



# HEAR YE! HEAR YE!

NATIONAL HISTORIC SITES ON CAPE BRETON ISLAND  
LIEUX HISTORIQUES NATIONAUX DU CAP-BRETON

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## *Encampment 2008*

The pieces for Encampment 2008 are beginning to fall together and the event looks very much as if it will be another great success.

Registration closed in the middle of November and we have approximately 1,200 re-enactors registered. This is slightly more than expected but with a typical drop-off of one third, actual participation will likely be closer to eight hundred.

Once again, we have drawn re-enactors from across much of North America and from as far away as Europe.

On the encampment weekend, we will allow participants to begin setting up on Thursday (July 24) and we fully expect almost all re-enactors to be set up by Friday evening. There will be a parade of re-enactors in modern Louisbourg Friday night and the Canadian Armed Forces LFAA band will join them.

Saturday will be a full day of activities on site. We are looking to hold a memorial service and artillery salute in the morning, followed by demonstrations of military, civilian and camp life and period shopping will be available at the sutlers. In the evening there will be a sunset tactical (battle) followed by period fireworks. This promises to be a unique event for which there will be a separate charge.

Sunday will be another full day of camp life and other demonstrations. There will be another tactical in the afternoon and the closing ceremony will be late Sunday afternoon.

We have been co-coordinating closely with the organizers for the local community and things seem to be on track. Your organizing committees have been very busy and deserve a lot of thanks for the efforts they have made to date.



## *Exhibit Opening*



“Hand Made By LEO MacNEIL, An Exhibit of Louisbourg Furniture Reproductions” opens at The Old Sydney Society on January 24 in the Lyceum on George Street. Running until mid April, the exhibit features many of the pieces created for the Fortress by a man who could, quite correctly, be called Cape Breton’s pre-eminent craftsman.

Leo started woodworking in 1944 as a cabinet-maker apprentice in a Sydney millwork and cabinet shop. He worked in several locations in Nova Scotia, later in Ontario, then to New York doing “church work” under the direction of a German cabinet-maker who taught him the methods of hand-making cabinets. Returning to Cape Breton, Leo worked at various building projects and eventually opened his shop in Sydney Forks signalling his return to woodworking in a serious way.

About this time, the Fortress of Louisbourg needed fine quality reproduction furniture, turned pieces, stair work and miscellaneous pieces to complete and furnish building interiors. It was a great match. In addition to the fine work in many buildings, the Bigot staircase is one example, Leo produced

approximately fifty pieces of furniture, all of which are still used in our furnishing and interpretation programs.

The Furnishings Unit, with help from Asset Management and Conservation, are very happy to provide many of Leo’s creations from the curatorial collection to help the Old Sydney Society pay tribute to a great gentleman in this exhibit.

Everyone is invited to visit the Lyceum from January 24<sup>th</sup> to mid April on Tuesday to Friday.

## *Supplementary Death Benefit*

"When an employee is offered indeterminate status (seasonal or full-time), they become covered under the supplementary death benefit plan. This coverage requires a form to be signed which designates a beneficiary. Many people have had changes in their life that may affect who, in the event of their death, is to receive this payment. We are encouraging employees to review the information on the beneficiary form to ensure that it meets your current wishes. For your convenience, “Change of Beneficiary” forms are available at the Human Resource Office. Please contact Terri Dunphy at 733-3503 for more information."

## *Condolences*

Our heartfelt condolences to Brian Harpell and his family on the death of his mother-in-law, Martha Bates on January 6<sup>th</sup>.

*Anyone wishing to contribute to the Hear Ye! Hear Ye!, please contact Donna MacNeil at [donna.macneil@pc.gc.ca](mailto:donna.macneil@pc.gc.ca) or telephone 733-3551.*