



May 23, 2005

Highway 2 receives 'Royal' treatment

Province names Edmonton-Calgary highway after The Queen

Edmonton... Highway 2 between Edmonton and Calgary is now known as the Queen Elizabeth II Highway.

Premier Ralph Klein announced the new designation May 23 during a dinner to honour The Queen's visit and Alberta's Centennial.

"Highway 2 between Edmonton and Calgary is Alberta's most-travelled highway and is a fitting tribute to Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II," said Premier Klein. "This highway's new designation will be a lasting legacy from the Royal Visit and Alberta's Centennial celebrations."

Only the portion of Highway 2 between Edmonton's south and Calgary's north city limits is designated as the Queen Elizabeth II Highway.

At 260 kilometres, it is the longest continuous stretch of road named after a monarch in Canada and is the only Canadian highway named for Her Majesty (the Queen Elizabeth Way in Ontario is named for The Queen Mother). Approximately 20,000 to 54,000 vehicles travel this stretch of Highway 2 each day, depending on location.

Commemorative plaques to mark the designation will be installed at Gateway Park south of Edmonton and the Dickson-Stevenson Rest Area north of Calgary near Crossfield.

The new highway signs will be in place on the morning of May 24 on Highway 2 between Edmonton and the Edmonton International Airport so that The Queen may view them on her way to the airport.

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