FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Fallen Workers Memorial to be unveiled on Sunday, Nov. 12

Oct. 11, 2017 – After years of research, planning and fundraising, a memorial to honour 137 workers who lost their lives during construction of the Welland Canal will finally be unveiled on Sunday, Nov. 12, 2017.

The Welland Canal Fallen Workers Memorial Task Force invites family members and descendants of the fallen workers and the entire Niagara community to be a part of the special unveiling ceremony at the site of the memorial, which is located just north of the St. Catharines Museum and Welland Canals Centre.

“The Task Force and the entire Niagara community is proud to be fulfilling a long-forgotten promise to honour the fallen workers – 137 men who were fathers, brothers, sons, uncles, friends and veterans,” said Mayor Walter Sendzik. “Please join us as we gather to remember them on this special occasion.”

Led by City staff and volunteers, the Welland Canal Fallen Workers Memorial Task Force has been working to fundraise and build the memorial since 2013. With a budget of $1.2 million, the memorial has been made possible with funding from the Department of Canadian Heritage, the Niagara Region, the City of St. Catharines and significant donations from the marine industry, local businesses, and the labour community. Crews began construction of the memorial at the end of Aug. 2017.

Designed by Dereck Revington Studio Inc., the memorial features four elements - the Gates of Remembrance, the Veil, the Timeline and the Lock - all set within a contemplative grove. The design can be viewed at www.stcatharines.ca/CanalWorkersMemorial.

The Task Force is still accepting donations to support the memorial and add trees to the parkette. Donations can be made at www.stcatharines.ca/donate.

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