

National Music Centre readies to open King Eddy on July 20 after 10-year journey

Historic music venue prepares for exciting announcements in the coming weeks

(Calgary, AB — July 11, 2018) After over a decade of preparations, the National Music Centre (NMC) is ready to permanently reopen the doors of the historic King Eddy on July 20.

As a cornerstone of the NMC project, the rich civic and musical history of the King Edward Hotel spanned more than 100 years in Calgary and is the primary reason that NMC chose to construct Studio Bell on its current site.

From the early 1980s until it closed in 2003, the “Eddy” had a respected local, national and international reputation for great live music and was affectionately known as “Calgary’s Home of the Blues.”

Restored much like an artifact, the King Eddy opened for pop-up programming alongside Studio Bell’s opening in 2016, allowing NMC to pilot programs and listen to feedback from the community prior to its permanent re-opening.

“This is a bittersweet moment for all of us at NMC,” said NMC’s President and CEO Andrew Mosker. “This is the final cornerstone of the NMC project, which was an enormous undertaking. After an over decade-long journey, we are ecstatic to revive the King Eddy as a permanent live music venue, restaurant and bar and continue to build on the Eddy’s legacy as a gathering space and community hub.”

Another important actor in the NMC and King Eddy projects is the Calgary Municipal Land Commission (CMLC), which enabled the transaction of the King Eddy property to NMC.

“The reopening of the King Eddy marks a milestone in the master plan vision for the community,” says Michael Brown, president and CEO of CMLC. “East Village has a rich history and historical assets like the King Eddy play a transformative role in creating vibrant and authentic destinations for all Calgarians to enjoy. We are thrilled to see the work of NMC come to life with the reopening of the King Eddy.”

Throughout the Eddy’s history, it was a home and destination for travelers, settlers, musicians, music fans, and citizens from all walks of life. This legacy of great live music and atmosphere in an authentic setting contributed to the Eddy being recognized as an important piece of Calgary’s music history, which continues to this day.

Stay tuned for more information on programming for the July 20 opening weekend at the King Eddy and a formal Grand Re-Opening celebration planned for the fall of 2018.

Please visit kingeddy.ca for future information regarding the King Eddy and be sure to follow the King Eddy on Facebook, Twitter and Instagram at [@KingEddyYYC](https://www.instagram.com/KingEddyYYC).

About Studio Bell, home of the National Music Centre

Studio Bell, home of the National Music Centre (NMC), is much more than a museum. A national catalyst for discovery, innovation and renewal through music, NMC preserves and celebrates Canada's music story inside its home at Studio Bell in Calgary's East Village. With programming that includes on-site and outreach education programs, performances, artist incubation and exhibitions, NMC is inspiring a new generation of music lovers. For more information, please visit studiobell.ca.

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