

## Ceremonial tulip planting

2015 marks the 70th anniversary of the liberation of The Netherlands and the end of the Second World War. It also marks the 70th anniversary of the first gift of 100,000 Dutch tulips bulbs to Canadians as a symbol of appreciation for the role Canadian soldiers played in the liberation of the Netherlands and the hospitality Canada provided to the Dutch Royal Family in Ottawa during the War.

Thanks to the generous, emblematic, renewal of the 1945 Royal gift of 100,000 tulip bulbs by Veseys Bulbs, the Canadian Garden Council in collaboration with the Canadian Tulip Festival and the Canadian Nursery Landscape Association have distributed red and white tulip bulbs to 140 communities across Canada.

The BBIA and Bancroft's Horticultural Society were awarded with 700 bulbs each. Bancroft's Dutch-Canadian Friendship Tulip Gardens, symbolically connected to the garden of 7,000 bulbs in Canada's Capital, were planted next to the cenotaph. We can look forward to seeing them bloom, in the spring.

Submitted