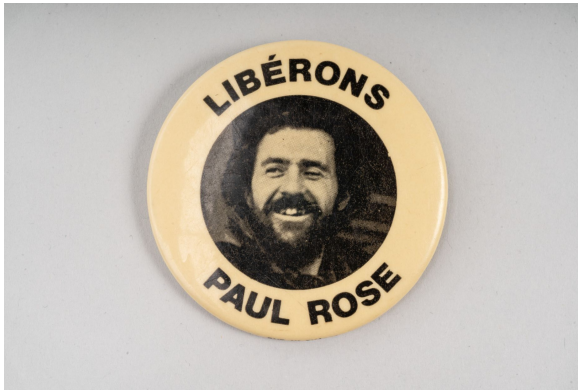


Button

<https://collections.pacmusee.qc.ca/en/objects/button-2022-012-069/>

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This round white diaper pin badge features a black-and-white portrait photograph of a bearded man. It is surrounded by black lettering.

Accession Number 2022.12.69

Materials metal, paper, plastic

Measurements 5,3 cm

Historical context

The button explicitly calls for Paul Rose's release. In the early 1960s, the Front de libération du Québec (FLQ), a Quebec independence movement, was founded. Members of this group organized a number of high-profile acts, including bombings. In connection with these events, FLQ members are imprisoned, often in federal penitentiaries. The term political prisoner begins to circulate. The term did not meet with unanimous approval. Indeed, many felt it had no place in Canadian society, which recognizes freedom of speech and association.

Over the years, activists have given their support and called for the release of these political prisoners. This was one of the demands during the October 1970 crisis. During this crisis, Paul Rose was a key player, as part of the Chénier cell (with Jacques Rose, Francis Simard and Bernard Lortie) that organized the kidnapping of provincial minister Pierre Laporte. Laporte died during the events. Paul Rose is sentenced to two life sentences for kidnapping and murder.

A decade later, events revived this struggle. In April 1979, Pierre-Paul Geoffroy was denied parole for a fourth time. Then, on October 16 of that year, the anniversary of the proclamation of the War Measures Act, the Comité d'amnistie générale (CAG) was formed, supporting the release of all Quebec political prisoners. The CAG circulates a petition calling for their immediate and unconditional release. The committee quickly receives support from the Ligue des droits et libertés, Simone and Michel Chartrand, the CSN, the Groupe socialiste des travailleurs, the Regroupement des militants syndicaux and others. Paul Rose was granted parole on December 20, 1982.

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Photo by Michel Julien