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Statement by Portraits of Honour Chairman on Royal couple's special viewing of Portraits of Honour Mural in Calgary

Portraits of Honour Chairman, Roger Hebblethwaite, issued the following statement today concerning the visit of Prince William and Duchess Catherine to Calgary, Alberta where they will pay special tribute to Canada's 156 fallen soldiers, sailors and aircrew who have died while serving in Afghanistan.

"On behalf of the Portraits of Honour National Tour committee and the members of Kin Canada, we are honoured that His Royal Highness Prince William and his wife, Duchess Catherine, have chosen to complete their Canadian visit with a special viewing of the Portraits of Honour mural in Calgary.

As part of their last official stop on their Canadian tour, the Royal couple will visit Calgary's Rotary Challenger Park on Friday July 8th for a special viewing of the Portraits of Honour mural. Prince William is expected to pay tribute to all the men and women who serve in our Canadian Forces and honour the sacrifice made by the 156 fallen soldiers, sailors and aircrew whose faces are depicted on the 10' x 40' oil painting, by laying a wreath at the foot of the painting.

This is a very special occasion for the families of our fallen heroes and for all Canadians, as it further demonstrates how highly regarded and respected our Canadian Forces are in Canada and throughout the world, and how much we value and honour their dedication.

It is also a very special honour for Kin Canada, Canada's largest all-Canadian service organization, to have the Royal couple select our most current national project – the Portraits of Honour National Tour – as part of their Royal visit.

Kin Canada has a very special relationship to Britain dating back to the Second World War when Kin Canada answered an emotional radio address from Sir Winston Churchill pleading for assistance for Britain's children following extensive bombings that threatened the country's milk supply.

Kinsmen and Kinettes created a campaign called "Milk For Britain" that raised more than \$2 million and sent 50 million quarts of milk to Britain. For his efforts, Kinsmen founder, Mr. Hal Rogers, was appointed an Officer of the Order of the British Empire.

We are grateful that Prince William and Catherine will see first hand the faces of our brave heroes. I encourage all Canadians to come out to see the Portraits of Honour mural either in Calgary or elsewhere on our national tour. Come out to remember, honour and celebrate all of our fallen troops and all those who are protecting our country and bringing peace and freedom to many others in our world."