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**CANADIAN MUSEUM FOR HUMAN RIGHTS BUILDS ON MANITOBA'S PROUD HISTORY:  
PREMIER**

Manitoba's proud tradition of human rights achievements, including its place as the first province in which women won the right to vote, makes it a fitting home for the new Canadian Museum for Human Rights, Premier Gary Doer said today at an event announcing further support for the national project.

"I would like to thank Prime Minister Stephen Harper for his commitment today. I would also like to commend the late Izzy Asper and his family for their imagination and determination. We are thrilled to be part of this and we would like to acknowledge all those involved, from the mayor and City of Winnipeg to all the private sector donors," Doer said.

"Manitoba's rich history of human rights successes makes our province the ideal location for the museum. In particular, it will be a fitting addition to The Forks, which is the historic meeting place of Aboriginal people. The museum will pay tribute to past human rights successes, while helping to educate and teach us about the struggles of today and tomorrow."

The \$265-million national human rights museum received a boost today when the federal government announced it would provide for the museum's annual operating costs, in addition to \$100 million in capital support. Manitoba also announced that it would increase its capital support to \$40 million.

Doer said the federal government's decision to provide for the museum's annual operating costs allowed the province to increase its capital support for the unique world-class facility, the first-ever national museum to be located outside of Ottawa's capital region.

"This kind of unprecedented, national project is what happens when the private and public sectors work together. Manitoba has shown time and time again that it is a can-do province and this project is a shining example of what we can achieve when we work together to build our province for the future," the premier said.

The museum is also an important part of Manitoba's vision for continuing to revitalize downtown Winnipeg, he added.

"With the MTS Centre, the Millennium Library and Red River College already thriving, and the new hydro building under construction, there is a renewed energy and excitement in downtown Winnipeg. The museum will only add to that as it draws visitors from across our province and country."

In addition to attracting tourists, the museum will produce other economic benefits. Construction and operation of the museum is expected to create hundreds of direct and indirect jobs in the coming years.