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IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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RCMP Heritage Centre Explores the Hidden History of the Purge With the Love in a Dangerous Time Travelling Exhibit

REGINA, SK

Regina, SK – The RCMP Heritage Centre is pleased to host “Love in a Dangerous Time”: Canada’s LGBT Purge, a compelling pop-up exhibition opening April 10.

Developed through a collaboration between the Canadian Museum for Human Rights and the LGBT Purge Fund, this powerful exhibition sheds light on a painful chapter in Canada’s history while celebrating the resilience and courage of those who fought for justice.

From the 1950s to the 1990s, the Government of Canada systematically investigated, harassed, and expelled 2SLGBTQI+ members of the Canadian Armed Forces, RCMP, and federal public service in what became known as the LGBT Purge.

Thousands of careers and lives were upended, yet courageous individuals led political and legal efforts to challenge these injustices and demand change.

“This exhibition is about more than government policy or historical injustices—it’s about courage, perseverance, loss, and triumph,” said Sam Karikas, CEO of the RCMP Heritage Centre. “Most importantly, it tells the stories of individuals—those who faced discrimination and those who stood up against it.”

Love in a Dangerous Time was designed to educate and inspire Canadians to help build a future where the rights of all 2SLGBTQI+ people are respected. The exhibition also honours survivors of the Purge and those who didn’t make it through,

The exhibition shares personal stories of those impacted by the LGBT Purge and highlights the activism that led to lasting legal and social change.

In 2016, survivors of the Purge launched a class-action lawsuit, leading to a historic settlement in 2018.

This settlement established the LGBT Purge Fund, which partnered with the Canadian Museum for Human Rights to develop this travelling exhibition as part of a broader initiative to raise awareness and foster dialogue.

“We’re proud to be a place for dialogue and we can’t wait to welcome the community to this important conversation and opportunity for learning about Canada’s history,” said Karikas. “While honouring those who endured discrimination, this exhibition also aims to spark new conversations, engage young Canadians, and connect past injustices to present-day human rights issues,”

Access to Love in a Dangerous Time is included with a general admission ticket to the Heritage Centre galleries. Individuals who identify as Survivors of the LGBT Purge are invited to view the exhibit for no cost.

On Tuesday April 22, the Heritage Centre will host a reception and fireside chat with Purge survivors.

For more information please contact:

For more information or to request a media interview, please contact:

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About the RCMP Heritage Centre:

Designed by the world-famous architect, Arthur Erickson, the RCMP Heritage Centre is a statuesque building that is home to the story of the Royal Canadian Mounted Police. This non-profit organization is located in the capital city of Regina, and neighbours the RCMP Saskatchewan headquarters and “Depot” Division.

Our galleries explore over a century of RCMP history, from the formation of the North-West Mounted Police in 1873, to the modern-day Mountie. With 150 years of history to share, our staff are dedicated to providing education, enjoyment, reflection, and dialogue. Visit <https://rcmphc.com/> for more details about our education, programming, and events.

We acknowledge that the land on which we gather, and where the RCMP Heritage Centre is located is Treaty 4 territory, which is the traditional territory of the Anihšinābēk, Nêhiyawak, Dakota, Lakota, and Nakota Peoples, and the original home of the Métis Nation. We recognize and acknowledge their culture and contributions.