

news release



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| Subject | City of North Vancouver Gets \$9 Million Commitment from Provincial Government for National Maritime Centre Project |
| Date | May 2, 2008 |

The City of North Vancouver has received a commitment from Premier Gordon Campbell for a grant of \$9 million to accompany its official support for a **National Maritime Centre for the Pacific and the Arctic** on the City's historic waterfront.

In an announcement today at a North Vancouver Chamber of Commerce luncheon, Premier Campbell praised the City of North Vancouver's vision for its waterfront development, and its dedication to the preservation of Canada's unique maritime heritage by creating a **National Maritime Centre** that will serve as an example of an impressive public private partnership.

With this significant commitment of financial support from the provincial government, the National Maritime Centre on the historic shipyard site in Lower Lonsdale is a significant step closer to being established and now awaits a similar commitment from the federal government.

"The provincial government's generous financial support and cooperative partnership is key to the success of this significant project," says City of North Vancouver Mayor Darrell Mussatto. "We thank Premier Campbell for his commitment to the **National Maritime Centre**, and we look forward to a successful long-term partnership. This has been a truly collaborative process involving senior levels of government, our First Nations partners, maritime interests and a broad spectrum of the community. We are now one significant step closer to developing a national landmark in our City."

Envisioned as a world-class facility, national landmark and major tourist attraction, the National Maritime Centre will be a dynamic year-round destination for residents and tourists, offering historic artifacts and interactive exhibits, maritime education and training, events, business forums, and boat festivals as well as amenities such as restaurants and retail shops.

During its development, the proposed Centre has attracted the support of more than 45 potential partners, including the federal, provincial and lower mainland municipal governments, First Nations, the Vancouver Fraser Port Authority, leaders within the maritime and tourism industries and educational partners. Once built, the **National Maritime Centre** would be self-sustaining through commercial revenues generated on the site.

Located in the Pier development, the **National Maritime Centre** will be at the centre of Western Canada's largest and busiest port. The proposed site has been federally designated as having major historical significance because it was once the site of much of BC's shipbuilding industry. www.cnv.org/ThePier For more information about the **National Maritime Centre for the Pacific and the Arctic**, visit www.cnv.org/NationalMaritimeCentre

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