



MEDIA RELEASE

Restoration of the Historic Queen Street Cenotaph Begins

For Immediate Release

September 9, 2024

The Town of Niagara-on-the-Lake is excited to announce that the much-anticipated restoration of the Queen Street Cenotaph has begun. Thanks to the generous contributions from residents, this important work began on September 3, 2024, and is expected to continue until October 31, 2024, weather permitting.

"The restoration of the Cenotaph is a testament to our community's incredible spirit and generosity," stated Lord Mayor Gary Zalepa. "This effort ensures that an important piece of our Town's history is preserved for future generations. On behalf of Council, thank you to everyone who donated. I look forward to witnessing the restoration process."

The Town's unique Cenotaph, unveiled on June 24, 1922, originally served as a timekeeper for residents during the 1920s and 1930s. Dedicated by the Honourable Henry Cockshutt, then Lieutenant Governor of Ontario, it honours community members lost in war.

"Through the collective efforts of our community, we raised the necessary funds for this significant project," said Director of Operations (Acting CAO) Darren MacKenzie. "Thank you to Town Staff for their expertise and commitment to ensuring this iconic Niagara-on-the-Lake landmark continues to stand proudly as a symbol of our Town's rich history."

The restoration project, vital for maintaining the Cenotaph's structural and historical integrity, involves extensive work, including brickwork repointing, parging, clock face restoration, and interior renovations. The project team has planned for minimal disruption to traffic, with no road closures expected and only lane re-routing around the Cenotaph. Temporarily, no parking signs have been placed in parking spaces adjacent to the Cenotaph to accommodate the work.

The Town thanks the community for making this restoration possible and to the Royal Canadian Legion Branch 124 for their critical role in maintaining the Cenotaph and assisting with fundraising efforts. Together, we will ensure this historic site remains a source of pride for generations to come.

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