



BC AFGHANISTAN MEMORIAL DEDICATION CEREMONY

**SATURDAY, 30 SEPTEMBER 2017
VICTORIA, BRITISH COLUMBIA**

MESSAGES

BC AFGHANISTAN MEMORIAL SOCIETY PATRON

Her Honour, the Honourable Judith Guichon, OBC
Lieutenant Governor of British Columbia



As patron of this project, and as Lieutenant Governor of British Columbia, it is my great honour to recognize those who served Canada during the Afghanistan Mission. In particular, we remember those who made the supreme sacrifice, who gave their lives and did not return to their families and communities. To those who lost loved ones, to veterans with wounds, physical or mental, and those who support them, and to those who served our country: we remember and honour you with this memorial. Thank you.

THE PREMIER OF BRITISH COLUMBIA

The Honourable John Horgan, MLA



The Government of British Columbia is proud to support the establishment of the BC Afghanistan Memorial. This memorial serves as a reminder of the contributions and sacrifices made by brave British Columbians to uphold the rights and freedoms of people here, and around the world. It stands as a monument to justice for today and for future generations. On behalf of all British Columbians, I express my deepest gratitude to the veterans and their families who gave so much to make our world a better place.

AMBASSADOR OF AFGHANISTAN TO CANADA

Her Excellency Shinkai Karokhail



I am honoured to bring you the Greetings of President Ashraf Ghani. The people of Afghanistan know very well what Canada's sacrifices have meant to my nation. While we have much still to do in my country, the examples of all Canadians who served and the heroes whose names appear on this monument will remind us all to stand up for what is right, just and necessary. Tashakur – thank you.

GOVERNMENT OF CANADA

The Honourable Seamus O'Regan, MP, Minister of Veterans Affairs



Thank you to the Greater Victoria Afghanistan Memorial Project Society for their work. This memorial stands as a symbol of their gratitude to all those who served in Afghanistan. We are pleased to support projects that preserve the memory of Canada's brave service men and women.

Merci à la Greater Victoria Afghanistan Memorial Project Society pour votre travail. Ce monument commémoratif est un symbole de votre gratitude envers tous ceux et celles qui ont servi en Afghanistan. Nous sommes ravis d'appuyer des projets qui préservent le souvenir des braves soldats canadiens.

BC AFGHANISTAN MEMORIAL SOCIETY PRESIDENT

Brigadier General (Ret'd) JEL Gollner, OMM, CD



Thanks to the Governments of Canada and British Columbia, and the City of Victoria coupled with broad community support the memorial has become a reality. Our memorial society is proud to have met the aspirations of our community with our memorial. The BC Afghanistan Memorial recognizes all who served in the campaign including those who returned with mental and physical wounds, the families and loved ones that waited at home, and it especially honours those that died in Afghanistan.

THE HONOURED

When asked what he would be doing on his tour to Afghanistan, the Victoria, BC, soldier answered: "I'm going to be helping the Afghan people."

Canada's ultimate goal was to help Afghans rebuild a viable country that is better governed, more stable and secure. The spirit of this mission is captured in the BC Afghanistan Memorial through the image of a Canadian soldier reaching out to an Afghan child.

The BC Afghanistan Memorial honours:

THOSE WHO SERVED

More than 40,000 Canadian Armed Forces (CAF) personnel, Canadian government employees and contractors served in Afghanistan over a period of more than 12 years.

The Afghan Guard: Veterans of the Afghanistan campaign will form up in front of the military units on parade. They will be inspected by Her Honour, The Honourable Judith Guichon, Lieutenant Governor of British Columbia.

THOSE WHO DIED DURING THE MISSION

The 158 CAF personnel and five civilians who died during the campaign. They are named on the base of the memorial. (Space is available on the memorial should the Government of Canada increase the official number.)

THOSE WHO RETURNED WITH MENTAL AND PHYSICAL WOUNDS

In addition to those who died during the Afghanistan campaign, the memorial recognizes the hardships and suffering endured by those who returned with physical and/or psychological wounds. They and their families have given so much.

THE FAMILIES AND LOVED ONES

The BC Afghanistan Memorial honours the spouses, parents, children and friends who had to cope when their family members were deployed, provide support when the veteran returned, provide care to the injured, and grieve when lives were lost.

More than 100 Memorial Cross family members with a connection to British Columbia have come to Victoria to participate in the commemoration of the memorial. The Memorial Cross is granted by the Government of Canada to loved ones of Canadian Armed Forces personnel who died in service or whose death was attributable to their service.

The Government of British Columbia provided financial support for travel expenses to allow the participation of Memorial Cross families living in BC.

FAMILY REPRESENTATIVE'S MESSAGE

To family members, the BC Afghanistan Memorial means that the donors, supporters and members of the memorial society care about our military members, that their service to this country matters, in Afghanistan or wherever our military is sent in the future. It means that our Afghanistan Fallen will be forever remembered. As families, we can learn to live without them, we can even find some joy again, but we will never "get over" the loss of our sons and daughters, husbands and wives. The families are forever thankful for this beautiful monument. We will remember. —*Maureen Eykelenboom*

BC AFGHANISTAN MEMORIAL DEDICATION CEREMONY
SATURDAY, 30 SEPTEMBER 2017 • VICTORIA, BC

ORDER OF SERVICE

Master of Ceremonies: Bruce Williams

12:15pm Bells of Christ Church Cathedral: Bell Captain David Oliver

1:15pm Band of 5th (British Columbia) Field Artillery Regiment, RCA:
MWO D. Moses, CD Conducting

Cathedral School Choir under the direction of Kathy Erikson

Memorial Cross Families and Dignitaries Arrive

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1:45pm Parade arrives: Under the command of
Lieutenant-Colonel Stephen Sawyer, the parade consists of
Canadian Scottish Regiment (Princess Mary's) Pipes and Drums
led by Pipe Major Glen Ereault

Four Guards representing the Navy, Army, Air Force and RCMP

1:50pm Please stand for the arrival of dignitaries

The Honourable John Horgan, MLA
PREMIER OF BRITISH COLUMBIA

greets

Dan Ruimy, MP

CANADIAN GOVERNMENT REPRESENTATIVE

General (Ret'd) WJ Natynczyk, CMM, MSC, CD
DEPUTY MINISTER, VETERANS AFFAIRS CANADA

Brigadier General TJ Cadieu, MSM, CD
CHIEF OF DEFENCE STAFF REPRESENTATIVE

Rear Admiral A. McDonald, MSM, CD
COMMANDER MARITIME FORCES PACIFIC

Her Excellency Shinkai Karokhail
AMBASSADOR OF AFGHANISTAN TO CANADA

2:00pm Please stand for the arrival of:

Her Honour, the Honourable Judith Guichon, OBC
LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR OF BRITISH COLUMBIA

O Canada

Review of the Afghanistan Veterans Guard

First Nations Honour Song: Corporal James Swan
HA'WITH OF THE MANHOUSAHT OF THE AHOUSAHT NATION

BC AFGHANISTAN MEMORIAL DEDICATION CEREMONY
SATURDAY, 30 SEPTEMBER 2017 • VICTORIA, BC

The Invocation

Rev. Major Jim Short, CD
RETIRED SENIOR CHAPLAIN 39 BRIGADE

The Unveiling and Dedication

The Honourable Judith Guichon and Dr. Richard Nuttall
A representative of each Memorial Cross family from British Columbia

The Blessing

Rev. Major Jim Short, CD
RETIRED SENIOR CHAPLAIN 39 BRIGADE
Very Reverend M. Ansley Tucker
RECTOR OF CHRIST CHURCH CATHEDRAL AND DEAN OF COLUMBIA
Father John Laszczyk
VICAR GENERAL, DIOCESE OF BRITISH COLUMBIA (ROMAN CATHOLIC)
Marianne Thomas
ESQUIMALT FIRST NATION SPIRITUAL LEADER

Act of Remembrance

Lieutenant Michael McCauley, CD
Last Post, Silence, Lament and Reveille

Addresses

Her Honour, the Honourable Judith Guichon, OBC
LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR OF BRITISH COLUMBIA
The Honourable John Horgan, MLA PREMIER OF BRITISH COLUMBIA
Her Excellency Shinkai Karokhail AMBASSADOR OF AFGHANISTAN TO CANADA
Dan Ruimy, MP CANADIAN GOVERNMENT REPRESENTATIVE
Brigadier General (Ret'd) JEL Gollner, OMM, CD
PRESIDENT, AFGHANISTAN MEMORIAL SOCIETY

God Save the Queen

Vice-Regal Salute

Lieutenant Governor and Dignitaries approach the memorial
Memorial Cross families approach the memorial

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The memorial is now available for permanent public viewing.



THE BC AFGHANISTAN MEMORIAL

THE BEGINNINGS

In 2012, City of Victoria Councillor Chris Coleman was inspired by a memorial he saw while visiting New Brunswick. On his return to Victoria, Coleman consulted with Dr. Richard Nuttall about the possibility of creating a memorial to honour those who served in the Afghanistan Campaign. A small committee was formed, a concept was developed and sufficient research was done to warrant proceeding with a full-scale project.

Brigadier General (Ret'd) JEL Gollner was recruited to lead the project in 2016. The Greater Victoria Afghanistan Memorial (GVAMP) Society was formed with a board of directors and a working relationship was established with the Canadian Scottish Regimental Heritage Foundation to facilitate fund raising.

THE DESIGN

When Colonel (Ret'd) James Hammond joined the board, he suggested using the image of a Canadian soldier reaching out to an Afghan child as the principal design element for the memorial. Permission was received from the photographer Finbarr O'Reilly and Reuters, the owners of the photograph.

Working with Stewart Monumental Works, the project committee modified the initial memorial design concept, provided by Doug Bobolo (1947–2016) of the Bobolo Design Group, to balance the image and the availability of suitable quality granite.



REUTERS/FINBARR O'REILLY

THE INSCRIPTION

AFGHANISTAN

2001–2014

IN HONOUR OF THOSE MEMBERS OF THE

CANADIAN ARMED FORCES

AND

PUBLIC SERVICE OF CANADA

WHO SERVED DURING THE

AFGHANISTAN MISSION

NAMED IN REMEMBRANCE ARE THOSE WHO MADE THE

SUPREME SACRIFICE

THOSE WHO
RETURNED WITH
MENTAL OR PHYSICAL
WOUNDS

THE FAMILIES AND
LOVED ONES

DEVELOPMENT AND LOCATION

The memorial society board now had design drawings it could use to approach the City of Victoria for site approval and to approach potential donors.

Two locations on City of Victoria property were considered before the Province offered space for the memorial on the north east corner of the soon-to-be-renovated, Courthouse Green. This was an ideal site for the memorial. It offered an open area with clear sight lines in all directions. The view of the soldier and child on the memorial, appearing to be walking towards the playground, symbolized why Canadian Forces, RCMP and civilians were in Afghanistan: “... *helping the Afghan people.*”

Thanks to the support of four major benefactors – who wish to remain anonymous – and many other organizations and individuals, an order was placed for the memorial in the fall of 2016.

MEMORIAL CREATION, ARRIVAL IN VICTORIA AND PLACEMENT ON SITE

An order was placed, through Stewart Monumental Works, with Rock of Ages Canada in Stanstead, Quebec – the most suitable source for the quality of granite needed for the memorial. The memorial was created in the spring of 2017 and shipped to Victoria, arriving on April 12. After a press viewing, the memorial was covered and stored until its installation on September 26. (Images of the memorial creation and arrival are available on the website.)

National coverage of the press viewing was seen by the wife of the soldier in the photo used in the memorial design, Michael McCauley. The memorial society board was extremely pleased, as previous efforts to identify the soldier had been unsuccessful. Lieutenant Michael McCauley of CFB Gagetown is participating in today’s unveiling and dedication.

THE DEDICATION AND LEGACY

Today’s unveiling and dedication ceremony is the culmination of a great deal of effort by, and support from, a large community of people who feel strongly about the purpose of the memorial and the people it honours. The legacy of this effort is the opportunity for the broader community to use the memorial as a place of reflection and commemoration. It is a place to remember, honour and learn from the contribution made by those who have served us so well.

The society that facilitated the creation and installation of the memorial has ceded ownership to the Province of British Columbia. The society will now wind down its operations by the end of 2017.

To help ensure the ongoing use and care of the memorial as a vehicle for commemoration, we encourage all who care to act as a friend of the BC Afghanistan Memorial. Please visit the site often – your effort will help ensure that we continue to remember, honour and learn from those who gave so much.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

BC AFGHANISTAN MEMORIAL BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Brig. Gen. (Ret'd) JEL Gollner (Society President)
Lt. Gen. (Ret'd) Kent Foster • Brig. Gen. (Ret'd) Michael Heppell • Dr. Richard Nuttall
Col. (Ret'd) James Hammond • John Azar • Jack Bates • Capt. (Ret'd) Al Giesbrecht
Lt. Col. (Ret'd) Stanley Willow • Lt. Col. David Myles

BOARD ADVISORS

Major (Ret'd) Bruce Allan (Canadian Scottish Regimental Heritage Foundation)
Councillor Chris Coleman • Barry Lund • LCol (Ret'd) Terrance Swan

DONORS AND SUPPORTERS

The four principal financial benefactors, who wish to remain anonymous
The Government of British Columbia • Veterans Affairs Canada
The many individuals and organizations who donated funds

COMMEMORATION EVENT PLANNING COMMITTEE

Captain (Ret'd) Don Lovell (Chair) • Col. (Ret'd) Paul Crober (Vice-chair)
Col. (Ret'd) James Hammond • John Azar • Harold Leduc • Lt. Col. David Myles
Bruce Williams (MC) • CPO2 Armand Reelick • Pierre Cayer • Lt. Col. Sylvain Gagne

The Canadian Scottish Regiment (Princess Mary's)

Lt. Col. Stephen Sawyer (CO) • CWO Mikel Knutsson (RSM)
Major Robert Dodds • Major David Proctor • MWO (Vice-CWO) Patrick Young

COMMEMORATION EVENT ASSISTANCE WAS RECEIVED FROM:

RC Maritime Forces Pacific • 39 Canadian Brigade Group
443 Maritime Helicopter Squadron (RCAF) • Royal Canadian Mounted Police

Canadian Forces Base Esquimalt

Headquarters • Base Information Services • Base Logistics • Military Police Unit (Esquimalt)
Personnel Coordination Centre (Pacific) • Formation Imaging • Formation Public Affairs

THANKS TO:

Doug Bobolo • Finbarr O'Reilly • Reuters
Stewart Monumental Works • Rock of Ages Canada • Robert Vaillancourt, Transport CPM
IslandHosting • St. John Ambulance • FotoPrint • Alaris Design
Victoria Buzz • Roll.Focus Productions
The Canadian Scottish Regiment Women's Auxiliary

