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The National Battlefields
Commission

Commission des champs
de bataille nationaux

PRESS RELEASE

For immediate release

Gilmour Hill closes for the winter on November 1st

Québec, October 22, 2009 – The National Battlefields Commission informs drivers that Gilmour Hill will be closed from November 1st until mid-April. However, this announcement does not preclude the possibility of an early or sporadic closing depending on weather conditions. The safety of drivers and users of this thoroughfare is a priority for the Commission, whose goal with this decision is to minimize potential dangers.

During fall and winter, difficult weather conditions often lead to numerous accidents. Whether they are due to fallen leaves in the road, snow, hail or rain, the risks are too high to allow users to use this road during that time. Even more so since the Commission does not use any de-icing salt since it would damage the neighbouring vegetation and endanger the cliff's stability. As for sand, it is not effective enough to ensure the safety of the road.

The National Battlefields Commission reminds drivers that road signs are still posted on Grande Allée and Champlain Boulevard to inform them about the hill's accessibility. This information is also available by phone at 418 648-4212 or via the Internet, at www.theplainsofabraham.ca.

Gilmour Hill is the location British soldiers climbed in the night of September 12 to 13, 1759 to fight the French at the Battle of the Plains of Abraham. Today this thoroughfare connects Champlain Boulevard (bordering the river) to the park. A lumber man and shipbuilder of l'Anse au foulon, John Gilmour (1812-1877) lived near the hill which today bears his name.

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