

## Edmonton Cultural Trust Foundation

2500 Canadian Western Bank Place  
10303 Jasper Avenue  
Edmonton, AB, T5J 3N6

### NEWS RELEASE

May 7, 2015

#### **Formation of Edmonton Cultural Trust Foundation Announced**

The Edmonton Cultural Trust Foundation, a community charitable organization devoted to supporting and sustaining arts and culture in Edmonton, was officially announced today. The Edmonton Cultural Trust will be the beneficiary of excess revenue flowing from the Edmonton Galleria Project after theatre operations. The Trust may also become involved in other projects that will generate additional sources of income for the Trust. Five Founding Trustees and an Executive Director were announced to lead the Trust's development.

#### **Founding Trustees**

##### **Chair:**

- Dave Mowat, ATB President and CEO; Citadel Theatre Board Vice-President.

##### **Trustees:**

- Jim Carter, former President and COO, Syncrude Canada Ltd.; Past-Chair, Francis Winspear Centre for Music and the Edmonton Symphony Orchestra.
- Barry Zalmanowitz, a partner of Dentons Canada LLP; Past-Chair, Art Gallery of Alberta.
- Richard Cook, former Dean of University Advancement, Grant MacEwan University; Chair, Edmonton Opera.
- Dianne Kipnes, Chair, EDACC Foundation; Past Co-Chair of the Mayor's Arts Visioning Committee.

#### **Founding Executive Director**

- John Mahon, former Executive Director of the Edmonton Arts Council.

The Founding Trustees and Executive Director will be responsible for developing the Trust into an effective organization. This includes adding more Board members to broaden its diversity, creating a terms of reference, developing a governance structure and putting administrative supports into place.

- 30 -

#### **Media inquiries contact:**

- John Mahon, Executive Director. [jcmahon@shaw.ca](mailto:jcmahon@shaw.ca) 780-394-0158
- Dave Mowat, Chair. [dmowat@atb.com](mailto:dmowat@atb.com) 780-408-7132
- Godfrey Huybregts, Director of Communications, Edmonton Galleria Project  
[ghuybregts@edacc.ca](mailto:ghuybregts@edacc.ca) 780-953-0525

## Edmonton Cultural Trust Foundation: Founding Board

### **Dave Mowat, Founding Trustee (Chair)**

*ATB President and CEO*

Dave Mowat's contributions as a community and business leader are extensive. He has chaired the boards of several charitable organizations including the Capital Region United Way and the STARS Foundation, and has been a board member of many others including the TELUS Community Board, Edmonton Oilers Community Foundation, the Alberta Emerald Foundation and Devonian Botanic Gardens. He is currently vice-president of the Citadel Theatre and sits on the University of Alberta's Business Advisory Council.



### **Jim Carter, Founding Trustee**

*Former President and COO, Syncrude Canada Ltd.*

During his career and in retirement, Jim Carter has been actively involved in the community. He is past-chair of both the Francis Winspear Centre for Music and the Edmonton Symphony Orchestra Boards, and a former board member of Keyano College and Northern Lights Regional Hospital Foundation. He is a former chair of the Mining Association of Canada, a former director of the Alberta Chamber of Resources and Fellow of the Canadian Academy of Engineering. He currently serves on the Boards of Directors of several companies. In 2014, Mr. Carter was awarded the Order of Canada for his business achievements and community contributions.



### **Barry Zalmanowitz, Founding Trustee**

*Partner, Dentons Canada LLP*

Barry Zalmanowitz is one of the foremost competition lawyers in Canada, providing counsel for many major companies and organizations on significant matters and issues. He has lectured at the University of Alberta, is past editor of the *Canadian Competition Record* and was involved in the Alberta Law Society's annual Media and the Law Seminars. He was appointed Queen's Counsel in 2002 in recognition of his expertise and contribution to the profession. Mr. Zalmanowitz is a major supporter of the Art Gallery of Alberta and is currently the past-chair of that organization's Board of Directors.



### Edmonton Cultural Trust Foundation: Founding Board

#### **Richard Cook, Founding Trustee**

*Former Dean of University Advancement, Grant MacEwan University*

Richard Cook spent much of his professional career at Grant MacEwan University. First and foremost a fundraiser in that position, he was also responsible for the overall financial management of the department, policy development in fundraising, university endowment management, and advising on charitable receipting and valuations of gifts. In addition, he has been a professional clarinetist in Edmonton and Toronto, as well as being associated with a number of fine arts associations in Edmonton, Canada and internationally. Mr. Cook is currently Chair of the Edmonton Opera.



#### **Dianne Kipnes, Founding Trustee**

*Clinical Psychologist*

Dianne Kipnes has been a long-time supporter of community endeavours that improve Edmontonians' quality of life. She has been a board member or chairperson of many charitable organizations including the Alberta Cancer Foundation, the TELUS Community Foundation, Edmonton Opera Association, and the National Arts Centre. In 2011, she co-chaired the Mayor's Arts Visioning Committee, which confirmed the need to build more suitable, affordable and accessible performing arts space in Edmonton. This led to the creation of the Edmonton Downtown Academic and Cultural Centre Foundation, of which she is the chair. Dr. Kipnes' many recognition honours include the Alberta Centennial and Queen Elizabeth II Jubilee Diamond medals.



#### **John Mahon, Executive Director**

John Mahon is a classical musician and the former Executive Director of the Edmonton Arts Council. He retired from that position in 2013. Mr. Mahon's career path has involved him in almost every aspect of Edmonton's arts community. In addition to his new role as the Edmonton Cultural Trust Foundation's Executive Director, Mr. Mahon has been an active performer on the clarinet, a local record producer, and is currently a part-time instructor within Grant MacEwan University's Arts and Cultural Management program. He has Bachelor of Music and MBA degrees from the University of Alberta and has studied at the Royal College of Music in London, England.



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**Overview**

The Edmonton Cultural Trust Foundation concept is modelled after the Pittsburgh Cultural Trust, a not-for-profit organization that uses income generated from real estate to support and sustain arts and culture in Pittsburgh.

The Edmonton Cultural Trust Foundation is the sole beneficiary of the Edmonton Galleria Project. After debt servicing and covering any theatrical operational shortfall, excess cash from all phases of the Galleria development will flow to the Cultural Trust to be used for the sustainability of arts and culture in Edmonton. The Edmonton Cultural Trust Foundation will be overseen by a diverse, community-based Board of Trustees. Key objectives are to:

- Provide sustainable funding for arts and culture in Edmonton through the excess cash flow from the Edmonton Galleria Project and other real estate developments which the Edmonton Cultural Trust may undertake.
- Contribute to city building by contributing to a vibrant Arts District, starting in the Edmonton Galleria Project itself and running down 99<sup>th</sup> Street to Jasper Avenue and the Shaw Convention Centre.
- Create places that give people more reasons to be in the Arts District and encourage people to live, work and play downtown.

It is projected that the Cultural Trust's excess cash flow from the completed Edmonton Galleria Project will be significant.

The [Pittsburgh Cultural Trust](#) was established as a philanthropic trust in 1984. It is a unique model of how public-private partnerships can support the arts through innovation, creativity and collaboration. The best of touring Broadway, contemporary dance, family events and cutting-edge visual arts are among the variety of arts and entertainment it presents and exhibits. Hundreds of artists, thousands of students and millions of people expand their horizons in the Pittsburgh Cultural Trust's theatres, galleries, and public art environments.

The Edmonton Cultural Trust Foundation has the advantage of beginning within a city that has an active downtown Arts District and vibrant arts and culture community. The Edmonton Cultural Trust recognizes these strengths and will work to build upon them for the betterment of all Edmontonians. A focus of the Edmonton Cultural Trust will be to find more ways to draw people to 99 Street and Churchill Square. It will be the Trust's goal to work with the City of Edmonton to accomplish this.

**Edmonton Cultural Trust Foundation contact:** John Mahon, Executive Director,

[jcmahon@shaw.ca](mailto:jcmahon@shaw.ca)

**Pittsburgh Cultural Trust contact:** Kevin McMahon, President & CEO, [mcmahon@trustarts.org](mailto:mcmahon@trustarts.org)