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*Royal family
visits.*

*25.4.05
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ELIZABETH THE SECOND, by the Grace of God of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and of Our other Realms and Territories QUEEN, Head of the Commonwealth, Defender of the Faith, to all Archbishops, Dukes, Marquesses, Earls, Viscounts, Bishops, Barons, Baronets, Knights, Citizens and Burgesses and all other Our faithful Subjects whatsoever to whom these Presents shall come,

Greeting!

WHEREAS it is Our intention to be absent from Our United Kingdom for the purpose of visiting Canada:

AND WHEREAS by the enactments known as the Regency Acts 1937 to 1953, it is (amongst other things) enacted that in the event of Our absence or intended absence from Our United Kingdom We may, in order to prevent delay or difficulty in the despatch of public business, by Letters Patent under the Great Seal, delegate for the period of that absence to Counsellors of State such of Our Royal functions (except the power to dissolve Parliament otherwise than on Our express instructions and the power to grant any rank, title or dignity of the peerage) as may be specified in the Letters Patent:

AND WHEREAS the persons described by the said enactments as the Counsellors of State to be named in such Letters Patent are as follows, that is to say:

Our most dearly beloved Husband and most faithful Counsellor
Prince Philip, Duke of Edinburgh;

Our most dearly beloved Son and most faithful Counsellor
Charles Philip Arthur George, Prince of Wales, Knight of Our
Most Noble Order of the Garter, Knight of Our Most Ancient and
Most Noble Order of the Thistle, Great Master and the First or
Principal Knight Grand Cross of Our Most Honourable Order of
the Bath, Member of Our Order of Merit;

Our most dearly beloved Grandson Prince William Arthur Philip
Louis of Wales;

Our most dearly beloved Son Prince Andrew Albert Christian
Edward, Duke of York, Knight Commander of Our Royal
Victorian Order; and

Our most dearly beloved Son Prince Edward Antony Richard Louis, Earl of Wessex, Knight Commander of Our Royal Victorian Order;

subject however to provisions enabling Us by the Letters Patent to except from among the number of those Counsellors any person who is absent from Our United Kingdom or intends to be so absent during the period of Our absence.

KNOW YE that by virtue of the said enactments We do hereby delegate for the period of Our absence to the said Counsellors of State (except during their absence from Our United Kingdom those who are or intend to be so absent) the Royal functions specified in the First Schedule annexed hereto, to be exercised jointly by not less than two of their number, subject to the following exceptions and conditions, namely:

That they the said Counsellors of State shall not have power to dissolve Parliament otherwise than on Our express instructions, or to grant any rank, title or dignity of the peerage;

That they shall not receive any homage required to be done to
Ourselves;

That they shall not approve or sign any warrant, fiat, submission
or other document for which Our approval or signature is
required for or in connection with any of the matters described
in the Second Schedule annexed hereto;

and

That if We signify, or it appears to them, that they should not act
in any matter or for any purpose without Our previous special
approval, they shall not act in that matter or for that purpose
without that approval.

Commanding all and singular Archbishops, Dukes, Marquesses, Earls,
Viscounts, Bishops, Barons, Baronets, Knights, Citizens and Burgesses, and
all other Our Officers, Ministers and Subjects that in everything appertaining
to the matters aforesaid they be attendant, counselling and helping the said
Counsellors of State as it behoves them.

IN WITNESS whereof We have caused these Our Letters to be made
Patent.

Witness Ourselves at Westminster the **25th** day of **April** in
the fifty-fourth year of Our Reign.

BY WARRANT UNDER THE QUEEN'S SIGN MANUAL

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THE FIRST SCHEDULE

THE DELEGATED ROYAL FUNCTIONS

Full power and authority during the period of Our said absence –

- (1) To summon and hold on Our behalf Our Privy Council and to signify thereat Our approval for anything for which Our approval in Council is required;

(2) To approve and sign on Our behalf Letters Patent signifying the Royal Assent to Acts of Parliament except any Act touching any of the matters for which provision is made in the Act of Settlement or touching Our Royal Style and Titles;

(3) To approve and sign on Our behalf Letters Patent signifying the Royal Assent to Bills passed or approved by the Scottish Parliament in accordance with the Scotland Act 1998;

(4) To approve and sign on Our behalf Letters Patent signifying the Royal Assent to Bills passed or approved by the Northern Ireland Assembly in accordance with the Northern Ireland Act 1998;

(5) To approve and sign on Our behalf any proclamation, warrant, fiat, submission or other document requiring Our approval or signature which relates to the affairs of Our United Kingdom or of any part of Our United Kingdom or to the affairs of any of Our Colonies or any Territories under Our Protection or in which We have jurisdiction, being Colonies or Territories for whose foreign affairs Our Government in the United Kingdom is responsible, and to do on Our behalf anything required to be done in relation to any such proclamation, warrant, fiat, submission or other document;

and

(6) To do on Our behalf anything which, by virtue of Our Royal Prerogative or of any statutory or other power, We are authorised to do for the safety or good government of Our United Kingdom or of any part of Our United Kingdom, any of Our said Colonies or any of the said Territories.

THE SECOND SCHEDULE

EXCEPTED MATTERS

- (1) Awards of honours, decorations and medals.
- (2) Precedence to rank among nobility.
- (3) The use by British subjects of foreign titles, and the wearing of foreign Orders in the United Kingdom.
- (4) Determination of abeyances in peerage claims.
- (5) Disbandment and amalgamation of regiments and other Army units, and changes in Army and Air Force dress.
- (6) Matters arising in connection with the General Assembly of the Church of Scotland.
- (7) Amendment of Statutes of Orders.