

May 13, 2009

REDISCOVER MACKENZIE KING ESTATE STARTING THIS WEEKEND

2009 SUMMER SEASON BEGINS SATURDAY, MAY 16

Canada's Capital Region — The National Capital Commission (NCC) is pleased to announce that the Mackenzie King Estate, located in the heart of Gatineau Park, will officially open to the public on Saturday, **May 16, 2009, Victoria Day weekend and run until October 18, 2009.**

Visitors to this 231-hectare estate can share William Lyon Mackenzie King's love of horticulture and landscaping while admiring the romantic Victorian gardens, the picturesque ruins and the Waterfall Trail. History buffs can learn more about the life, career and era of Canada's tenth Prime Minister by visiting King's two summer havens, Kingswood and Moorside cottages, or by viewing short films on Mackenzie King's life and times.

HERE'S WHAT VISITORS CAN DO AT MACKENZIE KING ESTATE:

- Visit the restored cottages
- View films on Mackenzie King's life and times
- Stroll through the gardens
- Photograph the collection of ruins
- Enjoy a light meal at the Mackenzie King Tearoom
- Discover King's favourite trail: the Bridal Veil Falls
- Join costumed volunteer guides for a commented visit in the gardens at Moorside on weekends and holidays in the afternoon between Canada Day and Labour Day
- Participate in various activities organized by the NCC at the Estate

2009 PROGRAMMING ACTIVITIES:

- May 16 - Opening of Mackenzie King Estate and Tearoom
- July 1 - Canada Day activities
- July 18 and 19 - The Estate in Bloom
- **NEW THIS YEAR! : July 24, 25, 31; August 1, 7, 8 – Ghost Walk, Friday and Saturday evenings**
- August 15 and 16 - 1930s Garden Party
- September 5 to 7 - Labour Day Weekend activities
- October 2 to 18 - Fall Rhapsody at Mackenzie King Estate and in Gatineau Park

HOURS OF OPERATION

Summer - from May 16 to September 7, 2009, the Estate will be open:*

- weekdays from 11 am to 5 pm, except Tuesdays.
- on weekends and statutory holidays from 11 am to 6 pm.

*The Estate will be closed every Tuesday.

Fall - from September 8 to October 18, 2009 the Estate will be open:*

- weekdays from 11 am to 5 pm, except Tuesdays.
- on weekends and statutory holidays from 10 am to 6 pm.

*The Estate will be closed every Tuesday.

Mackenzie King Tearoom is open everyday from 11 am to 5 pm except on Tuesdays. For more information or reservations, please call 819-827-3405.

ADMISSION

- \$8 per vehicle
- \$30 per minibus (20 passengers or less)
- \$50 per bus
- \$60 for a season's pass (access to all Gatineau Park beaches and Leamy Lake beach, and Mackenzie King Estate)

Free access to the Estate's parking lot for school groups participating in guided or non-guided tours.

GUIDED TOURS

Minimum 20 people (reservations required)

- For group reservations, please call 1-800-461-8020 or 613-239-5100.
- Please note that reservations are not required for non-guided tours and that parking fees will apply.

PUBLIC INFORMATION

For more information on Mackenzie King Estate or activities offered in Gatineau Park, the public may contact the National Capital Commission at 1-800-465-1867, 819-827-2020, 613-239-5090 (TTY) or 1-866-661-3530 (toll-free TTY), stop by the Gatineau Park Visitors Centre located at 33 Scott Road, in Chelsea, or visit the NCC's website at www.canadacapital.gc.ca/king .

MEDIA INFORMATION

For photos, story ideas or guided tours of the Estate, media are asked to contact NCC Media Relations at 613-239-5735.

Information:

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