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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Tribute to Liberty marks the 20th anniversary of the fall of the Berlin Wall with Prime Minister Stephen Harper

OTTAWA, November 9, 2009—Tribute to Liberty took part in the Prime Minister's commemoration ceremony marking the 20th anniversary of the fall of the Berlin Wall at the Government Conference Centre in Ottawa, where a piece of the Wall is on display.

In a private wreath laying ceremony Tribute to Liberty Board Chair Alide Forstmanis laid a wreath at the foot of the piece of the Wall, along with the Prime Minister and other dignitaries. Following the wreath laying ceremony the Prime Minister gave a speech about the significance of the anniversary to an audience of over 200 people gathered at the Conference Centre.

During his speech the Prime Minister congratulated Tribute to Liberty on undertaking the task of getting a memorial to victims of communism built in Ottawa. He also announced that the section of the Wall in the Conference Centre will be moved to the Canadian War Museum, and said "it will complement the memorial to the victims of totalitarian communism, planned for the capital region by Tribute to Liberty."

Forstmanis also gave a speech on behalf of Tribute to Liberty and the memorial project. In her speech she said the memorial "will commemorate the losses and hardships of all those who suffered under communism, and will pay tribute to Canada, this great country, which was and is a land of refuge for those who seek liberty."

On September 10th the National Capital Commission (NCC) approved Tribute to Liberty's proposal to build the memorial on national capital region land, while agreement on the name of the memorial, "A Memorial to Victims of Totalitarian Communism—Canada, a Land of Refuge," came on September 22nd.

Tribute to Liberty is working with the NCC on land allocation, and will be announcing a national design competition in spring 2010. Unveiling of the memorial is planned for fall 2011.

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