IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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RCMP Heritage Centre Celebrates Historic Decision to be Designated a National Museum

REGINA, SK – November 9, 2026:

The Government of Canada announced yesterday, through ***Masters of our destiny: Budget 2026*** that it will designate the RCMP Heritage Centre in Regina, SK as a National Museum. Along with the designation, Government allocated $3M annually to 2029-30 to support the transition.

"Not only is the Prime Minister and the Government investing in Canada today, they are also ensuring the protection of Canada's history through this important step," said Board Chair Rod Buckingham. "There are so many to thank for getting us to this point; our CEO Sam Karikas for her leadership and dedication, Board members past and present, The Friends of the Mounted Police Heritage Centre, the Heritage Centre staff who with volunteers from the Friends ensure great visitor experience, The RCMP's Historical Collections Unit who diligently archive and preserve artifacts, the amazing corporate and individual donors, the Commissioner of the RCMP and his executive, and the National Police Federation President. It is so important to preserve the history of this great organization and its 153 years of protecting us."

"This announcement is a historic decision; one that demonstrates a commitment to a sovereign Canada where culture thrives, and where Canadians see themselves in our stories," said Sam Karikas, RCMP Heritage Centre CEO. "We echo the position noted in the budget that our museum is a space to discover shared history, reconcile with the past, and celebrate our future. We are so proud to be included as a partner in Government's plan for a strong and united Canada."

The Canadian RCMP Museum will be the third National Museum established outside of the National Capital Region, and only the second in western Canada. The RCMP Heritage Centre has been working on this goal for the past six years.

As part of its work to be recognized as a National Museum, the RCMP Heritage Centre completed a Canada-wide engagement. The engagement was designed with a distinction-based and intersectional approach to speak with Indigenous individuals and communities,

2SLGBTQ+ individuals, equity-deserving and racialized communities, and current and former RCMP members. The response for a National RCMP Museum was overwhelmingly positive.

Ninety per cent of respondents said it was “important” or “very important” that Canadians have access to a National Museum in Regina, home of the RCMP Academy, Depot Division, that honours the courageous contributions of the RCMP while telling the most difficult stories with dignity and compassion.

The investment of $3 million per year through 2029 will provide a significant portion of the funds the RCMP Heritage Centre needs to scale operations as a National Museum.

The stories of the NWMP/RCMP are inextricably linked to Canadian history, and the development of our nation. Building on our vision of being a place of discovery, exploration, reflection, and reconciliation the Canadian RCMP Museum will continue to tell the stories that inspire us; of duty, bravery, and service, and the stories that inspire us to do better; exploring complex chapters of our history, and reconciling the past.

Alongside nine other esteemed National Museum institutions, the Canadian RCMP Museum will welcome the world and create a space for dialogue and learning about what makes Canada special, sovereign, and unique.

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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, 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 Anihšināběk, Nêhiyawak, Dakota, Lakota, and Nakota Peoples, and the original home of the Métis Nation. We recognize and acknowledge their culture and contributions.