

Mahatma Gandhi Sculpture Installation Ceremony

WINNIPEG, MB. – June 16, 2010 – Friends of the Canadian Museum for Human Rights (Friends) is holding an official Mahatma Gandhi sculpture installation ceremony at The Forks, Waterfront Drive at the Broadway Promenade at 12:15 pm today, Wednesday, June 16, 2010.

In 2004, the Government of India presented the life-size, 500-kg bronze sculpture of Gandhi to Friends. The sculpture, specifically commissioned by the Government of India for this gift, was created by renowned sculptor Ram Vanji Sutar and has been on display at The Forks Market building.

With construction of the Canadian Museum for Human Rights well underway, the Gandhi sculpture is being relocated near the Museum's entrance where it will be nestled into an existing pathway, to fittingly, "walk among the people."

The gift of this sculpture would not have been possible without the efforts of Dr. Naranjan S. Dhalla, founder of the India Canada Culture and Heritage Association.

Dr. Dhalla along with High Commissioner for India to Canada, His Excellency S.M. Gavai, will unveil the sculpture of Gandhi who is widely considered one of history's greatest human rights champions.

"Mahatma Gandhi symbolized the struggle for human rights and dignity. This sculpture reminds us of his tireless work and dedication to change the world through non-violent resistance to human rights violations. It also embodies the Museum's mission to enhance the understanding of human rights, to promote respect for others and to encourage reflection and dialogue. Thank you to the Government of India for this beautiful sculpture and thank you to Dr. Naranjan Dhalla, Mr. Mohinder Singh Dhillon and the India Canada Culture and Heritage Association for their continued support," commented Gail Asper, National Campaign Chair for Friends.

The Canadian Museum for Human Rights is scheduled to open in 2012.

Friends of the Canadian Museum for Human Rights was registered in 2002 as a Canadian charity to promote the establishment of, and act as the fundraising organization for the Canadian Museum for Human Rights. (Canadian Registered Charity 85511473RR0001)

For more information about Friends please visit: friendsofcmhr.com

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