

THE MUSEUM AT FORT GEORGE

A meeting will be held between representatives of the Regimental Trust and the Museum Board, and representatives of the Petitioners, at **RHQ SCOTS - North, Cameron Barracks, Inverness IV2 3XE** on **WEDNESDAY, 12 MARCH, 2014** from **1600 -1700 hrs.**

AGENDA

- 1. Welcome and introductory remarks.** The meeting has been arranged in response to an online petition (see Enclosure A) and related correspondence from the petitioners' representatives. A copy of the Customer/Supplier Agreement ("CSA") with the MOD dated 2000 is at Enclosure B.
 - 2. Museum Name.** The Petitioners have asked for the name to be changed from "The Highlanders Museum (Queen's Own Highlanders Collection)", which is the registered name under the CSA. Petition states: *"The omitting of our name in the Title of the Museum is unacceptable... the failure to inform and educate future generations of our existence unacceptable"*. Petitioners' representatives propose: *"Reinstatement of the name, be it The Queen's Own Highlanders Museum, or The Regimental Museum of the Queen's Own Highlanders."* See Enclosure B and, for background, Enclosure C – "Background Note on the Museum Name".
 - 3. Museum Objectives and Style of Display.**
 - a.** Petition refers to: *"the general feeling amongst many Ex Queen's Own Highlanders, that this was their Museum, and not a Visitor centre come Officers Mess."* Petitioners' representatives propose: *"The reverse of the two function, entertainment rooms on the top floor, back to exhibition rooms, this we feel would make it far more of a Museum, we could all be proud of, and less of an Officers type Mess, as a lot have likened it to just now."*
 - b.** There has been related adverse comment on the display of regimental Pipe Banners *"unfortunately making the Museum look even more like an Officers Mess."*
 - c.** Petitioners' representatives state: *"We feel far more artefacts should be put back on display, i.e. Medals and memorabilia of all ranks, and not just the selected ones on display just now."*
 - 4. Acquisitions and Disposal Policy.** Petition states: *"the sale of Silver, Uniforms, Feather Bonnets etc, all at one time donated to the Museum in good faith, is unacceptable..."* Petitioners' representatives propose: *"A total end to selling of any artefacts donated to the Museum in good faith, even if this is legally correct, morally we think it is wrong, and think this is not acceptable to us or indeed any Queen's Own Highlander."*
 - 5. Research assistance - charging policy.** Petition objects to the museum's charging policies *"in that they even charge people money when they fail to find any information on enquiries."*
 - 6. Communication.** Additional to the petition, the petitioners' representatives propose: *"there must be far more clarity in what is happening, and all Queen's Own Highlanders should be kept in the picture on what is going on, we feel this has been sadly lacking in the past, hence why most of the men feel aggrieved at what has happened."*
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ENCLOSURE A – TEXT OF ONLINE PETITION

“When the Trustees, and those responsible for all the changes proceeded to change our once fine Museum, they failed to understand the general feeling amongst many Ex Queen’s Own Highlanders, that this was their Museum, and not a Visitor centre come Officers Mess.

The omitting of our name in the title of the Museum is unacceptable, the sale of Silver, Uniforms, Feather Bonnets etc, all at one time donated to the Museum in good faith, is unacceptable, the failure to inform and educate future generations of our existence unacceptable, and the general running of the Museum very disappointing in that they even charge people money when they fail to find any information on enquiries.

Please sign this petition if, like myself, you agree with the above statement and you feel the Museum should have its former name back and more of its actual history on display.”

Web source: <http://www.thepetitionsite.com/133/964/534/reinstate-the-queens-own-highlanders-museum/>