



The center of the monument symbolizes *bringing our boys home*. The centre pillar of the cenotaph is made up of a large granite stone with the Canadian coat of arms on it and 73 smaller stones native to the countries from where they were received and each engraved with the name of the country where a Canadian soldier has died on a mission in the cause of world peace and freedom.

There are stones (see below) that show the *outstretched arms* of Canada's provinces and territories, depicted by the large stones originating from each of the provinces and territories. Each stone is placed in a semicircle that represents *hands clasped in friendship*. The provincial stones are arranged in the order the provinces entered confederation.



At the centre top of the cenotaph (see below) is the *Eternal Flame of Remembrance*. This light is always on to show the eternal flame, so no one will forget.



A Fitting Tribute

At the rear of the cenotaph is a receptacle for time capsules from various civic groups, schools and the Royal Canadian Legion at the back of the centre pillar. These capsules are slated to be opened in 2047.

The Sackville Heritage Park received special recognition in 1997. The site was named the winner of the "Best Open Space" by the National Institute on Park and Grounds Management, which is a Texas based agency. This award was a very big deal and it is an overall award for North America.

One of the many things that make's Sackville Heritage Park special, in addition to the cenotaph, is the Nunavut stone. Sackville was the first community in Canada to recognize Nunavut when it became its own territory. There is a white marble stone just off to the side of the Cenotaph that welcomes/recognizes Canada's newest territory. The stone has the inscribed crests for Nova Scotia, Nunavut and Halifax Regional Municipality. "Welcomes" is inscribed at the top in English, Inuktitut and Gaelic. The Nunavut stone adds just another feature to an already special park.



The Cenotaph at Sackville Heritage Park



**FULTZ
HOUSE
MUSEUM**

The Story of Sackville's Cenotaph

A **CENOTAPH** is a monument erected in honour of a person or group of people whose remains are elsewhere – lost in the fields of battle. Many countries recognize the efforts of the men and women who have died in the service to their country and pay tribute to their sacrifice. This fitting tribute is most commonly erected as a cenotaph. As with Canada's war dead from the Korean War, WWI and WWII, the Sackville Cenotaph recognizes Canada's service personnel who have died overseas. It is located in Sackville Heritage Park.

The membership of Sackville's Royal Canadian Legion made a decision in November 1987 that a new location had to be found to erect a new cenotaph. Previously, a cenotaph was constructed circa 1982, but the land that it was on was being sold and a new location needed to be selected and a new monument built. The committee that was selected to oversee the site selection, design and construction for Sackville's new memorial tribute to Canada's fallen soldiers received good news in 1994. A piece of land known as the Scott property, located at the entrance to Lower Sackville was chosen for the site of the cenotaph, as the site was deemed a prime location because of its highly visible location. Organizers determined to use the entire piece of land and turn it into a park with the cenotaph being the focal point of the site.

The process to develop the land unfolded in different phases when funding became available. It was determined that the park should contain as many different aspects to highlight nature's beauties. This included a duck pond, walking paths, a footbridge across a brook from the pond, park benches to sit on and relax, and many species of donated plants, shrubs and trees. The main focal point of the park was/is the beautifully designed cenotaph. A rose hedge would later be added around the highway side perimeter of the property.

The Cenotaph Committee of the Royal Canadian Legion in Lower Sackville erected this special cenotaph in 1995. The dedication happened in 1996. In attendance were numerous veterans, the Lieutenant Governor of Nova Scotia, the province's premier, among many other dignitaries and hundreds of school children and adults who came to witness the dedication ceremony.



An engraved stone (as seen below) at the entrance to the park describes the concept of the cenotaph to visitors unfamiliar with the site. It was designed and constructed around two themes (bringing the boys home and hands clasped in friendship).



The Sackville Cenotaph