

October 7, 2022

The Honourable Rachel Blaney
House of Commons
Ottawa, Ontario
K1A 0A6

JUNO
BEACH
CENTRE®



Dear Ms. Rachel Blaney,

On behalf of the Juno Beach Centre, thank you for your support of the Save Juno Beach citizens' campaign. Your consideration, advocacy and assistance helped ensure the legacy of the Juno Beach Centre will continue for generations to come.

On October 7, Minister of Veterans Affairs Lawrence MacAulay announced that the Government of Canada will support the purchase of the land adjacent to the Juno Beach Centre. The French government and region of Normandy will also contribute financially. **As a result, the planned condominium development for this area on Juno Beach will not go ahead.**

This would not have been possible without the support you – and thousands of other Canadians – showed for the Juno Beach Centre. We have been deeply humbled by the dedication the public showed to our cause. In total, some 90,000 call-to-action letters were sent to government representatives by everyday Canadians.

In particular, thank you for meeting with Save Juno Beach and the Juno Beach Centre Association early in the campaign to understand the situation. Thank you for the letter of concern you wrote to the Minister of Veterans Affairs in March and for your advocacy within the Standing Committee on Veterans Affairs. It was a pleasure for our staff to welcome you to the museum in Normandy during your April visit and we hope they will be able to welcome you once again under happier circumstances. Your statement in the House of Commons on June 6th provided such a touching description of the *Some Came Back, Others Did Not* gallery at the JBC. Thank you for your remembrance of Stocky Edwards, whose recollections we have captured as part of our Legacy of Honour Veteran interview series.

Your support was invaluable and has made possible the Juno Beach Centre's long-term efforts to preserve and honour Canada's military legacy. On behalf of all the Directors at the Juno Beach Centre Association and staff at the Juno Beach Centre, thank you for helping us continue the mission first envisioned by our founding Veterans.

With gratitude,

Don Cooper, President, Juno Beach Centre Association