



IT'S FESTIVAL TIME IN REGINA DURING THE SASKATCHEWAN INTERNATIONAL TATTOO.

May 18, 2007

Regina will be drumming with excitement during a week of festival fun from May 21 to 25 celebrating the Saskatchewan International Tattoo presented by Saskatchewan credit unions.

Downtown's Frederick W. Hill Mall will be home to the lunch hour (noon to 1:00 p.m.) festival entertainment beginning on Tuesday, May 22 with Regina favourite Rory Allen, who is a feature act with the Tattoo. Coelacanth Dance, guest performers from the Cathedral Village Arts Festival, will also be featured on the stage sponsored by Casino Regina.

On Wednesday, May 23, the "Mountie" cowboy poet Robbie Robertson will share his heart-warming words. Johnny Hatch and Brandy Moore who are performing as part of the Cathedral Village Arts Festival will also be part of the noon-hour entertainment.

The special guests on Thursday, May 24 include John Arcand, master of the Métis fiddle and Terrance Littleton, a world champion hoop dancer from the Kawacatoose First Nation. Both are featured performers of the Saskatchewan International Tattoo. Bev Zizzy will also perform courtesy of the Cathedral Village Arts Festival.

The Saskatchewan International Tattoo and Festival continues on Friday, May 25th with the Freedom of the City presentation and parade, featuring RCMP members from "Depot" Division and "F" Division, the RCMP Musical Ride and RCMP Pipes and Drums. This ceremony honours the Royal Canadian Mounted Police by granting Freedom of the City. The presentation is reminiscent of the historical practice of granting the Freedom of the City to a military unit enabling them to march through a city with drums beating, colors flying and bayonets fixed. Today, it recognizes the affection and esteem with which a military or police unit is held by the community and its citizens.

The Freedom of the City parade is scheduled to begin at 11:15 a.m. starting at 12th Avenue and Retallack Street, proceeding east on 12th Avenue. The procession will turn south on Smith Street to Victoria Avenue and will stop at the City Hall courtyard for the official presentation of The Freedom of the City at approximately 11:30 a.m.. After the presentation, the parade will proceed north on McIntyre Street returning to 12th Avenue, proceed east on 12th Avenue, turn south on Hamilton Street, and then west on Victoria Avenue, passing City Hall again. The parade will end at Victoria Avenue and Rae Street.

The Saskatchewan International Tattoo and Festival recognizes the support of the Cathedral Village Arts Festival, which begins its activities on Monday, May 21 at 11:30 a.m. with an opening parade with RCMP escort. The parade begins on the Connaught School grounds on Elphinstone Street and 13th Avenue, proceeding south on Elphinstone Street to Les Sherman Park. The anchor event for the Cathedral Village Arts Festival on Monday, May 21 at 7:00 p.m. is the Mandolin Orchestra concert at the Westminster United Church, featuring Saskatchewan International Tattoo performer Jeffrey Allan Sawatzky.

The Cathedral Village Arts Festival continues on Wednesday, May 23 at 7:00 p.m. with cowboy poet Robbie Robertson who will join Saskatchewan writer Ken Mitchell for a mini cowboy poetry festival under the show tent on the Holy Rosary Community School grounds.

The Saskatchewan International Tattoo and Festival also recognizes and welcomes the support of the Regina Public Library which will feature a film screening of *Mountie: Canada's Mightiest Myth* on Wednesday, May 23 beginning at 7:00 p.m. Admission is free. *Mountie: Canada's Mightiest Myth* (Canada 1998 46 mins.) is an award-winning film that traces the legendary history of the Royal Canadian Mounted Police and the evolution of the Mountie as a larger-than-life figure.

There is no charge for the festival lunch-hour entertainment at the Frederick W. Hill Mall, the Regina Public Library film screening or the Freedom of the City procession.

Tickets for the main event, the Saskatchewan International Tattoo, featuring the RCMP Musical Ride presented by Saskatchewan Credit Unions, are available at the Brandt Centre box office or by calling Ticketmaster at 1-800-970-7328 or 543-7800 or visit www.sasktattoo.com.

For further information, contact:

Festival Highlights:

Jennie Avram,
Sask.International Tattoo
525-1878 or 539-4700

Freedom of the City

Presentation:
Gail Lambert,
City of Regina
777-7907

Sask. International Tattoo
Jan Carter, Marketing Chair,
Phone: 529-9144

Heather Russell,
RCMP Communications
780-6178