

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE



## Why Cities Matter

**An important talk and panel discussion connecting cities,  
urban space, arts and culture**

May 6, 2015 7 – 9 p.m., doors open at 6:30 p.m.

Calgary, AB. – April 27, 2015 - Lougheed House is pleased to present, in partnership with Calgary Arts Development and Wordfest, a dialogue and panel exploring cities, urban space, and arts and culture. Learn more about grassroots initiatives to transform urban space and engage in a discussion about how we can continue to grow Calgary as a dynamic, creative and innovative city prepared for the challenges of the 21<sup>st</sup> century. Panelists derek beaulieu, Simon Brault and Janet Eremenko will explore both international and local examples of how urban space is being transformed through grassroots community cultural practices. Moderated by award-winning journalist Shelley Youngblut.

## Panelists:

**derek beaulieu** is Calgary's Poet Laureate, an author and teacher. He is the author or editor of 16 volumes of poetry, prose and literary criticism. Named Calgary's Poet Laureate in 2014, his practice is international in scope and focuses on the visual aspects of reading and writing. derek is the Artist in Residence at Lougheed House during May and June, 2015.

**Simon Brault** is currently Director and CEO of the Canada Council for the Arts. He is the author of *Le Facteur C – L'Avenir passe par la culture* (published in English as *No Culture, No Future*). In recognition of his many accomplishments, Mr. Brault was made an Officer of the Order of Canada, fellow of the CGA, Officier de l'Ordre national du Québec, and received the 2009 Keith Kelly Award for Cultural Leadership, awarded by the Canadian Conference of the Arts.

**Janet Eremenko** acts as the Community Facilitation & Engagement Specialist at Vibrant Communities Calgary. After several years in the private sector working in Human Resources and Employee Relations, Janet moved to the non-profit sector. On Janet's radar for 2015 is exploring ways to increase the number of affordable, licensed childcare spaces in Alberta, raising the profile of Calgary's Living Wage and VCC's Living Wage Leader Program, increasing opportunities for public speaking and learning how to tweet with confidence.

**Shelley Youngblut** (Moderator) is the Curator of the "Your Town is Our Town" street photography exhibition currently on view in the Lougheed House Gallery. She was the founding editor of Calgary's award-winning *Swerve* magazine, where she collaborated with all of the photographers featured in this exhibit. She has also created numerous magazines for such media publications and networks as ESPN and Cosmopolitan in New York. The former western editor of *The Globe and Mail*, she has been a pop-culture columnist for CTV and ABC, and now offers unconventional insights on CBC Radio's *The Eyeopener*. In 2009, she was given the Lifetime Achievement prize at the Western Magazine Awards.

This is a free event; attendees will also have the opportunity to view "Your Town is Our Town" in the Lougheed House Gallery. An RSVP is required to attend and space is limited. A cash bar will be available.

Send your RSVP to Adrienne Leicht:

Phone:  [\(403\) 244-6333 ext. 106](tel:(403)244-6333)

Email: [aleicht@lougheedhouse.com](mailto:aleicht@lougheedhouse.com)

**Lougheed House** is at 707 - 13 Avenue SW Calgary, AB T2R 0K8 and is open  
Wednesday - Friday, 11:00 am to 4:00 p.m.

Saturday and Sunday, 10:00 - 4:00 p.m.

Phone (403) 244-6333

[info@lougheedhouse.com](mailto:info@lougheedhouse.com)

[www.lougheedhouse.com](http://www.lougheedhouse.com)

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### **Lougheed House**

Built in 1891 for James and Isabella Lougheed and their growing family, historic Lougheed House is a 14,000 square-foot sandstone prairie mansion with extensive gardens on 2.8 acres in Calgary's beltline community. One of the finest residences in Canada's northwest and the political and social hub of fast-growing Calgary until 1938, Lougheed House is now a National and Provincial Historic Site and Museum run by the Lougheed House Conservation Society.

Subject to availability, historic interpreters are available to give guided tours. Self-guided and audio tours are always available.

**The Restaurant** at Lougheed House serves lunch Wednesday - Sunday, 11:00 - 2:00 p.m., and brunch, Saturday and Sundays only, 10:00 - 2:00 p.m.

### **Gardens**

Our 2.8-acre Gardens are open daily from 7:00 a.m. until sundown.

### **Media Inquiries:**

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