

PRESS RELEASE

INAUGURATION OF THE RESTORED MARGUERITE-MICHEL BELL UNVEILING OF SEVEN INTERPRETATION MODULES

Saint-Denis-sur-Richelieu

The 30 th of May 2018

The restoration of the Marguerite-Michel Bell, which we qualify as the Liberty Bell of Québec and Canada, has been completed. The inauguration of this bell (the only one « listed » in Québec), will be held on :

Friday June the 15th at 13 h 30, at the church of Saint-Denis-sur-Richelieu.

636, chemin des Patriotes, Saint-Denis-sur-Richelieu (Québec) JOH 1K0

Restoration

This restoration was made possible thanks to the cooperation of four groups : the parish « Fabrique », the Historical Society, donations of more than 20 private donors (totalizing 125 000 \$) and the local Municipality. A subsidy of 10 000 \$ was obtained from the Ministry of Culture and Communications of Québec, on the recommendation of the « *Conseil du patrimoine religieux.* »

Seven interpretation units, in the shape of a bell, explain the political role played by the bell on the 23 rd of November 1837 and the different religious functions it fulfilled as a parish bell from 1806 to 1960. Each is accompanied by a sound track telling these functions and giving the corresponding ring. Note that this bell has been cast by Thomas Mears at the White Chapel Foundry in London in 1802.

Interpretation

According to the Société d'histoire des Riches-Lieux, a renewed interpretation of the events from 1837 to 1867 justify the assertion that this bell has opened a way to the coming of democracy in this country in 1848, when Lord Elgin was Governor. Hence the name we have given her : the Canadian Liberty Bell.

Please visit our website at : <http://www.riches-lieux.com/>

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