



Pulitzer Prize Winning Journalist Paul Watson Launches Exciting New Book in Victoria

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

We are very pleased to announce that Pulitzer Prize winning journalist Paul Watson will be launching the release of his new book *Ice Ghosts: The Epic Hunt for the Lost Franklin Expedition in Victoria* on May 3rd.

Mr. Watson's new book describes the 200 year old mystery of the 1845 expedition embarked upon by John Franklin and his crew in two ships, the HMS Erebus and the HMS Terror to chart the last unexplored section of the Northwest Passage which vanished without a trace. The book details the search for the missing expedition and the recent discoveries of the missing ships in the far north of Canada's arctic.

"This is a wonderful opportunity for the Maritime Museum of B.C. to be hosting Mr. Watson during his upcoming visit to Victoria and to be offering two different venue locations for our members and the public to learn more about this amazing story, stated David Leverton, Executive Director, Maritime Museum of B.C. We are pleased to be co-sponsoring with the Greater Victoria Public Library during our afternoon event and with Munro's Books during our evening event."

The book launch will be held in the afternoon at the Maritime Museum of B.C. at 634 Humboldt Street from 2:00 to 4:00 p.m. and in the evening at Munro's Books at 1108 Government Street from 7:00 to 9:00 p.m.

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For further information, please contact:
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For immediate release

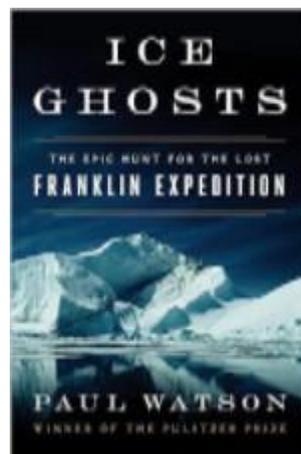
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PRESS RELEASE

ICE GHOSTS
THE EPIC HUNT FOR THE LOST
FRANKLIN EXPEDITION
PAUL WATSON



For nearly 170 years, the mystery of the lost expedition of Sir John Franklin has been the greatest cold case in the history of Arctic exploration. In 1845, Franklin and the crews of the HMS Erebus and Terror set out to discover a path to the Orient through the icy waters of the far northern latitudes. They were never heard from again. From 1847 to 1859, no fewer than thirty-six expeditions set out in search of the vessels. Each effort was met with icy silence. The fate of Franklin and his men remained shrouded in mystery until, in missions that blended new technology and faith in traditional Inuit beliefs, the ships were at last discovered—the Erebus in 2014 and the Terror just last year.



In **ICE GHOSTS: The Epic Hunt for the Lost Franklin Expedition [McClelland & Stewart, March 21, 2017, \$34.95 hardcover]**, Pulitzer Prize-winning author Paul Watson takes readers on an unforgettable journey into the unforgiving North in search of the vanished Franklin and his crew of 128 lost souls. Watson was on the icebreaker leading the mission that discovered the *Erebus* in 2014, and he broke the news of the discovery of the *Terror* in September. **ICE GHOSTS** masterfully weaves together history and contemporary reporting in a full account of these events, which, as Watson reveals, only found success when longtime prejudice against Inuit forms of knowledge was set aside. Watson chronicles how local Inuit contributed to the hunt for the ships and how Inuit lore passed down orally for generations was crucial to making discoveries for the ages.

Watson is no newcomer to tales of courage. He has reported from some of the most dangerous war zones in the world, living among guerrilla fighters in Afghanistan, Angola, Eritrea, Somalia, and elsewhere. Watson was also the Arctic correspondent for the *Toronto Star* for several years and has covered the changing geopolitics of the region and the race to exploit new waterways forming due to climate change, including in a visit to Russia's north for a series of stories on Russian President Vladimir Putin's strategic push.

A riveting mystery story as well as a tale of scientific innovation and relentless pursuit, **ICE GHOSTS** is that rare book that seamlessly marries gripping adventure narrative with intrepid analysis. It is an epic adventure readers will carry with them long after the final page is turned.

Paul Watson worked as a war reporter for more than twenty years, covering conflicts on several continents, including wars in Angola, the Balkans, Eritrea, Rwanda, Afghanistan, Iraq, Syria, and Somalia. He won the Pulitzer Prize for his photograph of a Somali mob dragging the corpse of an American soldier through the streets of Mogadishu in 1993.

Watson is the recipient of the George Polk Award, the National Headliner Award, the Hal Boyle Award from the Overseas Press Club of America, and the Robert Capa Gold Medal. He served as Asia bureau chief and Balkans bureau chief for the *Los Angeles Times* and covered the Arctic for the *Toronto Star*.

Watson is the author of the best-selling *Where War Lives*, a personal account of his years as a war reporter, and of *Magnum Revolution: 65 Years of Fighting for Freedom*, which showcases the legendary photography agency's work over almost seven decades.



Watson is the subject of the opera *The War Reporter*, which was staged to critical acclaim in New York in 2014, and his collaboration with American librettist, poet, and playwright Dan O'Brien produced the play *Body of an American*, which was staged off-Broadway in 2016 and won the PEN Award for Drama, the Horton Foote Prize, and the Edward M. Kennedy Prize for Drama Inspired by American History.

Watson holds an MA in international affairs from Columbia University. He lives in Vancouver.

Praise for ICE GHOSTS

“Engaging. . . . A keen, entertaining chronicle of the various attempts to locate a sensationally doomed expedition.”—*Kirkus Reviews* (STARRED review)

“Watson’s meticulously researched tale finely weaves together the many voices and experiences of those who sought Franklin’s long-missing ships.”—*Publishers Weekly*

“Riveting. . . . An engrossing chronicle of a legendary doomed naval voyage and the nearly 200-year effort to bring the Franklin Expedition to a close.”—*Booklist*

Paul Watson is available for interview.
For more information or to book an interview, please contact:
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ICE GHOSTS: The Epic Hunt for the Lost Franklin Expedition

Paul Watson

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