

## **Sir John Kennedy Plaque Unveiling**

On Friday March 5, 2010, the Historic Sites and Monuments Board of Canada unveiled a plaque at the Port of Montréal Building commemorating Sir John Kennedy as a “Person of National Historic Importance”.

Sir John Kennedy had a very varied engineering career which had started with his apprenticeship in the office of T.C. Keefer. The most important part of his career, and that which earned him his outstanding reputation was as Chief Engineer of the Montréal Harbour Commission from 1875 to 1907. His work in reconstructing the port which included deepening the St. Lawrence River from Québec City to Montréal, adding four wharves and rebuilding and modernizing the harbour, created a world class port facility which contributed significantly to the growth of Montréal and to the development of Canada.

Sir John Kennedy was also very involved in the development of the engineering profession in Canada and worked hard to enhance the prestige of the profession. He was a founding Vice President of the original Canadian Society of Civil Engineers and served as President of the Society in 1892. He was also a founding member of the Canadian Engineering Standards Association (now CSA) and was knighted in 1916.

A full list of the other engineers who have been commemorated as “Persons of National Historic Significance” can be found in the History and Archives pages on the EIC web Site.

EIC were represented at the event by History and Archives Committee Members Alistair MacKenzie, Frank Corbett and Hugh McQueen. Representatives from CSCE were Past Presidents Peter Wright and Joules Houde, Executive Director Doug Salloum and Communications Manager Louise Newman and representing CSME was President Marius Paraschivoiu.