



substantial flag in Dieppe Gardens, but he died never realizing his dream.

In 2012, McDade's dream found new life as a formal proposal was made to City Council to fly a 60ft. by 30ft. flag on a pole that rose 150 feet out of the ground at Dieppe Gardens. After designs, tests and reports, the project was approved in 2015.

The Great Canadian Flag Project Committee, with an impressive fundraising campaign and support from the community, raised the required funding to erect this beautiful and proud example of our Canadian Flag. The location of the flag marks the entrance to Dieppe Gardens, a place where we honour Canadians, those who serve, served and especially our fallen.

On May 20th, 2017 - on the occasion of Windsor's 125th Birthday Celebration, and as part of Canada's 150th Anniversary year, the Great Canadian Flag was raised for the first time in its permanent home at Dieppe, before the keys to the flag were turned over to Mayor Drew Dilkens. This was the City's gift for its 125th Birthday from the Great Canadian Flag Project Committee... and from the long-ago dreams of Mr. Thomas G.M. McDade.

Committee Members: Peter Hrastovec, Mary Baruth, Dave Woodall, Ann Arquette and Lisa Kolody.

Great Canadian Flag - Raising 05/20/2017 - Photo by Mike Kovaliv, snapd Windsor

The Great Canadian Flag Project at Dieppe

In May, 1980, a patriotic man named Thomas G. M. McDade proposed a giant Canadian flag project to then Mayor Bert Weeks and members of Windsor City Council. McDade was new to Windsor from his native Montreal, Quebec. He loved his family and his country, and had a great and abiding respect for our nation's flag. He recalled having witnessed in person the raising of the "new" Canadian Flag over the Peace Tower in Ottawa on February 15, 1965 and hearing the Prime Minister of Canada, the Rt. Hon. Lester B. Pearson declare:

"May the land over which this new flag flies remain united in freedom and justice; a land of decent God-fearing people; fair and generous in all its dealings; sensitive, tolerant and compassionate towards all men; industrious energetic, resolute; wise and just in the giving of security and opportunity equally to all its cultures, and strong in its adherence to those moral principles which are the only sure guide to greatness."

McDade worked in earnest to see this project succeed, the proposal for a large and



Great Canadian Flag Project - The Team



Early Concept Art



Flag Raising Ceremony - 05/20/2017