



FOR RELEASE
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A.J. Goddard shipwreck commemorated as a Yukon historic site

WHITEHORSE—The *A.J. Goddard* shipwreck was commemorated as a Yukon Historic Site in a plaque unveiling ceremony at Lake Laberge today. Tourism and Culture Minister Mike Nixon was joined by several members of the team who discovered the wreck in 2008.

"The discovery and protection of the *A.J. Goddard* shipwreck has been an exceptional collaboration among the Yukon government, the Yukon Transportation Museum and a dedicated team of researchers," Nixon said. "The small sternwheeler is a legacy that reflects the importance of river travel during the Klondike Gold Rush."

The *A.J. Goddard* sank during a severe storm on Lake Laberge in 1901. Only two of the five crew members survived.

Several attempts were made to find the wreck and in 2008 an international research team comprising the Yukon Transportation Museum and the Institute of Nautical Archaeology (INA) located the submerged vessel.

Nixon unveiled the plaque with Yukon resident Doug Davidge who searched for the *A.J. Goddard* for many years and was part of the discovery team. Also present were INA researcher John Pollack and others involved in the site's discovery and documentation.

The sternwheeler was designated a Yukon Historic Site in 2010 under the *Historic Resources Act*. The shipwreck will remain in the depths of Lake Laberge where the cold water has preserved it for over 100 years. Recreational divers wishing to explore the vessel can obtain a site access permit form from the Historic Sites office.

For more information on the *A.J. Goddard* and other Yukon Historic Sites visit www.tc.gov.yk.ca.

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