

Military Muster in Commemoration of the War of 1812

The gold embossed invitation to a Military Muster clearly set the tone for a commemoration of the War of 1812 in the presence of the Prime Minister and Their Royal Highnesses, The Prince of Wales and the Duchess of Cornwall.

As explained in the programme, “ a ‘muster’ is a general term for collecting soldiers or sailors together, and in this case, the only one that could describe the unique and spectacular array of regiments, both regular and reserve, represented at this event. Collected on the parade square of Fort York Armoury will be three bodies of troops, the largest being the Guard of Honour comprising

soldiers of regiments whose Colonel-in Chief is His Royal Highness The Prince of Wales or Her Royal Highness the Duchess of Cornwall.....Accompanying the guard will be a formation of soldiers from regiments that perpetuate the tradition of militia units called out on active service during the War of 1812, to whom the CDS awarded the Honourary Distinction DEFENCE OF CANADA – 1812-1815 – DÉFENSE DU CANADA. The third formation will be representatives of First Nations and Métis communities; in 1812 these nations were an essential part of the British alliance that defended Canada.”



*In the presence of
Their Royal Highnesses
The Prince of Wales and The Duchess of Cornwall
on the occasion of the Diamond Jubilee of Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II*

*The Prime Minister of Canada
The Right Honourable Stephen Harper
and Mrs. Laureen Harper
are pleased to invite
Mr. Fred Hayward and Mrs. Margaret Hayward
to a Military Muster
in commemoration of the War of 1812
Tuesday, May 22, 2012 at 5:30 p.m.
Fort York Armoury, 660 Fleet Street West, Toronto, Ontario*

(This invitation is non-transferable)

Business Attire/Decorations

Prior to the arrival of the Their Royal Highnesses, there was a musical presentation by a composite band of the Canadian Armed Forces which in turn preceded the positioning of the [Guard of Honour, representatives of First Nations' and Métis communities and the 1812 Regiments.](#)

Following the Royal Salute, Prince Charles, accompanied by Chief of the Defence Staff General Walter Natynczyk and Minister of National Defence Peter MacKay, inspected the Guard of Honour, stopping to chat with individual members along both lines.

Details regarding the War of 1812 commemorative ceremony as printed in the programme are linked [here](#). Information has been provided regarding the Commemorative medal, Commemorative banner, the five snare drums, the First Nations and Métis communities with a heritage linked to the War of 1812, Current Canadian Army Units to Perpetuate War of 1812 Militia Formations, Regiments linked to War of 1812 Fencible Units recruited in North America and the ceremony itself.



There followed the National Anthem, Royal Salute and the March Past. The Official Party then departed at the far end of the Armoury, retiring to a brief reception in the Officer's Mess.

A small gathering lingered outside the main entrance in anticipation of the departure of the Royal Couple.





Flowers for the Duchess



Girl Guide Cookies for the Prime Minister



Our appreciation to

Terence Young, MP for Oakville, for securing the invitation from the PMO

Jason Ransom UE, PMO, for the pictures of the Duchess of Cornwall, and the Ceremonial Banner

[L Gen. Peter Devlin](http://ow.ly/i/EaJY/original), for the picture of the Armoury (<http://ow.ly/i/EaJY/original>)