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PUBLIC SERVICE ANNOUNCEMENT

County Museums Celebrate International Museum Day

Picton ON - This year, in honour of **International Museum Day**, Prince Edward County Museums will be open on **Wednesday, May 18th from 10:00 am to 4:30 pm**. Regularly paid admission sites - Macaulay Heritage Park and Ameliasburgh Historical Museum & Pioneer Village - will be offering **FREE ADMISSION** that day as part of the celebrations! Traditionally, the Museums of Prince Edward County open for the season on the Victoria Day Long Weekend.

Since 1977, **International Museum Day** has been organized worldwide around **May 18th**, raising awareness of the importance of museums to their communities. In recent years, roughly 30,000 museums in more than 100 countries have celebrated this day of recognition.

2011 has many exciting museum events planned, including:

- "Artisans in the Village" event at Ameliasburgh Historical Museum & Pioneer Village on June 12th
- The Grand Reopening of the Church at Macaulay Heritage Park on July 27th with new exhibitions
- An exciting new Walking Tour of Wellington Village that will be launched on May 21st
- The "History Alive!" Summer Experience Camps for Children in July (11th-15th) and August (15th-19th)
- A Transferable Season's Pass for local accommodations providers and their guests!
- New exhibits to honour the Miss Supertest Celebration Weekend in August (6th to 8th)
- Co-hosting the ever popular "Gallows & Graveyards" walking tours in Picton.

Museums represent different things to different people: repository for local heritage collections, agency of social change and development, exhibition forum, platform for ideas, debate and dialogue, educational facility, research station and tourist attraction.

The Museums of Prince Edward County are a family of five museums, each concentrated on a different "story" of the County's collective heritage: Loyalist, Hessian and Quaker settlement, definitive maritime and agricultural roots, a "founding father" of the Town of Picton, the Reverend Macaulay.

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For further information about International Museum Day or upcoming events at the Museums of Prince Edward County, please contact Jennifer Lyons, Head Curator at 613.476.2148, x426 or museums@pecounty.on.ca