

## For Immediate Release

March 9, 2009

### **Cantos Takes Next Step to Create National Music Centre**

International architect search launched for historic King Eddy rejuvenation

(Calgary, Alberta): Cantos Music Foundation today launched the next phase in the development of a national music centre with the release of a request for “Expressions of Interest” (EOI) from suitably qualified and experienced architects. Cantos is seeking interested firms with demonstrated experience in music, cultural centres and museum related projects as well as depth in blending exciting, innovative new design with heritage spaces. EOI submissions are due by March 31, 2009.

This EOI is the first phase of a two-phase selection process. Four or more firms will be shortlisted following phase one and invited to submit their proposals and concepts for phase two.

Cantos envisions a world-class destination for public programs, civic engagement, music education, creativity and learning that incorporates, expands and honours the existing historic King Edward Hotel (King Eddy). This project will also integrate Cantos’ existing historical musical instrument collection and public programs into the King Eddy and transform it into a new National Music Centre.

“The King Eddy is a piece of Canada’s national music story in its own right, and we are thrilled to see this project move into this next phase. We feel that building a significant piece of cultural infrastructure with its connection to Calgary and Canada’s musical legacy, will garner interest from architects locally, across Canada and even around the world,” commented Andrew Mosker, Executive Director, Cantos Music Foundation.

The Calgary Municipal Land Corporation (CMLC) is leading the rejuvenation and development of Calgary’s East Village, where the King Eddy is located, to a mixed-use, vibrant, inner-city community. CMLC is the current owner of the King Eddy and three other heritage buildings in the East Village.

“With Cantos taking this next step, we are closer to having the doors open to a Calgary landmark that will become the heart of Calgary’s East Village,” says Chris Ollenberger, President and CEO, CMLC. “Cantos’ vision for the Eddy is complementary to our overall vision for the evolution of the East Village, and we are excited to see their progress and commitment to the proposal they submitted to us in 2008.”

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For the complete EOI document, additional information, and an on-line media room, go to:  
<http://www.cantos.ca/kingeddy>

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