



**For Release
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ENCANA ANNOUNCES MAJOR DONATION TO ESPLANADE ARTS & HERITAGE CENTRE \$750,000 Supports the Permanent Museum Gallery

Medicine Hat – EnCana Corporation, one of North America’s leading independent oil and gas companies, announced a \$750,000 donation to the Esplanade Arts & Heritage Centre at Monday’s City Council meeting.

The \$750,000 gift is aimed at sponsoring the Esplanade’s Permanent Museum Gallery, which will reflect the history of Medicine Hat.

Ken Pischke, Vice-President of EnCana’s Medicine Hat Business Unit, said, “EnCana’s roots are in the Medicine Hat area and, therefore, our Company is pleased to sponsor the permanent gallery which will focus on the rich and colorful history of Medicine Hat.”

EnCana’s history dates back to Medicine Hat where the Canadian Pacific Railway made Alberta’s first natural gas discovery when drilling for water in 1883, marking the beginning of Western Canada’s petroleum industry.

Mayor Vallely stated, “We can not thank EnCana enough for its generous contribution to our Esplanade Project. It truly made the difference.”

EnCana took advantage of the “Naming Opportunities” offered in the Esplanade Fundraising Campaign. 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 \$750,000 donation brings the Esplanade Fundraising Campaign 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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