



## **The Hon Stuart Robert MP**

Minister for Veterans' Affairs

Minister for Human Services

Minister Assisting the Prime Minister for the Centenary of ANZAC

23 December 2015

### **Sir John Monash Centre contract awarded**

A significant step in the construction of the Sir John Monash Centre at the Australian National Memorial site near Villers-Bretonneux in France was taken today with the finalisation of a construction contract with a leading French construction company, Bouygues Bâtiment Grand Ouest.

The Minister for Veterans' Affairs and Minister Assisting the Prime Minister for the Centenary of ANZAC, Stuart Robert, said today's announcement heralded significant progress in the establishment of the Sir John Monash Centre, which will be a unique commemorative site on the Western Front when it is completed in 2018.

"The Sir John Monash Centre will educate a new audience about Australia's early role in international affairs, reshape visitors' knowledge of the battlefields, and provide a lasting international legacy for the Centenary of Anzac," Minister Robert said.

A regional subsidiary of Bouygues Construction, Bouygues Bâtiment Grand Ouest, which until June 2015 had been known as Keel Construction, is a successful company operating in the building trades, industry, the environment and real estate development in Normandy, Picardy, Brittany and Pays-de-Loire.

"The Sir John Monash Centre will provide a focal point for Australian visitors and those from other nations seeking knowledge of Australia's sacrifice on the Western Front battlefields during the Great War," Minister Robert said.

"Australians have a strong, enduring relationship with this region of France, and not only will the new Centre be a world-class multimedia facility, the Bouygues Group's ability to resource the project locally will provide strong employment and investment in the local region."

For more information on the Anzac Centenary national program please visit the Anzac Centenary Website [www.anzaccentenary.gov.au](http://www.anzaccentenary.gov.au)

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