

## Press Release – Command Performance Choir

Amazing things are happening in the County this Spring –

It is a fact acknowledged far and wide that one of the best things ever to come out of Canada is its music. Be it folk, traditional, rock, choral contemporary art music, or classical, the music from Canadians expresses the heart and soul of this place. Artists from Joni Mitchell to Imant Raminsh, Leonard Cohen, Stan Rogers, Allister MacGillivray, Healey Willan, Mark Sirett and so many, many more, have each in their own unique way, contributed to the music fabric that defines us.

Command Performance Choir in collaboration with the Goulbourn Jubilee Singers will be celebrating Canada's Sesquicentennial with the music of Canada by these Canadians. The two choirs have collected a wide variety of Canada's music, from our distant past right up to the present moment. They will join forces and sing a number of these pieces together as well as singing as separate choirs.

A featured piece for this special concert will be a newly commissioned work, by Composer James Wright. The world premier of "Sleep Softly Spirit of Earth" will be a highlight of the afternoon. Of extreme interest to people living in the county is that the lyrics of this new work are in fact based on the poetry of Al Purdy, the county's poet from Roblin Lake, from a poem of the same name. The two choirs will perform this choral piece together, 100 voices strong. This initiative is made possible by the Community Fund for Canada's 150<sup>th</sup>, a collaboration between, the Prince Edward County Community Foundation in conjunction with Canada 150 and co-sponsored by Quinte Arts Council, the Government of Canada, and extraordinary leaders from coast to coast.

The excitement mounts for this once-in-a-lifetime event. Be sure to mark your calendars for Sunday, May 14<sup>th</sup> 2:00 pm at the Regent Theatre. Tickets will be available through the Regent Theatre, Books and Company, and at the choir's website, [www.commandperformancechoir.com](http://www.commandperformancechoir.com). A portion of the proceeds from this concert will go to support the A-Frame Association, a heritage group which supports new poets via Al Purdy's cottage on Roblin Lake.

Come out to enjoy this unique, beautiful choral celebration of Canada's Sesquicentennial.