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## ROYAL CANADIAN MOUNTED POLICE RIDE INTO THE BIG E SEPTEMBER 27-29

One of Canada's most recognized icons, the Royal Canadian Mounted Police (RCMP) are set to perform the famous Musical Ride at The Big E September 27-29, 2019.

The RCMP Musical Ride represents a colorful Canadian tradition. The troop of 32 horses and "Mounties" will run through a variety of cavalry exercises choreographed to music. The routines consist of intricate figures and drills that demand the utmost control, timing and coordination.

Each performance will honor a special guest and fairgoers are welcome to stay after the show for a Meet and Greet with some of the riders.

The RCMP last appeared at Eastern States Exposition in 2007, when they performed in the Coliseum and took part in the daily parade. They also visited in 1996, for the "Diamond Jubilee" edition of The Big E.

The Musical Ride was developed in 1876 by early members of the North-West Mounted Police to display their riding ability and entertain the local community. It has evolved over the decades into a uniquely Canadian performance, enjoyed by tens of thousands of spectators every year. The organization's distinctive red uniform also dates back to the 19th century.

Members of the Musical Ride are first and foremost police officers, or constables as they are known in their native Canada. They all have at least two years of experience doing active police work before volunteering for duty with the Musical Ride. Surprisingly, most of the police officers have no prior riding experience.

The riders act as ambassadors of goodwill and promote the RCMP's image all over the world. Performances help raise thousands of dollars for charities and non-profit organizations supported by the troop.

The RCMP Musical Ride at The Big E is free and will take place inside Eastern States Exposition's historic Coliseum. For more information, visit www.TheBigE.com or call 413-737-2443.

The 2019 Big E takes place Sept. 13-29 in West Springfield, Mass. Stay up to date with all the happenings at Eastern States Exposition by finding us on Facebook, following us on Twitter and Instagram or joining our mailing list at TheBigE.com.

