

May 2, 2010

ACTION REQUIRED

To: The Board of Governors of Exhibition Place

From: Dianne Young, Chief Executive Officer

Subject: **Plaque Commemorating Scouts Canada**

Summary:

On August 30, 1910, Lord Robert Stephenson Smyth Baden-Powell, the founder of the Scouting Movement, presided over the official opening of the 32nd annual Canadian National Exhibition. To this end, Scouts Canada would like to commemorate this 100th Anniversary by installing a pedestal plaque in Baden-Powell's honour. The plaque will also commemorate 40 years of Scout involvement at the Canadian National Exhibition. The proposed site for the plaque is on the front lawn of the Queen Elizabeth Building, adjacent to the sidewalk of Mantioba Drive (person noted in the attached photo shows location of post). The plaque will be unveiled on August 30, 2010 following the daily parade wherein a small ceremony will take place and may include dignitaries from local government, leaders from Scouts Canada, members of the media, and representatives of both the Board of Governors and the CNEA Board.

Recommendations:

It is recommended that the Board

- (1) approve the installation of a plaque commemorating the 100th anniversary of the opening of the CNE by Lord Baden-Powell; and**
- (2) that the appropriate Exhibition Place officials be authorized and directed to take the necessary actions to give effect thereto.**

Decision History:

At its meeting of July 26, 1999, the Board adopted a policy for the installation of commemorative plaques on the grounds of Exhibition Place.

Issue Background:

On August 1, 1907, Lord Robert Stephenson Smyth Baden-Powell which is now seen as the beginning of Scouting. By 1910, he was a heralded figure and invited by the Board of Directors of the Toronto Industrial Exhibition Association to open the fair.

Comments:

Lord Baden-Powell, 1857-1941, was a soldier, writer and founder of the Scout Movement. He served in the British Army from 1876 until 1910 in India and Africa. In 1899, during the Second Boer War in South Africa, Baden-Powell led the successful Siege of Mafeking. Several of his military books, written for military reconnaissance and scout training in his African years, were

also read by boys. Based on those earlier books, he wrote *Scouting for Boys*, published in 1908. On August 1, 1907, he started a Boys' Brigade which is now seen as the beginning of Scouting.

Over the last 40 years, Scouts Canada of the Greater Toronto Council have been very involved with the annual CNE providing youth and adults to operate a free wheelchair service for those who cannot easily get around the EX. Many thousands of visitors have appreciated the help provided by this volunteer Service Corps.

The proposed plaque celebrating the 100th anniversary of the opening of the Toronto Industrial Exhibition Association by Lord Baden-Powell will be 20" wide x 18" high and will be affixed to a 4-foot post. The proposed wording of the plaque is as follows:

"This plaque commemorates the 100th anniversary of the official opening of the 32nd annual Canadian National Exhibition by Lord Robert Stephenson Smyth Baden-Powell of Gilwell on August 30, 1910."

B-P, as he became familiarly known, founded the Boy Scouts in 1907 and Girl Guides in 1910. The movements grew spectacularly and have touched the lives of over 300 million throughout the world.

At our investiture we undertake to love and serve God and country and to develop ourselves fully so that we can help others at all times.

For over forty years, Scouts Canada of the Greater Toronto Council has operated a free wheelchair service for those who cannot easily get around the EX. Many thousands of visitors appreciate the help provided by the service provided by the youth and adult volunteer Service Corps.

**August 30, 2010
Greater Toronto Council - Scouts Canada"**

The Corporate Secretary has conferred with Capital Works and Archives staff and all agree that the location is appropriate and that Scouts Canada has adequately addressed or otherwise satisfied the issues and procedures required by the Exhibition Place Plaque Policy. As well, the plaque will not impede vehicular or pedestrian traffic and will not present a problem to any trade and consumer shows or events held at Exhibition Place. Scouts Canada will sponsor the cost of the plaque, its installation and its upkeep.

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