



For Immediate Release
June 24, 2022

**20th Independent Field Battery to Commemorate Queen Elizabeth's Platinum Jubilee
At Stirling Settler Days Opening Night**

The 20th Independent Field Battery, Royal Canadian Army will be planting a commemorative tree at the Historic Michelson Farmstead as part of the Queen's Green Canopy Initiative. The link for the Queen's Green Canopy initiative will provide details on the program <https://queensgreencanopy.org/>. The Green Canopy Initiative strives to plant trees all over the world and the Village of Stirling has been chosen as a location for a tree. The Michelson Farmstead is a Provincial Historic Site and the home was constructed by Andreas & Kirsten Michelson in 1902. The Farmstead is a historic representation of the type of settlement typical of Mormon Settlers who moved to Southern Alberta and who were instrumental in the early development of the region through the development of irrigation.

"The Village of Stirling has enjoyed a strong relationship with Lethbridge's 20th Independent Field Battery with the Unit's support and participation in our Remembrance Day Ceremony and Cenotaph dedication last year," said Mayor Trevor Lewington. "Our community has a long history of local residents serving with the Royal Canadian Armed Forces and so we are pleased to be able to continue to strengthen that connection to our past."

"The contribution our unit is making to Stirling's Provincial Historical Site is in recognition of her Majesty the Queen's program; and contributions the settlers of Stirling had in that early development of this region," notes Major Robert Mein CD, Commanding Officer, 20th Independent Field Battery, RCA.

The tree planting ceremony will be occurring on Thursday, July 14th, 2022 at the Michelson Farmstead located at 533 2nd Avenue in Stirling. The ceremony will commence at 5:00 p.m. and there will be an opportunity to interview Officers from the 20th Independent Field Battery; members of the Village of Stirling Council; and members of the Stirling Historical Society. The ceremony will open Stirling Settler Days which has events running from July 14th through July 16th. Following the ceremony will be hotdog dinner sales and live musical performances as part of "Music on the Verandah" starting at 7:00 p.m.

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About Stirling:

The Village of Stirling is one of three communities in Canada designated as a National Historic Site and the largest village in Alberta by population with 1,269 residents as of the 2019 municipal census. While Stirling is proud of its past, the community is also preparing for the future with high-speed fibre optic broadband internet service connected to more than 85% of households as well as solar arrays on public buildings to offset municipal power consumption needs resulting in Canada's first electrically "net zero" Village. Visit www.stirling.ca for more information.