



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: Great Canadian Flag Project Team Announces \$150,000 Canada 150 Fund Grant

Windsor, Ontario – The Great Canadian Flag Project (GCFP) team is honoured to be a recipient of a \$150,000 grant from the Canada 150 Fund through the Government of Canada in honour of Canada’s 150th birthday next year. Funding from this grant will assist with the final design, purchase, and erection of the Canadian flag in Dieppe Gardens at the foot of Ouellette Ave. in Windsor, Ontario.

Originally the concept of a large flag at Windsor’s riverfront was first introduced by Thomas G. M. McDade in 1980, but never became a reality. In 2012 the idea was brought forth again, and on Tuesday, February 17th, 2015 Windsor City Council unanimously voted to approve the Great Canadian Flag at Windsor’s riverfront.

The Great Canadian flag will fly on a pole that is 150 feet tall and will measure 60 feet by 30 feet wide. The entire weight of the flag and pole will be approximately 13,500 lbs. It is with the combined effort of Windsor-Essex and our neighbouring communities that the GCFP was able to reach its fundraising goal. With the support of all those who have donated to this project, we will now have a special place at our riverfront dedicated to commemorating and honouring all Canadians, those who serve our country, those who have served, and our fallen.

Peter Hrastovec, Chair of the Great Canadian Flag Project has expressed his humble thanks to all those who have donated to this project so far, *“This project speaks to the proud history of our flag and our country. From aboriginal peoples whose ancestors first inhabited this land to descendants of immigrants from all over our world, all Canadians enjoy our many rights and freedoms. Our flag—a flag that is recognized the world over—is symbolic of our good fortune and our peaceful co-existence as a society that fosters tolerance and good will.. The Department of Canadian Heritage (PCH) is the lead department for the celebrations of Canada 150 and has created the Canada 150 Fund; a funding initiative that aims to promote Canadian values, culture and history, generate national pride and bring citizens together to celebrate Canada 150.”*

##

The Great Canadian Flag Project, originally founded in 2012, is an endowment fund managed by the WindsorEssex Community Fund (WECF) for the purpose of designing, erecting and providing funds for the maintenance of a Canadian flag and pole at the foot of Ouellette Avenue in Dieppe Gardens in Windsor, Ontario. To date, funds for this project have been raised using a grass roots approach. The campaign will continue to raise funds necessary for the ongoing maintenance of this project. For more information please visit www.GreatCanadianFlag.com.

The WindsorEssex Community Foundation, originally founded in 1983 as Heritage Windsor, is a perpetual community trust for philanthropic purposes. It exists to manage donors’ legacy funds and make grants to support local community

programs. Through grant making activities, the WECF is able to establish partnerships to assist a broad range of community organizations. In addition to this, the WECF also leads a variety of philanthropic programs in Windsor-Essex including Inspiration 100, the Young Philanthropists, Random Act of Kindness Day, the Community Cup Golf Tournament, and the Vitality Legacy Program. To learn more about these programs and the many different ways you can work with your Community Foundation to give back to Windsor-Essex visit www.wecf.ca.

For further Inquiries:

Department of Canadian
Heritage
150 John Street, Suite 400
Toronto, ON M5V 3T6

Mary Baruth
Chair, Government Relations & Grants
GCFP Team
519.890.9606

Lisa Kolody
Executive Director
WindsorEssex Community Foundation
519.255.6575