



## The Red Deer Community Band Society

Box 84, Red Deer, Alberta, Canada T4N 5E7



### TOUR ANNOUNCEMENT: KEY MESSAGES

The RDCBS is very excited to announce the next international tour for the Royals in 2017 will be to compete in the 2017 World Music Competition in Kerkrade, Netherland in July 2017. Specific dates and itineraries will be available in the fall however we very honoured to have the opportunity to represent Red Deer and Central Alberta on the world stage and compete for a gold medal.

The Royals are a competition band and our tours involve an opportunity to compete on the world stage followed by additional performances as part of the international touring experience. Touring is a fundamental part of being a Royal. It is a time for growth, new experiences, for courage, for friendship, for exploration and for fun.

Decisions about the tour are made by the RDCBS in accordance with our policies and in support of our strategic plan in consultation with the Director of Bands. All details are subject to change depending on the circumstances. We will provide you with additional information as it is available and ask you to discuss any questions you have about the tour with the executive or Director of Bands.

#### Some specific details:

**Cost:** Based on our experience in past tours, the cost will likely be between \$3250 and \$3750 for approximately two weeks. This includes the air and ground transportation, accommodations, meals, entry fees, and tourist sites. So basically all that you will need minus your spending money.

Some of the factors that influence costs are: length of time, cost of accommodations, cost of ground transportation, costs of food, costs of other activities, exchange rates etc.... We will be going to an RFP to cost out the tour and will do everything we can to make the tour as affordable as possible.

Fundraising opportunities are available and we encourage you to take the opportunity to start fundraising now. Many families have paid for their tour using credits. No band member will be turned away from attending due to financial need, however, you as a family must also participate, as you are able.

**Itinerary:** The competition is from July 16- July 23 and we will ask to compete towards the end of the competition so we can attend the Westerner Parade, which will be on July 19, 2017. Being in our hometown parade is a strong tradition for the Royals and the support from the hometown crowd a great send off as we leave for international competition.

The exact length and itinerary will be determined after exploring the options and costs with the selected travel provider. We plan at this time to be away for approximately two weeks.



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**Chaperones:** Travelling with the Royals on a competition tour is a privilege and an experience like no other. Chaperones are chosen based on experience and applications are sent out in the fall. Chaperones must have all the appropriate criminal and social checks in order to travel with the Royals. Chaperones pay the cost of the tour.

**Royal's fan tour:** For those parents and families wanting to see the Royals in completion internationally we would love to have you in the crowd. A volunteer parent typically coordinates this, so that our fans can watch and support the Royals. However, our fans do not follow or stay with the band. The tour is for the members, staff and chaperones.

**Participation:** Participation is strongly encouraged as tour is a key part of being a Royal. However, we appreciate that some members may be unable to travel and this should be discussed with the Director of Bands in the new band year so that we can make the necessary arrangements.

### **The competition at WMC:**

WMC Kerkrade supports the international development in the wind music sector. Trying to make wind music more accessible for everybody, with the main focus on youth and young adults. The competition is held every four years.

The Royals have gone on several successful tours all over the world. The band comes back happy, exhausted, full of memories that last a lifetime and the feeling of a job well done after having left it all out on the field. We are looking forward to heading to the Netherlands and representing our community with another solid gold winning performance in 2017.

Lisa M. Perkins

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