

For Immediate Release:



National Capital District

Travelling Exhibition "Ordinary Lives, Extraordinary Times: Italian Canadian Experiences during WWII" at the Italian Canadian Historical Centre – Centro Storico Italo-Canadese

Ottawa, February 18th, 2013 - The National Congress of Italian Canadians (Ottawa District) is pleased to inform the community at large that the travelling exhibition entitled: "**Ordinary Lives, Extraordinary Times: Italian Canadian Experiences during WWII**", a project lead by the Columbus Centre of Toronto with the support of Community Historical Recognition Program administered by the Department of Citizenship and Immigration Canada is currently on display at the **Italian Canadian Historical Centre** located at Villa Marconi and will be open to the public commencing **Monday, February 18th, 2013** at the follow days and times:

Mondays	(7 to 9 p.m.)
Tuesdays	(7 to 9 p.m.)
Wednesdays	(1 to 3 p.m.)
Thursdays	(1 to 3 p.m.)
Fridays	(7 to 9 p.m.)

The official opening of the Italian Canadian Historical Centre (IHC) which took place on January 29th, 2013 will house archival and research material on Italian Canadian history and will also serve to commemorate and educate our city and our country on the historical experiences of Italian Canadians affected by authorized wartime measures applied in Canada during the Second World War. This travelling exhibition is the first to be housed outside of Toronto and at the Centre and will remain in Ottawa until April of this year. The exhibition approaches the experiences of Italian Canadians during WWII by focusing on the people who lived through it or who were affected by it. The exhibit conveys the stories of a cross section of ordinary Italian Canadian men, women and children from communities across Canada. The personal stories of internees, their families, their neighbours and their fellow community members, forms an important part of this exhibition

Over the next few months, people (young and old - Italians and non-Italians) will gather in the Centre and learn of this sad chapter of our history. It is important to remember these human stories, both to honour the legacy of the Italian Canadians involved and to acknowledge the place of these stories and experiences within Canadian history. I encourage you all in the months to come to visit the Centre - read and learn, through this thoughtful exhibition: **Ordinary Lives, Extraordinary Times: Italian Canadian Experiences During World War II.**

Admission is free and all members of the community are welcomed. For additional information, please contact: **(613) 521-2886** or send an email to ncicottawa@gmail.com or visit our website at cnicottawa.ca.

Josephine Palumbo
Chair, Steering Committee
Italian Canadian Historical Centre/Centro Storico Italo-Canadese