

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE



NEW EXHIBIT AT LOUGHEED HOUSE

“Proudly They Served: Canadian Women’s Army Corps in WWII” October 21st, 2015 – January 31st, 2016

Calgary, AB. – October 15th, 2015 – Lougheed House’s new exhibition, **Proudly They Served: Canadian Women’s Army Corps in WWII**, explores the lives of women who served in WWII in Alberta. Lougheed House acted as Canadian Women’s Army Corps (CWAC) barracks from 1942-46. The House was ideally situated during WWII; close to both the downtown Military District Headquarters and Currie Barracks.

Imagine what Lougheed House was like during the service of CWAC, bustling with activity. “I joined the army and I never looked back,” says CWAC Veteran Anne Sweet in her oral history. Hear oral histories in the audio tour component of the exhibit from women who served as switchboard operators, cipher decoders, drivers, cooks and clerks. For the first time in Canadian history, women fulfilling non-combatant duties were officially part of the Canadian Army. The CWAC women challenged traditional gender roles and gained new confidence through their contribution.

The exhibit coincides with the 70th Anniversary of the end of WWII in 1945, and celebrates the contributions of women to the war effort. Collections featured in the exhibition include artifacts, oral histories and photographs from the Lougheed House Conservation Society, The Military Museums, the Glenbow Archives, Heritage Park, and a private collection.

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Trisha Carleton, Lougheed House Curator, and **Kirstin Evenden**, Lougheed House Executive Director are available for interviews in person or by phone. **Rose Wilkinson**, CWAC Veteran, will be available for interviews in person.

Exhibit Photography Link: <http://tiny.cc/cwac2015>

Included Photograph: Number 2 company, Canadian Women's Army Corps, Calgary, Alberta. Glenbow Archives NA-4940-2.

Free Opening Reception in the Lougheed House Gallery

The public is invited to the free opening reception on October 23rd, from 5:30 p.m. – 7:30 p.m. with CWAC Veterans and Curator Trisha Carleton in attendance. A flag raising will begin at 5:30 p.m. led by the 15 Field Ambulance of the Canadian Armed Forces.

A special ticketed event offered in tandem with the exhibit, **Remembrance Tea and Talk with Rose Wilkinson**, will occur November 9th, 2015 from 2:30 p.m. – 4:30 p.m. Guests can hear CWAC Veteran Rose Wilkinson's story of serving as a cipher decoder in a guided conversation by Lougheed House Curator Trisha Carleton.

Lougheed House

Built in 1891 for James and Isabella Lougheed and their growing family, historic Lougheed House is a 14,000 square-foot sandstone prairie mansion with extensive gardens on 2.8 acres in Calgary's beltline community. One of the finest residences in Canada's northwest and the political and social hub of fast-growing Calgary until 1938, Lougheed House is now a National and Provincial Historic Site and Museum run by the Lougheed House Conservation Society.

Subject to availability, historic interpreters are available to give guided tours. Self-guided and audio tours are always available.

Regular admission prices: Adult \$8.50, Seniors & Students \$6.50, Children 6-12 \$5.00, Families \$25.00, Children under 6 are admitted free of charge.

Lougheed House is at 707 - 13 Avenue SW Calgary, AB T2R 0K8 and is open:

Wednesday - Friday, 11:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.

Saturday and Sunday, 10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.

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