

# Evening Concert – Monday, April 18, 2011

*Winspear Centre, Edmonton*

*8:00 pm.*

## **Mill Creek Colliery Band Wendy J. Grasdahl, conductor**

Program to be selected from the following:

<i>Grandfather's Clock (euphonium solo)</i>	George Doughty
<i>Way Down Yonder in New Orleans (Cornet Trio)</i>	Henry Creamer Arr. Stephen Roberts
<i>Muppet Show Theme</i>	Jim Henson & Sam Pottle Arr. Philip Harper
<i>Melody Shop (March)</i>	Karl King Arr. Peter Smalley
<i>Fanfare and Flourishes</i>	James Curnow
<i>Floral Dance</i>	Katie Moss Arr. Derek Broadbent
<i>Love Changes Everything</i>	Andrew Lloyd Webber Arr. Stephen Bulla
<i>Whiter Shade of Pale</i>	Keith Reid & Garry Brooker Arr. Jan van Kraeydonck
<i>Appalachian Mountain Folk Song Suite</i>	James Curnow

## **BIOGRAPHIES**

### **Wendy J. Grasdahl, conductor**

Wendy Grasdahl is well known across Canada as a conductor, adjudicator/clinician, teacher, and trumpeter. Her professional experience encompasses teaching at university and college levels, as well as military band work and private teaching.

As an officer in the Canadian Naval Reserve, Wendy conducted military bands in Alberta, B.C., and Ontario. She is in demand as a clinician and guest conductor for school programs, as well as summer music programs, including 12 years at the International Music Camp at the Peace Garden on the Manitoba/U.S. border where she received the prestigious Distinguished Service Award for conducting and promoting band in North America. Other awards include the Faculty Association Excellence in Teaching Award from the University of P.E.I.

Having appeared as a trumpet soloist and in professional ensembles across Canada, Wendy is a founding member of the brass quintet "Five of a Kind", and has played Solo Cornet with the Mill Creek Colliery Brass Band. She is the founder of Festival City Winds Music Society, a comprehensive adult community band programme which is comprised of three Concert Bands plus a growing series of classes and workshops.

Wendy is a clinician for Yamaha Canada.

Wendy currently teaches Brass Techniques and conducts the Concert Band at the University of Alberta. She teaches trumpet and wind ensembles at Concordia University College of Alberta, and is the Artistic Director and Principal Conductor of the Festival City Winds Music Society.

Ms. Grasdahl holds a Bachelor of Music degree in Music History from the University of Alberta, a Master of Music degree in Trumpet Performance and Pedagogy from the University of Calgary, and a graduate level Fine Arts Diploma in Symphonic Band and Wind Ensemble Conducting and Literature from the University of Calgary.

### **Mill Creek Colliery Band**

The Mill Creek Colliery Band is a traditional British-style brass band based in Edmonton, Alberta, Canada. The band consists of an enthusiastic group of local professional and amateur musicians dedicated to promoting excellence in brass banding throughout western Canada.

The name of the band pays homage to the historical connection between 19th century working class northern England, and the brass bands which flourished during that time. The name also refers to a prominent ravine area in Edmonton, itself the site of important coal mining activity in the early days.

The MCCB had its beginnings as a small brass ensemble in 1995, with the first performance broadcast on CBC, June 21, 1996. After this 'trial by fire' experience, the band remained for several years as an 11 to 15-member ad hoc group. This all changed in 2001, when the band expanded to a full 25-member group, using the standard instrumentation of the traditional British-style brass band. The band consisted then, as now, of a mixture of professional and serious amateur players, who all share a similar enthusiasm for brass band music and

fellowship.

The other significant change in 2001 was the instigation and promotion of their own season of subscription concerts. This popular format includes audience favorites at Christmas, as well as a seasons finale, 'the last night of the proms'. During each subsequent season, the MCCB has continued to broaden its audience base, with invitational appearances at festivals and other community events.

Most concerts are held in Edmonton with occasional visits to other towns and cities in north-central Alberta, such as successful concerts in the communities of St. Albert, Spruce Grove, Sherwood Park, Leduc, Fort Saskatchewan and Bonnyville.

The band offers an exciting season of subscription concerts and is available upon request to perform at other venues and events. We invite you to explore our website <http://www.millcreekbrass.ca>.