

MEDIA ADVISORY

Glenbow Museum to host Calgary's 2005 Canadian Citizenship Court Ceremony

Calgary, AB (June 13, 2005) – On July 1, 2005, Glenbow Museum will host Calgary's 2005 Canadian Citizenship Court Ceremony. As part of the opening activities for the *Voices of Southeast Asia* exhibition, this Canada Day ceremony is a celebration, and a reminder, of the rich diversity of culture, ethnicity, and languages that define Canada.

"We are proud to present the *Voices of Southeast Asia* exhibition during Alberta's Centennial year as we've seen the face of Calgary become more culturally diverse," says Mike Robinson, Glenbow's President and CEO. "Hosting the court ceremony to open this exhibition in partnership with Citizenship and Immigration Canada is a great opportunity to promote the values of citizenship within our community. Is there a better place than a museum where visitors can both revere our Western Canadian heritage while learning about other cultures from around the world?" he adds.

A citizenship ceremony is the final step in the process of becoming a Canadian citizen, occurring after the individual passes either a written test or an oral hearing. During the ceremony, new citizens will receive a Certificate of Canadian Citizenship. Members of the general public, who are Canadian citizens, will also be invited to reaffirm their commitment to Canada by repeating the oath along with the new citizens.

Schedule:	9:00 – 10:00 a.m.	Sign in and registration for new Canadian citizens
	10:00 a.m.	Citizenship Court Ceremony including greetings from the Government of Canada and Glenbow Museum
	11:00 a.m.	Coffee & tea reception
	11:30 a.m.	Cultural performances from Calgary's Asian community

For many individuals and families, the citizenship ceremony is the realization of a dream, and in some instances, marks the beginning of a new life. Citizenship means working together with all other Canadians to build a stronger Canada, and making sure our values, dreams, and goals are reflected in our institutions, laws, and relationships with one another. As a country that is free and democratic, multicultural, and extends equal treatment to all its citizens, the citizenship ceremony is a formalized rite of passage of entry into the Canadian family.

Voices of Southeast Asia celebrates the remarkable peoples and cultures of Southeast Asia. Comprised of four exhibits, *Vietnam: Journeys of Body, Mind & Spirit*, *Seven Stories*, *Foreign and Familiar: Reconsidering the Everyday*, and *Many Faces, Many Paths: Art of Asia*, this exhibition is on at Glenbow Museum from July 1 to September 25, 2005. *Voices of Southeast Asia* is presented by Trico Homes, and supported by Calgary Region Arts Foundation, the Calgary Herald, CBC Calgary, Pattison Outdoor, Calgary Hyatt Regency, and GlobalFest.