



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

**Guelph Chamber Choir presents Celebration 150 with special guest choirs
from the community and Canadian Singer-Songwriter James Gordon**

Guelph, Ontario – September 18, 2017 – The **Guelph Chamber Choir** invites you to the first concert in our founding conductor's farewell season with **Celebration 150**, a cornucopia of music celebrating our nation's folk roots marking **Canada's and Ontario's Sesquicentennial**, at the River Run Centre on **Saturday, November 4, 2017 at 7:30 pm.**

Conductor **Gerald Neufeld** noted, "The **Guelph Chamber Choir** has been a wonderful inspiration and constant element in my love of choral music since 1980. Together we have grown as an ensemble over the years, experiencing the thrills of performing major classical choral works along with a wealth of music from around the globe ranging from classical music to folk, jazz, hymns, spirituals, and oratorio. I feel pride in both country and community, welcoming our collaboration with local community choirs as well as my friend **James Gordon** who will perform music he has composed for this special occasion including *Song of Our City* recognizing Guelph's unique character."

James Gordon is a patriotic Canadian songwriter, playwright, musician, producer and community activist. He has released 40 albums and has written more than 1500 songs including the Canadian folk classic *Frobisher Bay* and arranged songs by Stan Rogers such as *Northwest Passage* and *Fogarty's Cove* that he and the choir will sing on this concert. A self-proclaimed 'poetician', James is currently a valued Guelph City Councillor.

The **Guelph Chamber Choir** will be joined for this gala event by the **Guelph Community Singers** directed by **Rachel Cleland**, the **Guelph Youth Singers** conducted by **Markus Howard**, the **Rainbow Chorus of Waterloo-Wellington** with Music Director **Annetta Whetham**, and the **University of Guelph Choirs** conducted by **Dr. Marta McCarthy**. Choirs will perform both singly and as a mighty massed choir exploring the vast and varied patchwork quilt of Canadian song.

Plan now to enjoy all four concerts of conductor **Gerald Neufeld's** farewell season. The concert series continues with *Carols for Christmas* with **Bells Ablaze**, an outstanding bell choir, on **Sunday, December 3, 2017** at 2:30pm in beautifully decorated St. George's Anglican Church, followed by *Handel's Messiah* on **Saturday, December 23, 2017** at 7:30 pm in the River Run Centre. The final concert is *Brahms' A German Requiem*, a personal favourite of Dr. Neufeld, on **Saturday, March 31, 2018** at 7:30 pm at the River Run Centre, a celebration of life for the living. Season tickets are now available for only **\$110 for all four concerts.**

Single tickets for **Celebration 150** are **only \$20 each** or **4 for \$60**. We encourage young adults to attend with **\$10 tickets** for students and those 30 and under, and high school students can buy **\$5 eyeGo tickets.**

Tickets are available through the **River Run Centre Box Office** by calling **519-763-3000** or online at **riverrun.ca**.

To discover more, please visit our website at **guelphchamberchoir.ca** or call **519-836-5103**.

Special thanks to our evening's concert sponsors: **City of Guelph, Guelph Twines, Linamar, Ontario 150, Ontario Arts Council, TD Bank, University of Guelph**, and our soloist sponsor: **Weiler & Company**.

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