



*The* CANADIAN CANOE MUSEUM  
*Le* MUSÉE CANADIEN *du* CANOT

## **Museum welcomes canoes from iconic Canadian singer-songwriter Gordon Lightfoot to its world-class collection**

**Thursday, December 7, 2017**

**The Canadian Canoe Museum was very pleased this afternoon to welcome iconic Canadian singer-songwriter Gordon Lightfoot along with several of his colleagues. Mr. Lightfoot brought with him four canoes that have been donated to become part of the museum's collection.**

### ***Statement from Jeremy Ward, Curator:***

“Needless to say, it's been an incredible day. We are honoured to be adding to our collection three of Gordon's canoes and one from his good friend and paddling companion, Fred Gaskin.

Gordon, an avid paddler, has donated the yellow canoe featured in the song *Canary Yellow Canoe*. This canoe showcases the scars of an infamous mishap when Gordon and Fred paddled the Nahanni River in the 1970s.

Our collection is just as much about stories as the thousands of artifacts we care for. These stories can be about connecting with our roots and with others, or finding solitude or a link to the natural world. These stories are from famous people, ordinary people and people long forgotten.

We know that for Gordon, canoeing was a critical diversion from a very demanding career. Many who know him, know how important his canoe trips were to him. And, all the while, he was building national and international recognition. These are remarkable stories, and this museum is indeed the perfect setting for those stories to be told. We are grateful to have been entrusted with them.”

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The Canadian Canoe Museum, located in Peterborough, Ontario, stewards the world's largest collection of canoes, kayaks and paddled watercraft. More than 600 in number, many of the craft in the collection have played tremendously important roles in the lives of their previous owners and many carry stories of significance. The collection proudly includes canoes that belonged to other notable Canadians such as Bill Mason, Farley Mowat, Pierre Elliott Trudeau, as well as the Royal Family.

### **For further information, please contact:**

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