

For Immediate Release  
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### **Plans underway to celebrate 250th Anniversary of Ship Hector landing in Pictou**

PICTOU, NS: Hector 250, celebrating the arrival of the Ship Hector in Pictou in 1773, is just six months away and plans to commemorate this significant milestone are well underway. The town of Pictou will be alive with the sounds of bagpipes, fiddles, tunes and hammers from September 15 to 17.

Events will include a sailing regatta, Bluenose II in port for deck tours, original play *The Voyage*, Gaelic and Indigenous culture and music, the Hector Ceilidh and the Hector Tattoo.

A major component of the weekend will be the unveiling and first opportunity to see the restoration progress on the Hector. Visitors will be able to step aboard the ship, which is currently on blocks in the yard, and experience the below deck atmosphere and walk along the newly finished upper decks. Members of the Restoration team will be on hand to explain the process of the restoration. The relaunch of the Hector is planned for 2024 when outfitting components and underwater systems are in place.

The Charting Our Course campaign, which is funding the restoration, has raised over \$1.8 million for the ship, and community and corporate support will help us achieve our target of \$2.5 million to complete the project. Once fully restored the Hector will be able to do tours of Pictou Harbour and will be the only tall ship in Canada powered by solar energy and many 'green energy' features.

The Society is also leading a major project which will see a complete update and renovation of the Interpretive Centre. The facelift includes a new roof and public areas, innovative and interactive displays and a more thorough telling of the partnership of the Scottish settlers and the indigenous people of Pik'tuk.

The entire site and ship will be fully powered by solar panels and will be a leader in using green technology in public spaces.

Further details can be found on the Ship Hector Facebook page or [www.shiphector.ca](http://www.shiphector.ca)