

THE MACDONALD PROJECT  
PRINCE EDWARD COUNTY  
[www.macdonaldproject.com](http://www.macdonaldproject.com)



Limited edition of 12 bronze busts of

**John A. Macdonald**

Beginning his career in Upper Canada in 1835 as an attorney in Picton, before moving to Kingston in 1836 to become a barrister

*“My early associations are connected with Prince Edward – some of the happiest days of my life were spent here – I here obtained my earliest professional education, and here, in the good old town of Picton, I earned my first fee and made my first speech to a jury in this very Court House.”*

*John A. Macdonald*



**JOHN A. MACDONALD**

came of age in Prince Edward County.  
In 2015, Canada celebrates the bicentenary of his birth.

To commemorate this landmark anniversary of Prince Edward County’s most famous citizen, the Macdonald Project has chosen renowned portraitist and sculptor Ruth Abernethy ([ruthabernethy.com](http://ruthabernethy.com)) to create a life-sized bronze statue of John A. Macdonald as a young lawyer.

The interactive work, entitled *Holding Court*, is unique among the bronze sculptures of Macdonald across Canada. It will represent Macdonald standing at the dock in the courtroom addressing a judge and jury. The work will be located in a pedestrian-friendly gathering place in historic downtown Picton.





*Scene in the Bay of Quinte* by W.H. Bartlett, 1841  
Glenora and Hay Bay, Macdonald's home 1824-1835  
National Gallery of Canada

### SIR JOHN A. MACDONALD

is celebrated as Canada's first Prime Minister.  
As a politician, he ranked with Abraham Lincoln and Benjamin Disraeli --but in his early years he was thoroughly a Bay of Quinte boy.

John A. called Prince Edward County and the Bay of Quinte his home for about eleven years. For two years, starting when he was eighteen, he ran his cousin's law practice in Picton while he was a student of law.

His family lived nearby at the Stone Mills of Glenora. His father, Hugh, like his cousins in the region, was a magistrate, an entrepreneur, and a civic leader.

John A. was embarking on a career in law and public administration and participated fully in civic life in the community. But like many young men his age, he had a fondness for pranks and practical jokes.

He was one of the first defendants brought to trial in the Picton Courthouse with his co-accused. John A. appears to have played a prank on a gentleman on the Picton's Main Street and a scuffle ensued leading to charges. John A. successfully defended himself before a judge and jury against the charge. The co-accused was not so fortunate. He was fined a token six pence. Four months later John A. became an attorney while still in Picton.

This is the John A. Macdonald that will be represented in our commemorative statue – a young man “coming of age” and the beginning a long and eventful career in law and law making that led to the creation of Canada in 1867.

## You Can Be a Part of Canadian History

Participate in this unique opportunity  
Celebrate the Bicentennial of Macdonald  
Donate in support of the MACDONALD PROJECT

**Option 1:** Please send a cheque payable to  
County Community Foundation/Macdonald Project

**County Community Foundation**  
**Suite 103, 280 Main Street**  
**Picton, ON K0K 2T0**

Or phone (613) 476-7901 ext. 218  
You will be eligible for a tax receipt through the  
County Community Foundation

### Option 2: LIMITED EDITION BRONZE BUSTS:

Macdonald Bicentennial sculptor, Ruth Abernethy will cast a limited edition of 12 busts at a one-time offer of \$25,000 each. This is the head study for the 10<sup>th</sup> major sculpture of John A. Macdonald in Canada, entitled  *Holding Court* .

Purchase one for your private collection, or donate with others to an institution of your choice and commemorate Macdonald's enduring legacy. Name an institution and donate as part of a team.

Contact David Warrick, Chair of the Macdonald Project, at [david.warrick@me.com](mailto:david.warrick@me.com) or call (613) 471-1238

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