



**For Release**  
**Tuesday, October 18, 2005**

**EDWARD & MARNI JAKUBOWSKY ANNOUNCE MAJOR DONATION TO  
ESPLANADE ARTS & HERITAGE CENTRE  
\$250,000 Supports the Discovery Centre**

**Medicine Hat** – Local residents Edward and Marni Jakubowsky, owners of Red Coat Oil & Gas (2005) Ltd., announced a \$260,000 donation to the Esplanade Arts & Heritage Centre at Monday’s City Council meeting.

\$10,000 of the \$260,000 was a corporate donation from the Oil & Gas Company to the Esplanade. A personal gift of \$250,000 from the owners is aimed at sponsoring the Esplanade Discovery Centre, which will provide hands-on activities and programs for families and youth that reflect the exhibits and activities of the art gallery, museum, archives and theatre. The Jakubowsky’s took advantage of the “Naming Opportunities” offered in the Esplanade Fundraising Campaign and named the Discovery Centre in honour of their mothers Alice L. Jakubowsky and Genevieve J. Hetherington.

Edward Jakubowsky explains, “Our mothers represent our personal heritage, reflecting the way this building exemplifies the heritage of Medicine Hat and area. Marni’s mother was a teacher and my mother was an entrepreneur, so the self-guided, hands-on educational activities in the Discovery Centre were a perfect fit to help our youth discover and build their own heritage.”

Mayor Vallely stated, “The City of Medicine Hat has maintained that the Esplanade is a place for everyone, and Mr. and Mrs. Jakubowsky have reinforced this message by ensuring that our youth will benefit from meaningful educational experiences while enjoying this facility.”

Naming opportunities are still available for the Esplanade Theatre, Studio Theatre and one Dressing Room. All donations over \$10,000 are recognized on a permanent donor wall in the main lobby of the Esplanade. In addition, individuals, companies, groups may donate through the Save Me a Seat Campaign for \$1000 or \$3000 dollars.

Alderman Bill Cocks indicates “The excitement of the Esplanade opening has engaged a tremendous amount of community support in the last month. The Esplanade Fundraising Campaign is very close to its goal of \$3.5 million. We are confident when the final results are all in we will have surpassed our target.”

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