visitors.

And *Extra! Extra!* the annual Heritage Day Quiz will run in the Monday, February 20th editions of the *Ottawa Citizen* and *le Droit* as a Family Day and Heritage Day activity.

Media contact and information:

Catherine Lindquist, Executive Director, Council of Heritage Organizations in Ottawa
 T: 613-562-0405 C: 613-769-4709 E: direction@choocopo.ca

Images/Photo description and credits:

(High resolution jpegs of City of Ottawa Archives images attached)



1. View of Parliament Hill festivities for the Diamond Jubilee of Confederation, July 1, 1927
 City of Ottawa Archives/CA025279
2. Canada Day fireworks in front of the Peace Tower, July 1, 1967
 City of Ottawa Archives/CA024303

Note: timeliness of photo 1. with the Queen’s Sapphire Jubilee in 2017



1. Poplax Makers station at Canadian Museum of Nature AGM, Catherine Lindquist
2. Sample artwork, Poplax

Printable poster/invitation available on request:



Background:

CHOO|COPO:

Founded in 1992, The Council of Heritage Organizations in Ottawa is a non-profit, charitable organization focused on the preservation and promotion of Ottawa-based heritage resources, organizations, and activities. Our Vision: Connecting Ottawa with its rich history and heritage.

The Council gratefully acknowledges the financial support of the City of Ottawa.

Heritage Day:

Heritage Day is part of Heritage Week, a nation-wide celebration that encourages all Canadians to explore their local heritage, to get involved with stewardship and advocacy groups, and to visit museums, archives, and places of architectural significance. Heritage Day is a chance to recognize the contributions of the many dedicated staff and volunteers promoting heritage conservation and educating the public about the city's history.

Embrace, explore and enjoy Your heritage places and spaces in Ottawa, Canada's Capital during Heritage Week February 20-26, 2017 and throughout this milestone Sesquicentennial year!



**Council of Heritage Organizations in Ottawa |
Conseil des organismes du patrimoine d'Ottawa**

