

BARRIE & HARROGATE



TWINNING CERTIFICATE

THE CITY OF BARRIE IN THE PROVINCE OF ONTARIO, CANADA
AND
THE BOROUGH OF HARROGATE OF NORTH YORKSHIRE, ENGLAND
HEREBY ESTABLISH A
TWINNING PARTNERSHIP

With this special partnership the citizens of the City of Barrie and the citizens of the Borough of Harrogate formally acknowledge the heritage that our two communities have in common. This heritage is bound by a significant Air Force tradition. During the Second World War, 6 Bomber Group of the Royal Canadian Air Force was headquartered at Allerton Park Castle near Knaresborough. Thousands of Canadian airmen flew from the airfields located in Yorkshire. More than six hundred Canadian airmen found their final resting place in the Harrogate Stonefall Cemetery. One of these airmen was a native son of the City of Barrie. Flying Officer William Howard Porritt was pilot of a Halifax Bomber with 432 (Leaside) Squadron of the Royal Canadian Air Force, which crashed on take-off on the 16th of April 1945. Many of those resting in Harrogate trained as aircrew at the "Birthplace of the Royal Canadian Air Force" in Borden, Ontario. This airfield is located very near to the City of Barrie. R.C.A.F. Station Camp Borden was originally built as a Royal Flying Corps Aerodrome in 1917. The Canadian Air Force received a Royal designation and became the Royal Canadian Air Force on the 1st of April 1924.

Another heritage connection of which Barrie is very proud is that the City is named after Sir Robert Barrie KCB, KCH who became a Rear Admiral in the Royal Navy. He commanded HMS Dragon during the War of 1812. Following the war he returned to England and married Lady Julia Wharton Ingilby of Ripley in October of 1816. During the period 1819 to 1834 he was Commander of the Naval Forces in Canada. He retired to Swarthdale and died on the 7th of June 1841. He was laid to rest in the All Saints Church, in the shadow of Ripley Castle.

It is the desire of both our Councils to promote these mutual friendships through the heritage ties that unite us. Our endeavours are to encourage the people of both communities to work in partnership and exchange ideas and information of a cultural, social, and commercial nature for the progress and development of our communities. Our citizens are encouraged to foster exchange programmes in sport, the arts and education. These exchange programmes form the foundations to bond friendships, goodwill and understanding.

ON BEHALF OF OUR CITIZENS AND
IN GOOD WILL WE AFFIX OUR NAMES AND CORPORATE SEALS, IN THE BOROUGH OF
HARROGATE, ON
THIS 7TH DAY OF JUNE 2013, THE ONE HUNDRED AND SEVENTY SECOND
ANNIVERSARY OF THE DEATH OF SIR ROBERT BARRIE.

JEFF LEHMAN MAYOR
CITY OF BARRIE

MICHAEL NEWBY MAYOR
BOROUGH OF HARROGATE