



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

November 2, 2011

2011 PEWTER COLLECTION ANNOUNCED!

Downtown Kingston! Business Improvement Area is pleased to announce the official launch of the 18th annual Limited Edition Pewter Collectibles. This holiday program celebrates a five-piece series of beloved and well-known historic Kingston landmarks cast as pewter ornaments.

The selected buildings and their release dates are:

Richardson Bath House – Monday, November 14th
Christ Church Cataraqui – Monday, November 21st
The Toucan – Monday, November 28th
M. F. Raymond Building – Monday, December 5th
Wolfe Islander III – Monday, December 12th

With input from the Frontenac Heritage Foundation and submissions from the public online at www.downtownkingston.ca, a committee selects the buildings and landmarks for each year's collection. All suggestions are considered and thoroughly examined to ensure a collection that is balanced, attractive and representative of Kingston's historical nature.

Each ornament can be purchased for \$8.00 upon presentation of \$25.00 worth of receipts from downtown businesses. The ornaments have a regular retail value of over \$20.00. Receipts dated after November 1st, 2011 are valid and may be from several businesses. As a reminder, receipts from all downtown businesses are applicable – from the dentist to the grocer – and of course, all holiday purchases. Quantities are limited and are available only as long as quantities last.

The 2011 Limited Edition Pewter Collection is sponsored in part by the Frontenac Heritage Foundation and Downtown Kingston! Ornaments are available at the Grand Theatre Box Office on Princess Street, Visitor Information Centre, 209 Ontario Street (in Confederation Park), National Bank, 328 King Street East and Wellington Foreign Exchange, 153 Wellington Street beginning on Monday November 14th.

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For more information, please contact:

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** Please note attachment – 1 page, historic descriptions for the selected buildings**

Electronic images of each design are available by contacting jan@downtownkingston.ca

2011 Pewter Descriptions

Richardson Bath House Sir John A Macdonald Park

Captain George Taylor Richardson composed his will on the battlefield in 1916. Tragically, however, on the night of 9-10 February 1916, he was mortally wounded in action and was buried with full military honours in the military cemetery at Bailleul, France. On 10 June 1919, James Armstrong Richardson handed over the keys of a public bathing house to Mayor Newman, as "a bequest to the children and citizens of Kingston" in memory of George Taylor Richardson. With an oak and marble interior and equipped with showers, lockers, and electrical lighting, Kingston's *Daily British Whig* quoted the Richardsons' sentiments that they trusted "it would conduce to the health and happiness of Kingstonians." Initially, operated by a returned veteran and his wife, the facility has long lived up to the family's expectations and continues to be an adornment on Kingston's waterfront.

Christ Church Cataraqui 990 Sydenham Road

Christ Church Cataraqui, built as a work of St George's Cathedral, was consecrated in 1870. In 1877-8 an addition was added west of the south entrance to house the expanding congregation. The 80 foot stone tower was built at the same time. Burial plots on land surrounding the church were sold from 1875 as a way to raise funds for a rector's stipend. As the congregation continued to grow, a decision was made in the late 1990s to build a new church on land owned by the church. The original church building is now used for early Sunday services as well as by the Orthodox Church of America, St Gregory of Nyssa.

The Toucan 76 Princess Street

Built in 1874, this building which currently houses a pub was one of the first Canadian taverns to obtain a liquor licence. The first establishment on the premises was The Beaver Hotel which was owned by Staff Sgt William Richardson. In the 1900s it became The Grand Hotel and after that a series of businesses, mainly taverns. The Toucan is celebrating their 25th anniversary in business in 2011.

M. F. Raymond Building 324-326 King Street East

Built in 1837 by William Garrett, both buildings were occupied by saloons and dining rooms catering to travelers by land and by water. In the 1840s and '50s, #324 was considered the best saloon in town (in those days, a saloon was a restaurant with a bar). The battle over selling alcohol raged for many years in Kingston and must have been particularly tense when #324 was the Marble Hall Saloon and #326 was the Temperance Dining Room! The two units are divided by a central firewall and constructed of hammer-dressed stone. A large brick chimney adds to the curb appeal of the buildings.

Wolfe Islander III

Launched into service on 5 February 1976, the Wolfe Islander III is the ferry serving vehicular and pedestrian traffic between Kingston and Wolfe Island. It can hold approximately 55 cars and is end-loading. Crossing time to the village of Marysville in the summer and to the winter dock to the east, is approximately 20 minutes. Wolfe Island, the largest of the Thousand Islands, has a permanent population of about 1,400 and can be reached by the Wolfe Islander from the Canadian side and by the Horne's Ferry from Cape Vincent, New York, on the southern side.