



## **News Release: CPMF Monument Proposal Receives Ministerial Approval**

The Canadian Paramedic Memorial Foundation (CPMF) is pleased to announce that Canadian Heritage has approved our proposal for a National Paramedic Monument, honouring Canada's fallen paramedics, in the National Capital Region.

The journey began in 2012 with the first proposal presented to federal government to erect a national monument in Ottawa to honour all paramedics who have died in the line-of-duty including full-time, part-time, volunteer, industrial and Canadian Forces Medical Technicians, and SAR Technicians. This monument will serve as a reminder of the dual role paramedics play in Canada's first responder and healthcare systems, and the risks of physical injury, psychological injury, and duty associated illnesses paramedics face while providing care to Canadians in their time of need.

"I am very pleased that the Canadian Paramedic Memorial Foundation has stepped forward to make this national monument a reality," said the Honourable Steven Guilbeault, Minister of Canadian Heritage. "The monument will provide a place to honour first responders and reflect the deep gratitude Canadians have for those who have given their lives in service to us all. It is especially fitting that we launch this project now, during the COVID-19 pandemic, in which paramedics have played such an important role in keeping Canadians safe."

The CPMF will now work with Canadian Heritage and the National Capital Commission to go through the visioning, site selection, design competition and construction of the monument. CPMF President Tom Zajac, "We are excited to see our proposal approved and can now focus on the next steps to see a Canadian commemorative Paramedic Monument in our nation's capital become a reality."

While Canadian Heritage and the National Capital Commission develop and maintain monuments in the nation's capital, proponents are responsible for funding. The CPMF is reaching out for financial assistance through donations, grants and sponsorship to fund this ambitious project. We thank our existing partners, supporters and donors, and are on our way to our estimated \$5 million dollar budget required for construction.

For more information contact: [President@paramedicmemorial.org](mailto:President@paramedicmemorial.org)

### **About the Canadian Paramedic Memorial Foundation**

The Canadian Paramedic Memorial Foundation is a registered charity committed to build a National Monument honouring all Canadian Paramedics who have lost their lives in the line-of-duty and to celebrate the dedicated individuals who risk their lives every day to serve the people of Canada. The monument will showcase both the history of the profession and the ever-expanding role that paramedic (ambulance) services play in ensuring quality healthcare delivery for all Canadians. The Monument will recognize the dedication and sacrifice of our fallen Paramedics and will be a place for family friends and colleagues to mourn and remember.

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