

Media Release General Hunter Battle Flag Arrives in Southampton

January 10, 2012 *For immediate release* (Southampton, Ontario)

The 200-year-old Battle Flag from the HMS *General Hunter* has arrived in Southampton, on loan from the U.S. Naval Academy Museum in Annapolis. The flag is to be unveiled on January 18 and is to become a featured part the new *General Hunter* War of 1812 exhibit under construction at the Bruce County Museum and Cultural Centre.

Two hundred years ago this Royal Ensign flew on the *Hunter* when the British/Canadian brig was lost to the U.S. Navy at the famous Battle of Lake Erie in September 1813. Captured by U.S. Naval Commodore Oliver Hazard Perry, the flag was taken to Annapolis at the end of the war and put on display in the Naval Academy Museum. The *General Hunter* ended her days as a shipwreck buried a few hundred metres from the museum on the Southampton beach. The wreck was archaeologically excavated in 2004.

The new exhibit features a representation of the working deck of the warship – including a ceiling-high mast, and interactive cannon loading and firing, and square sail raising experiences. It is part of the bicentennial commemoration of the War of 1812 across Canada.



The Bruce County Museum & Cultural Centre is pleased to be a part of this significant moment in Canadian history with an exclusive exhibit showcasing the HMS *General Hunter*

Just before Christmas, the General Hunter mainmast was erected by the General Hunter exhibit team.



JOIN US FOR AN EXCLUSIVE SNEAK PEEK

Wednesday, January 18, 1:00 p.m. at the Bruce County Museum & Cultural Centre, 33 Victoria Street North, Southampton, ON. You'll see the Battle Flag unveiled, have a look at the Feature Gallery site of the exhibit and have a chance to ask questions about the exhibit and the flag.

For More information Contact: Ken Cassavoy - General Hunter Project Coordinator, Bruce County Museum & Cultural Centre, Phone (519)797-2080 ext 125 or 1-866-318-8889.
kcassavoy@brucecounty.on.ca www.brucemuseum.ca

-30-