

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE  
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#### PRINCE CHARLES TO VISIT NIAGARA COLLEGE NOV. 5

Prince of Wales will commemorate the opening of the Wine Visitor + Education Centre

His Royal Highness The Prince of Wales will visit Niagara College November 5.

The Prince will commemorate his visit to Niagara College's new Wine Visitor + Education Centre at the Niagara-on-the-Lake Campus as part of the Royal Couple's Canadian tour.

"We are deeply honoured that the Prince of Wales has chosen to visit Niagara College during his time in Ontario," said Niagara College President Dan Patterson. "It will be an historic day for Niagara College, and offers an extraordinary opportunity to showcase our students, our College, and the important work all Canadian colleges do in preparing skilled, job-ready graduates who drive our key industries."

Prince Charles is expected to arrive at the Niagara-on-the-Lake Campus in the afternoon. His Royal Highness will be given a private tour of Niagara College's new Wine Visitor + Education Centre and the College's teaching vineyards. During his tour, Prince Charles will observe a number of demonstrations in the wine-making process and in viticulture research by College students, faculty, staff and notable alumni. Following the tour, at a closed industry reception, Prince Charles will unveil a plaque commemorating his visit during the Centre's opening.

The Royal Visit is the lead event celebrating the opening of the \$3.6 million Wine Visitor + Education Centre, a unique state-of-the-art industry centre set in the College's teaching vineyards. The Centre will showcase and promote the Ontario and Canadian wine industry, provide wine tourism information services, and feature academic and wine industry programming. The Wine Visitor + Education Centre is part of an unprecedented \$90 million campus redevelopment plan that includes major projects at Niagara College's Welland and Niagara-on-the-Lake Campuses. Details and images of Niagara College's Wine Visitor and Education Centre can be found at <http://www.winevisitorandeducationcentre.ca>.

"The visit by Prince Charles shines a spotlight on our new Wine Visitor + Education Centre, which has been developed in response to the feedback and needs of the Canadian wine industry and serves as a model for responsive, industry-linked applied education. Our graduates enter the workforce with real-world industry learning and experience," said Patterson, "The new facility will also serve as a living laboratory for Niagara College's leading cluster of wine, culinary and hospitality and tourism students. The graduates from these top-rated programs are in high demand across Canada, and throughout the world."

The Wine Visitor + Education Centre will also house the operations of the Niagara College Teaching Winery, Canada's first and only commercial teaching winery. With a full range of production winemaking equipment and facilities, the Niagara College Teaching Winery provides students with learning opportunities that range from the grape crush to selling the finished product in the Teaching Winery's on-site retail store. All proceeds from wine sales support student learning in Niagara College's Winery and Viticulture Technician, Wine Business Management and Certified Sommelier programs. Details of the Niagara College Teaching Winery and Niagara College's wine and viticulture programs can be found at [www.niagaracollegewine.ca](http://www.niagaracollegewine.ca)

Prince Charles and his wife, Camilla, The Duchess of Cornwall, will spend 10 days in Canada next month, starting November 2. Their itinerary includes 12 cities in four provinces.

### **Niagara College will be hosting a public open house at the new Wine Visitor + Education Centre on November 7 and 8, 11 am - 5 pm.**

With 8,000 full-time students, Niagara College offers more than 90 diploma, baccalaureate degrees and advanced level programs at campuses in Welland, Niagara-on-the-Lake, Niagara Falls and St. Catharines. Areas of specialization include food and wine sciences, advanced technology, applied health and community safety, and the College is home to the globally-recognized Niagara Culinary Institute and Niagara College Teaching Winery. In 2008, Niagara College launched a \$90 million campus redevelopment project, which is scheduled for completion in 2011.

#### NOTES TO EDITORS:

- Media accreditation information is available online at <http://pch.gc.ca/pc-ch/infoCntr/avMediaAdv/index-eng.cfm?action=doc&DocIDCd=AS091599>
- Wine Visitor + Education images and backgrounders are available for download at <http://www.winevisitorandeducationcentre.ca/downloads.htm>