

MEDIA ADVISORY**DATE: FEBRUARY 19, 2008**

Media Contact: Sean Kelleher

Phone Number: 518-698-3210

**FRENCH & INDIAN WAR 250TH ANNIVERSARY COMMEMORATION
COMMISSION ANNOUNCES CONTACTS FOR EVENTS**

The French and Indian War 250th Anniversary Commemoration Commission was created by the State Legislature in 2005 for the purpose of educating New Yorkers on the enduring historical legacy of the French and Indian War, the war that was in many ways the preamble to the American Revolution. It was the first true world war as control of North America was contested between France and Great Britain, both of which were aided by Native American and colonial allies. It was also largely New York's war, as many important battles were fought here.

By organizing, promoting and implementing a major commemoration to recognize New York State's historic contribution to the war's outcome, the Commission is working to promote a greater understanding of the conflict and bring significant tourism dollars into New York State. Since 2005, the Commission has generated over 5.6 million dollars of new tourism income. The Commemoration series was named one of the American Bus Association's Top 100 Events in North America for 2007.

Organized events include French and Indian War reenactments and other activities through 2010. The Commission recognizes the following as contacts for upcoming Signature Events:

June 28-29, 2008: Grand Encampment through July 8, 2008: 250th Anniversary of the French Victory Fort Ticonderoga, Ticonderoga, NY Contact: Nicholas Westbrook 518 585-2821 nick@fort-ticonderoga.org

July 3-5, 2009: Old Fort Niagara, Youngstown, NY Contact: Robert Emerson 716-745-7611 ofn@oldfortniagara.org

July 17-18, 2010: Fort La Presentation, Ogdensburg, NY Contact: Barbara O'Keefe 315-393-3315 jokeefe@twcny.rr.com

In addition, the Commission's marketing chairman—Sean Kelleher 518-698-3210 skellehe@nycap.rr.com—is the Commission public information officer.

For more information about the Commemoration, visit <http://fiw250.iloveny.com>.