



## **SPECIAL INVITATION AND NEWS RELEASE TO ALL MEDIA**

**REGINA, SASKATCHEWAN, June 24, 2009** --- JazzFest Regina 2009, in conjunction with our major venue sponsor, the Regina Inn Hotel and Convention Centre, and our exclusive radio sponsor, Rawlco Radio (94.5 Jack FM, NewsTalk 980 CJME, and Z99 FM), and along with the City of Regina and the Regina Hotel Association, is pleased to announce that the opening ceremonies for JazzFest Regina 2009, **our very own and first ever jazz festival**, will take place on Friday June 26, 2009 at 11:15 am at the Victoria Park Outdoor Stage. The stage will be located in the northwest quadrant of Victoria Park near the intersection of Lorne Street with 12<sup>th</sup> Avenue in Regina's downtown area.

There will be a ribbon-cutting ceremony with remarks offered by officials from the City of Regina and the Regina Jazz Society. The opening act on the Victoria Park Outdoor Stage, The Sam Minevich Quartet, will begin their performance immediately after the opening ceremonies at approximately 11:30 am.

The Regina Jazz Society invites all media and members of the community to join us in celebrating our inaugural jazz festival by enjoying the eleven outdoor performances June 26<sup>th</sup> and June 27<sup>th</sup> at the Victoria Park Outdoor Stage, and from the nearby Great Western Beer Garden.

We also encourage the public to join us at our paid-admission performances at The Regina Inn beginning Friday evening, June 26, 2009, with the presentation of The Regina Jazz Legends All Star Band, featuring jazz luminaries, saxophonist PJ Perry and trumpet player Al 'Oop' Muirhead and friends. Doors open at 6:00 pm, with showtime at 7:00pm.

Other featured performers during the festival, which is scheduled to run from June 26<sup>th</sup> through June 28<sup>th</sup>, include Hugh Fraser and VEJI, Chris Potter Underground with the Carl Bray Trio opener, JazzFest Brunch With The Thundertones (with Derek Friesen), The Jack Semple New Organ Trio, and the Mose Allison Trio. Advance tickets can be purchased at the Conexus Box Office, and Bach and Beyond, and will also be available at the door prior to showtime.

### **About The Regina Jazz Society**

The Regina Jazz Society was incorporated in 1989 as a not-for-profit charitable corporation, and has been staging jazz performances in Regina since 1977. The mandate of the Regina Jazz Society is to encourage, to promote, and to provide a forum for the appreciation of the diversity of jazz music for musicians and enthusiasts alike. The Regina Jazz Society has staged an average of 13 live jazz performances each season during the 1999 through 2008 performance seasons. Performances are normally held at either Le Bistro or the Regina Inn, with special performances held at the Casino Regina venue. The Regina Jazz Society commemorated the Saskatchewan Centennial in 2005 by publishing "The Jazz Province: The Story of Jazz in Saskatchewan" written by Ken Mitchell and by hosting the concert "The Jazz Province: A Celebration in Music" highlighting the history of jazz in our province featuring renowned jazz artists from Saskatchewan including P J Perry, Gord Foote, Jon Ballantyne, Tilden Webb, Ted Warren, Trent Reschny, Andrea Menard, Pat Steel and Jack Semple. JazzFest Regina 2009 is the first annual summer jazz festival presented by the Regina Jazz Society.

### **For more information, please contact:**

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Or visit the JazzFest Regina 2009 website: [www.jazzfestregina.com](http://www.jazzfestregina.com)