



MEDIA RELEASE

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LOUGHEED HOUSE AND SHAKESPEARE IN THE PARK 2009

June 16, 2009, Calgary, Alberta - On the evening of Monday, June 22, 2009, the historic Lougheed House is to host this year's launch party for Mount Royal College's Shakespeare in the Park. The launch signifies the beginning of this summer's annual events, and Lougheed House in partnership with Shakespeare in the Park is pleased to introduce new additions to this year's summer program.

During the launch, Joe Lougheed, son of former Alberta Premier Peter Lougheed, will present the complete works of Shakespeare to Alec Owell, an exceptional long-term volunteer for Shakespeare in the Park. This presentation continues an important Lougheed family tradition whereby newlyweds were given the complete works of Shakespeare as a wedding gift. The Lougheed's Shakespearian tradition encouraged art and culture throughout Calgary and surrounding area.

Then come and join Shakespeare in the Park and Lougheed House for lunch in Lougheed House's beautiful Beaulieu Gardens and enjoy a magnificent student performance of *Shakespeare's in Love*. This program starts on Wednesday, August 5 running through to Saturday, August 22 from noon to 1:00 p.m. For the first time the performers will wear traditional period costumes as they perform scenes, songs and sonnets from Shakespeare's best known plays of love. Performances take place Wednesday through Sunday.

Continuing the 'Love' theme on Saturday, July 25, from 12:00 to 4:00 p.m., Lougheed House will then host its free annual community event, *A Ride through Time—Love through the ages*. During this event, Lougheed House is pleased to announce that Shakespeare in the Park will debut vignette performances from *Shakespeare's in Love*. Further information in regard to *A Ride through Time* will be available shortly.

Built in 1891 and originally known as "Beaulieu" (French meaning "beautiful place") Lougheed House is now a national historic site located in the Beltline district of Calgary, Alberta. Lougheed House is operated by Lougheed House Conservation, an independent, non-profit society devoted to the restoration and public enjoyment of the historic house and its charming Gardens. Today many thousands of visitors from around the world come to view and explore the building, to enjoy lunch or tea in *The Restaurant*, or to find the perfect gift in *Treasures Gift shop*.

Heidi Drewett, Marketing
heididrewett@lougheedhouse.com
403.244.6333 Ext: 104
www.lougheedhouse.com

707 13TH AVENUE S.W. CALGARY, AB, CANADA, T2R 0KB