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Planning launches for Alberta's Diamond Jubilee celebrations

Provincial activities in 2012 will be part of nation-wide events to mark Her Majesty The Queen's 60 years of service as Monarch

Edmonton... Premier Ed Stelmach announced today that Alberta will join in Canada-wide celebrations next year to honour Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II on the occasion of her Diamond Jubilee.

"The Queen has long served as a symbol of the history and tradition that unites us as Canadians from coast to coast to coast," said Lieutenant Governor Donald Ethell. "The Diamond Jubilee is a wonderful opportunity for Albertans to join all Canadians in paying tribute to Her Majesty and her longstanding service to our country."

Premier Stelmach has invited Betty Anne Spinks, Chief of Protocol and Barb Walline, Private Secretary to the Lieutenant Governor of Alberta to head a committee that will begin developing plans for Alberta's Diamond Jubilee celebrations. Details of the plans will be announced later this year.

"Albertans did an outstanding job of marking The Queen's Golden Jubilee in 2002," said Premier Stelmach. "I have every confidence that our Diamond Jubilee celebrations will be just as enjoyable and will show how much The Queen has meant to our Alberta communities over the years."

National celebrations will include a new Diamond Jubilee Medal. The medal design was unveiled today in Ottawa by the Governor General of Canada and the Prime Minister. Specifics, including eligibility for the medal, will be released by Canadian Heritage at a later date along with other aspects of the National Diamond Jubilee program for 2012. Information of the Diamond Jubilee Medal design is at www.gq.ca/diamondjubilee.

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