

Minister of the Environment



Ministre de l'Environnement

The Honourable L'honorable

Jim Prentice

Ottawa, Canada K1A 0H3

APR 20 2009

Mr. Anthony Roberts
Co-chair
WJ'55 Historic Monument Organizing Committee
5217 Valley View Crescent
Niagara Falls ON L2E 7E5

Dear Mr. Roberts:

I am pleased to advise you that I recently designated the Scouting Movement in Canada a national historic event.

When it met in June 2008, the Historic Sites and Monuments Board of Canada considered the national significance of the Scouting Movement in Canada and recommended its designation. An excerpt from the minutes of that meeting is enclosed for reference.

Preparations for a plaque unveiling ceremony entail consultation with you and other interested parties regarding the plaque text and other related matters. This process usually takes at least 18 months and Ms. Ginette Brindle, Field Unit Superintendent, Southwest Ontario, or her designate will advise you as plans for the event are developed. For further details, I invite you to contact Ms. Brindle by telephone at 519-571-5721, via facsimile at 519-571-5722, or by electronic mail at ginette.brindle@pc.gc.ca.

In view of their interest in this matter, I have forwarded a copy of this letter to the Member of Parliament for Niagara Falls and the Ontario Minister of Culture.

Sincerely,

The Honourable Jim Prentice, P.C., Q.C., M.P.

Enclosure

c.c.: The Honourable Rob Nicholson, P.C., Q.C., M.P.
The Honourable M. Aileen Carroll, M.P.P.

Canada



HISTORIC SITES AND MONUMENTS BOARD OF CANADA

Excerpt From the Minutes of June 2008

The Scouting Movement in Canada

(Ref. 2008-04, "The Scouting Movement in Canada"; 2008-04-A, Copy of Submission Report 2007-81, "8th World Scout Jamboree")

1. Background

Dr. Alway reminded the Full Board that at its meeting in Ottawa in December 2007, it reviewed a submission report on the 8th World Scout Jamboree and determined that the Scouting movement, rather than the Jamboree, would be a more appropriate subject for commemoration under the Board's criteria for national historic significance. The Board therefore asked Parks Canada to bring forward a revised summary of significance that addresses the national historic significance of the Scouting movement in Canada. The submission report now before the Board addresses this question.

2. Recommendations

a. Designation

The Full Board recommended:

the Scouting Movement in Canada for designation as a National Historic Event.

b. Plaque

The Full Board recommended:

that the Scouting Movement in Canada be marked by means of a standard plaque at the site of the 8th World Scout Jamboree at Niagara-on-the-Lake, Ontario.

c. Name

The Full Board recommended the name as:

EN The Scouting Movement in Canada

FR (le) scoutisme au Canada

d. Commemorative Intent

The Full Board recommended The Scouting Movement in Canada for designation because:

- **since 1908, the Boy Scout movement has been among the largest and most influential youth movements in Canada, its membership reaching more than 280,000 scouts in 1965;**
- **it became one of the most successful youth education movements by promoting, through games and outdoor activities, character-building, good citizenship and self-reliance, the quintessential expressions of the ideals and methods for scouting; and,**
- **by holding the first world jamboree outside of Europe, at Niagara-on-the-Lake, Ontario, in 1955, the movement contributed to a favourable image of Canada in the minds of thousands of Scouts from around the world who assembled there.**