

## NEWS RELEASE



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### **Sir Wilfrid Laurier statue to be unveiled Oct. 18**

WATERLOO – Wilfrid Laurier University will unveil a new statue of Sir Wilfrid Laurier on Tuesday, Oct. 18 at 1 p.m. in the Fred Nichols Campus Centre Quad on Laurier’s Waterloo campus.

A bronze statue of a youthful Sir Wilfrid Laurier seated on a granite bench was commissioned by Laurier to celebrate the university’s 100th anniversary. The statue, crafted by Canadian artist Marlene Hilton Moore, was selected from among five proposals by three artists. The submitted concepts featured Sir Wilfrid at various ages and in different poses. The group ultimately chose Hilton Moore’s seated bench statue for its accessibility, its approachability, its playfulness and its youth.

“The committee – and the majority of people from the Laurier community who commented on the artists’ proposals when they were posted online – overwhelmingly chose Marlene’s vision,” said Barry Ries, editorial/communications officer for Laurier’s Office of Research Services and chair of the Artist Selection Committee.

“Marlene has portrayed Laurier as youthful and alert, looking up, with a bright future ahead of him. That is very appropriate for a university setting, and I see generations of newly minted graduates lining up to sit beside him for convocation-day photos.”

Laurier also launched a fundraising campaign for the statue. To date, more than \$30,000 has been raised, including a \$10,000 donation from Laurier’s Alumni Association. A donor wall commemorating the names of everyone who donated \$100 or more will be installed near the statue at the end of year. Donations will continue to be accepted until Dec. 31, 2011.

The entire Laurier community is invited to attend the unveiling ceremony, which will take place in the amphitheatre area of the quad. Formal remarks by Laurier President and Vice-Chancellor Max Blouw, Vice-President: Development & Alumni Relations Rob Donelson and Hilton Moore will begin at 1:15 p.m. In the case of inclement weather, remarks will be moved indoors – check the [www.wlu.ca](http://www.wlu.ca) for location changes.

For more information, visit [www.laurier100.ca/statue](http://www.laurier100.ca/statue). Watch an interview with Hilton Moore on Laurier’s YouTube channel, [www.youtube.com/LaurierVideo](http://www.youtube.com/LaurierVideo).