



News Release

For Immediate Release
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Mysteries of the HMS Erebus - Special Victoria Event -

Over one hundred and seventy years ago, explorer Sir John Franklin sailed from England with two ships, HMS *Erebus* and HMS *Terror*, in search of a Northwest Passage through what is now Canada's Arctic. Both ships and crews vanished, which prompted a massive search that continued for 169 years until a breakthrough was made in September 2014, when an expedition led by Parks Canada discovered the wreck of HMS *Erebus*. More recently, the Arctic Research Foundation vessel *Martin Bergmann* has reported the discovery of the second of Franklin's ships, the HMS *Terror*, on September 3, 2016. These two discoveries may now finally solve one of the biggest maritime mysteries surrounding the loss of these two English ships.

The Maritime Museum of British Columbia is thrilled to announce that for one night only, four of the key individuals involved in the discovery of the HMS *Erebus*, will be in Victoria to share their stories about this amazing event and what underwater archaeology work has occurred at the site since the time of the discovery.

The four participants will include:

- Mr. Paul Watson: Pulitzer Prize Winning Photojournalist, who was aboard the *Sir Wilfrid Laurier* when HMS *Erebus* was located will be hosting the event.
- Mr. Ryan Harris: Senior Parks Canada Underwater Archaeologist and lead diver for the Franklin Expedition search party.
- Mr. Bill Noon: captain of the Canadian Coast Guard Icebreaker *Sir Wilfrid Laurier*.
- Mr. David Woodman: author of "Unravelling the Franklin Mystery" and "Strangers Among Us."

David Leverton, Executive Director of the Maritime Museum of BC, stated that: "We are very excited about hosting this special event and for having the opportunity to provide a forum for each of these presenters to share their incredible stories about one of the greatest maritime discoveries of all time."

The fundraising event will start with a pre-reception with hors d'oeuvres and drinks, and will be followed by a post-reception with coffee, drinks, and desserts. Please call 250-385-4222 for more details about purchasing tickets for the event or checkout:

<http://mmbc.bc.ca/event/mysteries-of-hms-erebus/>

-30-

For further information please contact:
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