



MEDIA RELEASE

THEATRE CALGARY PRESIDENT TOM MCCABE NAMED TO PREMIER'S COUNCIL ON ARTS AND CULTURE

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Calgary, AB... Theatre Calgary is pleased to announce that President **Tom McCabe** has been named by Alberta Premier Ed Stelmach to the new eleven-member **Premier's Council on Arts and Culture**.

Eleven Albertans have been selected to sit on this new council, whose mandate is to champion and strengthen our province's cultural identity. They will work on a policy called *The Spirit of Alberta*, which provides a framework for the decision-making related to the support, growth and development of culture. The policy has a broad definition of Alberta's culture, and includes the arts, our heritage, the natural environment and recreation. Council members will act as liaisons between the cultural community and government, facilitate partnerships that strengthen and preserve Alberta's culture, and provide advice on initiatives designed to help achieve *The Spirit of Alberta's* four goals: access, capacity, excellence and cultural industries.

"I am truly honoured by this appointment, and am excited to get started," says McCabe. *"I have been a very active voice regarding arts and culture to the government over the past several years, and this is a great opportunity to provide input and guidance with ten other passionate individuals. I appreciate the priority and attention to arts and culture that Premier Stelmach has made with the creation of this council. We have a big responsibility to all Albertans to make sure that arts and culture continue to be preserved and grow as the province does."*

During the council recruitment process, more than 275 applications were received from across the province. Each member has been appointed to a one-, two- or three-year term. The council will meet at least twice each year, or on an as-needed basis.

McCabe has been the President of Theatre Calgary since 1997. He is the recipient of the Governor General's Medal in recognition of significant contribution to compatriots, community, and to Canada.

For more information, please visit the Government of Alberta web site for the news release:
New Premier's council puts spotlight on Alberta's arts and culture

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