



Canadian-Croatian Chamber of Commerce Kanadsko-Hrvatska Gospodarska Komora

NEWS RELEASE

International Day of the Cravat to be celebrated in Toronto

In conjunction with the Embassy of the Republic of Croatia in Ottawa, the Consulate General of the Republic of Croatia in Mississauga and the Croatian community in Ontario, the Canadian-Croatian Chamber of Commerce is pleased to announce that the International Day of the Cravat will be celebrated in a ceremony at Queen's Park in Toronto, Ontario.

As the precursor to the modern necktie, ascot and bow tie the cravat was originally a tied scarf worn by Croatian soldiers during the Thirty Years War in France. The Croats were known as "les Cravats" at the time and the French began to use the term by the mid-1600s. King Charles II of England introduced the cravat as a fashion item in the 1660s and the expression "to tie the cravat" eventually led to the terms "tie" and "necktie" used today. Most recently, it has been proposed that the word "cravat" replace "tie" and "necktie" as the standard term for this fashion accessory.

"On behalf of all Canadians of Croatian descent, we invite our fellow Ontarians to recognize this unique Croatian contribution to global popular culture on the International Day of the Cravat and call the knotted scarf around their neck by its original name **cravat** instead of tie and necktie" said John Marion, President of the Canadian-Croatian Chamber of Commerce.

The International Day of the Cravat will be celebrated in a ceremony at the main entrance of the Ontario Legislative Building at Queen's Park Crescent on Monday, October 19, 2009 at 2:00 p.m. A special proclamation relating to the Cravat will be read by Mr. Robert Herjavec, star of the popular television series *The Dragon's Den* on CBC and *The Shark Tank* on ABC.

All members of the Croatian-Canadian community and our fellow Ontarians are invited and encouraged to attend this important event.

For further information, please contact:

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