

JUNO BEACH CENTRE



1947 Spruce Hill Road
Pickering ON L1V 1S6 Canada
Phone: 905-839-7576 FAX: 905-839-6284 E-mail: jbc@rogers.com

April 21, 2003

His Worship
Mayor Larry W. Campbell
City of Vancouver
453 West 12th Avenue
Vancouver BC V5Y 1V4

Dear Mayor and Councillors,

I sincerely regret that I cannot appear before council in person. Time and money constrains make it impossible for me to travel to make a personal presentation. All directors of the Juno Beach Centre are volunteers and we pay our own expenses.

I write to you on behalf of the young Canadians who left their homeland to fight on foreign soils during WWII. Forty-five thousand of those young Canadians gave their lives for the freedom we enjoy today.

As a nation we have failed in our duty when we say, "**We will remember them.**" We have not done a very good job of it. It is one thing to give one's life for one's country; **an entirely different matter to be forgotten for doing so.**

We have one last chance to correct this oversight. The memorial/education centre known as the Juno Beach Centre is under construction and scheduled to open this year June 6, 2003. No longer will thousands of visitors to Normandy only learn what British and Americans did to liberate Europe.

The Centre is supported by substantial pledges and donations from the Federal, Provincial, and Municipal Governments, French Governments, Police Associations across the country, as well as donations from over eleven thousand Canadian citizens in amounts from one to one hundred thousand dollars. Many municipalities, to name a few, Peterborough, Orangeville, Newmarket, Markham, Cobourg, Winnipeg, Edmonton, Nelson, Toronto, and every municipality in the Region of Durham, have purchased Group (Municipal) bricks. We have received

Juno Beach Centre Association - 24-2407 Woodward Avenue, Burlington, Ontario, L7R 4J2
Telephone: 1-877-828-JUNO Fax #: (905) 333-0233 Email: lisecooper@home.com

Lisecooper



JUNO BEACH CENTRE



donations and pledges in the amount of seven million, but, eight point one million are needed. This is a one-time fundraising venture. Studies have been made that show tourist traffic will pay for maintenance and staff of the Centre.

My request of Council of the City of Vancouver is for your support of the Juno Beach Centre. It would be fitting if Vancouver was recognized with other Canadian municipalities as a supporter of this project in memory of all local citizens who volunteered to serve Canada in WWII.

Enclosed are:

- A number of brochures and inserts with information about the project. (Do visit the Juno Beach Centre web site www.junobeach.org for a wealth of additional information.)
- A print of the Architects model of the Centre.
- A sample copy of the inscription that the City of Pickering chose for their two bricks.
- Additional copies of municipal brick inscriptions.
- Synopsis of a speech I have made to a number of Councils

I will be pleased to answer any questions that you may have. Please do not hesitate to contact me at the above address or numbers.

Yours truly,

Jan de Vries
WWII Veteran
President, 1st Canadian Parachute Battalion Association
Director, Juno Beach Centre Association

jcd

encl

**JUNO
BEACH
CENTRE**



The Group Memorial Brick Program

The Juno Beach Centre

There is a compelling need to properly preserve the memory and tell the story of Canada's contributions and sacrifices during WW II. To date there is no significant Canadian memorial for the Second World War that marks these achievements.

To fulfill this compelling need the Juno Beach Centre will be built at Courseulles-sur-Mer on the Normandy Coast of France. It was here that Canadians landed on D-Day, June 6, 1944. This memorial education facility is being developed to inform visitors on site, and through the Internet, of Canadian participation in the war; the story of the men and women working at home to support the war effort; and the emergence of Canada as an important participant on the world stage today.

Built By Donations – The Group Memorial Brick

The Juno Beach Centre will open on June 6, 2003 and will be built through donations. One key part of the donation program is the Group Memorial Brick that provides an opportunity for organizations to recognize the contributions of their group or local area in Canada's war effort and sacrifice.

The Group Memorial Brick is 3 ½ inches (92 mm) high by 5 ½ inches (142 mm) wide. The brick will carry eight lines of text of up to 26 characters per line, including spaces, or four lines of text with a coat of arms, regimental badge or crest. The Memorial Bricks will be mounted on the Centre's Memorial Kiosks that will be located near the entrance to the facility.

Donation cost for the Group Memorial Brick is \$2500. Tax receipts will be issued.

The Group Memorial Brick has been of particular interest to municipal governments wishing to honour WW II participants from their local area; regiments or other local military units; corporations; families; and service clubs or other local fraternal organizations.

Please note that Memorial Bricks purchased by December 31, 2001 will be included in the unveiling of the Memorial Brick Kiosks at ceremonies on the site in France on June 6, 2002. Group Memorial Bricks applied for after December 31, 2001 will be included in Memorial Kiosks unveiled at the Official Opening of the Juno Beach Centre on June 6, 2003.

Donations for Group Memorial Bricks should be forwarded to the Juno Beach Centre at 24-2407 Woodward Avenue, Burlington, ON L7R 4J2. On receipt of the donation we will contact the donating group to finalize the Group Memorial Brick information and content. Thank you for your support.