

For Immediate Release

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## **Climb, Commemorate and Create Memories at Mount Pearl's Newest Park** Ribbon Cutting Ceremony July 21 for St. David's Park

**MOUNT PEARL, NL** – Mount Pearl's newest park will officially open today at 6 p.m. during Mount Pearl's annual birthday celebration, Mount Pearl City Days. City Council will join members of the Provincial Government and the public for the ribbon cutting ceremony, which will be followed by a pig roast, family entertainment and an outdoor movie.

"St. David's Park is located precisely in the middle of Mount Pearl. We wanted to redesign this space into something that truly captured the essence of being the heart of our city," says Mayor Simms.

The new park cost approximately \$2.4 million. The project was funded on a cost-shared basis; \$1.4 million was funded by the Government of Newfoundland and Labrador, \$800,000 was funded by the City of Mount Pearl and \$200,000 was funded by the Atlantic Canada Opportunities Agency for the park's new cenotaph.

"We worked very closely with the Royal Canadian Legion Branch 36 on the enhancement of the park's design and cenotaph. The cenotaph is surrounded by a seating area and bubblers, and is a beautiful area to commemorate our war veterans," says Mayor Simms.

St. David's Park features a nature-based playground, which was designed to provide children the opportunity to interact with materials like fossils, boulders, grass, and climb on structures built from cedar logs. There is also a new pavilion, oval walking track, life-sized chess board, and compass rose in the centre of the park.

"This area has been meaningful to Mount Pearl for years. In 1970, the Kinsmen Club of Mount Pearl first planned to develop the upper section of St. David's playground into a sports field. Over the years, we've held countless community events here, like softball games, soccer games, the Newfoundland and Labrador Summer Games, both in 1988 and 2000, and the list goes on. Now, this space has evolved into a beautiful passive park, which will continue to be a meaningful attraction for our city," says Mayor Simms.

Construction began in April 2016 and the park unofficially opened to the public in October.

"On behalf of Council, I would like to thank the Government of Canada and the Government of Newfoundland and Labrador for their continued investment in making Mount Pearl a great place to live, work and play," says Mayor Simms.

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