



# The Royal Westminster Regiment Association

P.O. BOX 854 / NEW WESTMINSTER / B C / V2L 4Z8

PRESERVING THE  
HISTORY OF:

## MEDIA RELEASE

ROYAL ENGINEERS



NEW WESTMINSTER  
VOLUNTEER RIFLES



SEYMOUR BATTERY OF  
GARRISON ARTILLERY



104TH WESTMINSTER  
FUSILIERS OF CANADA



131ST BATTALION  
CANADIAN EXPEDITIONARY  
FORCE



47TH BATTALION  
CANADIAN EXPEDITIONARY  
FORCE



THE WESTMINSTER  
REGIMENT (INF)



THE WESTMINSTER  
REGIMENT (MG)



THE WESTMINSTER  
REGIMENT (MOTOR)



THE ROYAL  
WESTMINSTER REGIMENT

## ***TWO VICTORIA CROSS RECIPIENTS BEING HONOURED***

**For Immediate Release -*Vancouver, Toronto* (11 March 1997)**

Two recipients of the British Empire's highest military decoration, the **VICTORIA CROSS**, will be honoured in a special ceremony at 11:00 a.m. on **Saturday, 5 April 1997**, at The Armoury of The Royal Westminster Regiment, 530 Queen's Avenue, New Westminster, British Columbia. Corporal Filip **KONOWAL** received the Victoria Cross for valour during the Battle for Hill 70, near Lens, France, in 1917. Major Jack K **MAHONY** was honoured for his heroism during the Battle of the Liri Valley, in Italy, in 1944. They were *both members of the 47th Battalion*, now known as The Royal Westminster Regiment. Konowal has also been recognized with trilingual plaques installed in the Cartier Square Drill Hall, regimental home of the Governor General's Foot Guards, and at The Royal Canadian Legion, Branch 360, in Toronto. All of the plaques have been paid for by public subscription.

Organized by the *VC Plaque Committee* of **THE ROYAL WESTMINSTER REGIMENT ASSOCIATION**, headed by *Mr Jerry Gangur*, in cooperation with the Ukrainian Canadian Civil Liberties Association, the Ukrainian Canadian community of British Columbia and The Royal Westminster Regiment, this commemorative event is **open to the public**. Honourary guests will include His Excellency VOLODYMYR **FURKALO**, Ukraine's Ambassador to Canada, the Right Honourable Mr Justice JOHN **SOPINKA** and MAJOR GENERAL N BRUCE **JEFFRIES**, CD, Commander, Land Forces Western Area.

The president of Branch 360 of The Royal Canadian Legion, *Mr J B Gregorovich*, observed: "By honouring Filip Konowal, in Ottawa, Toronto and, finally, in New Westminster, we have remembered the valour of a Ukrainian immigrant who proved his people's loyalty to Canada. By recounting the heroism of Jack Mahony on the same trilingual plaque we remind all Canadians that these men were brothers in arms, that each of them, as a Canadian, fought to ensure the freedom that we all enjoy today."

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***For More Information Please Contact:***

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