



# MEDIA RELEASE

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## A 300-year old Military Tradition Returns

A colourful and moving tribute to those serving in uniform, the *Saskatchewan International Tattoo and Festival* returns to Regina's Brandt Centre on May 30-31, 2008.

The 2008 Tattoo Chair, Colonel Randy Brooks states, "Over 600 performers will come together in a spectacular 2½ hour show to celebrate Canada's rich history and to recognize those who answer the call to duty." A veteran of an Afghanistan tour of duty, Colonel Brooks notes, "This year's Tattoo recognizes the Canadian Forces, RCMP, police, and other uniformed services, whether serving overseas or at home."

The Tattoo & Festival will feature three (3) performances – Friday and Saturday evenings and a Saturday matinee. Also, the Festival will have artists performing on a Downtown Regina stage and making appearances at the Cathedral Village Arts Festival. A special partnership with the Regina Multicultural Council added an artistic cultural element to this year's event.

Tattoo Producer Al Nicholson offers, "A 2008 Tattoo theme is our coat of arms motto – From Many People Strength." He proudly adds, "The Tattoo & Festival is designed right here in Saskatchewan and put on by hundreds of volunteers."

This year's show includes the 300-member Tattoo Choir, massed pipes and drums, RCMP Pass Out Parade, regimental bands from across Canada, multicultural performers including World Champion Hoop Dancer Terrence Littleton, soloist Jeffrey Allan Sawatzky, the fiddle-playing Sabir sisters from BC, and others. Also, country music star and two-time Juno Award winner George Canyon will make a special performance in tribute to those serving in uniform. In February, George was named Honorary Colonel in the Canadian Forces and after visiting troops in Afghanistan, recorded the song "I Want You to Live".

The first Tattoo was held last year in conjunction with the opening of the RCMP Heritage Centre. The 2008 Tattoo is also supported by sponsorship from the Regina Hotels Association, Casino Regina, City of Regina, Ipsco Place, SGI, CIC, The Great-West Life Insurance Company, SaskTel, SaskEnergy, CTV, Harvard Broadcasting, and the Leader-Post. Tickets are available at Ticketmaster outlets or at [www.ticketmaster.ca](http://www.ticketmaster.ca).

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