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WINTER-SPRING 2024



deCoste
on the
ROAD



deCoste
Centre for Arts
& Creativity

Sponsorships

Excitement is building for the re-opening of our expanded and upgraded facility. We are on the road again this winter and spring, bringing shows to three great venues. Thank you to our funders and supporters for your belief in our vision. It has never been more important than these past 5 years, with the COVID-19 crisis and then our construction project.

**We wish to acknowledge the support of
our many funding partners and sponsors.**



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Photo by Peter Young at *Beaches Road Photography*

Executive Director's Message

These days there is an extra spring in our step. After eight years and countless meetings, our expansion and renovation project is well underway. We have enjoyed the opportunity to deliver shows in venues around the county, BUT are looking forward to a grand re-opening in 2024.

The upgraded and expanded facility will be called the deCoste Centre for Arts and Creativity. If you haven't already visited www.culturehubpc.ca, drop by and get a look at the plans and our progress. It is only once in a generation that a community gets a chance like this, so we are leaving no stone unturned. We can't wait for you to see the completely refreshed theatre, a large modern public library, spaces for artists to create and exhibit, office and meeting space for cultural and community group usage, over 20 public art elements, expanded parking, bold glass facades facing Water Street, the waterfront, and Jitney Trail, larger and improved washrooms, a new full-service kitchen, many new accessibility features, numerous energy/ carbon reducing measures including a large solar array and so much more.

We are excited to offer a wide range of shows scheduled between January and May. We know that costs everywhere have risen, so we have worked hard to offer many discounts. For the first time, we are offering opportunities to save through buying multiple shows in a series. Membership is the best deal in town. We practically pay you to become a member!

See you soon at a show!

Troy Greencorn, Executive Director — deCoste Centre for Arts & Creativity

deCoste Board of Directors

Crystal MacKinnon-Murray - Chairperson | Jennifer Langille | Michael MacKean | Melinda MacKenzie
Rob MacNeil | Sally O'Neill | Leslie Otter | Jamie Playfair | Joel Sellers

deCoste Centre for Arts and Creativity

The deCoste Centre for Arts and Creativity will host a cluster of arts and community organizations and activities in one building. As we all age and rural populations get smaller, it makes good sense to bring organizations together to share facilities.

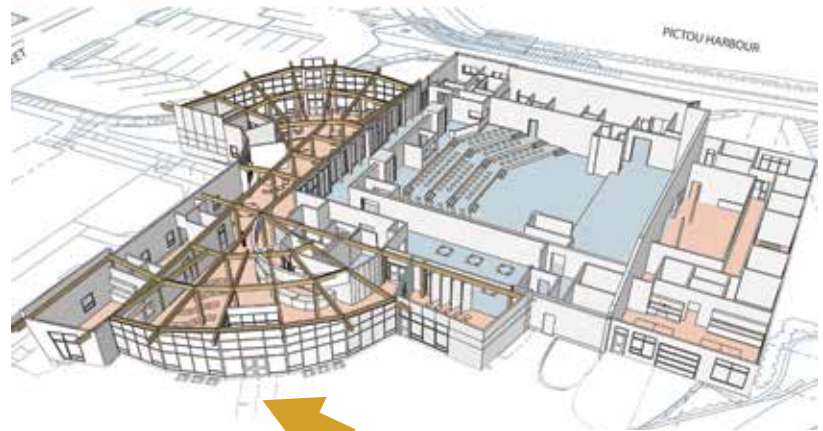
Why?

- Organizations spend less on operating costs and overheads and more on their services to the community.
- Traffic is pooled. If 2,000 residents use the library each week, that is 2,000 sets of eyes that see posters and promo in the building for upcoming shows. The same works in reverse, with show attendees learning about library programs.
- A facility like this helps to recruit families to our region, not just workers, and helps with employee retention.

A Joint Vision, Patience, and Persistence

Eight years ago, the Town of Pictou asked the deCoste and Pictou Antigonish Regional Library Boards to consider creating a vision to bring both organizations together in a modern new building. The deCoste had many age and growth-related needs (more washrooms, lobby space, parking, etc.). The current library, housed in the Town of Pictou municipal building is dated, lacks adequate program space, and is not fully accessible. The advantages were quickly identified, and an exciting vision quickly emerged.

This once-in-a-generation project more than doubles the current square footage. The new design allows for much more to happen under one roof enhancing the sustainability of all the partner organizations in the long term.



Water Street Entrance



What Can You Expect?

The Building will:

- bring together a full-scale performing arts centre, modern public library, enhanced meeting/event space, art production and exhibition spaces.
- welcome patrons with bold glass facades from both Water Street and the waterfront.
- greatly expanded library programs and services with exciting new book collections, public access to technology resources, opportunities for collaborative programming and multiple gathering and meeting spaces.
- feature an expanded Murray Room, and adjoining community room, with a kitchenette.
- showcase of over 20 public art elements commissioned from a diverse mix of artists.
- feature a completely refreshed theatre space with new seating, carpet, and many audio/lighting video enhancements.
- be built to net-zero-carbon-ready status, with a large roof-top solar array and multiple energy-conserving systems and technologies in use.
- be built with many accessibility-enhancing systems and features in place.
- include enhancements to the site such as street and harbour patios, a harbour boardwalk, improved and accessible parking, pedestrian-level lighting, and electric vehicle chargers.

A much broader mix of activities:

This new building will empower both the deCoste and the library to expand their programs and user base. Partnerships will flourish and new programs and services will be launched. One need only visit award-winning libraries in Antigonish and Halifax to see just how diverse the activities can be.

This is not the library of your grandparent's era. It is an exciting hub of activity for the whole community that will enhance our quality of life for a generation. It is now months, not years until the facility is completed and reopens.



Become a Donor

We are in the home stretch in our fundraising campaign. Hundreds of donations of all sizes have helped us get 95% of the way to our \$1.7 million community fundraising target. Every donation is appreciated and gifts of \$250 and up come with recognition in the new building. Keep an eye out for our **“Take a Seat Campaign”** (to help us replace the theatre’s seating), early in 2024. Please contact us at thefinalmile@decostecentre.ca to express your interest in donating to our campaign.

No Matter What the Occasion, We Have Great Gift Ideas For You!!

2024 deCoste Dream Vacation Draw Tickets

(only available until Dec. 22 or SOLD OUT)

8 Awesome Vacations and 4 draws of \$2500 + 4 monthly draws of \$120

Buy a membership along with your ticket for \$30 & **SAVE \$5**. Plus get a **\$20** member coupon to go towards future deCoste performances.

deCoste Gift Cards and E-Gift Cards

Give the gift of an experience! Give a deCoste gift card!

deCoste gift cards never expire and can be used for ANY event hosted by the deCoste. Seeing a live show is more than entertainment, it's a complete experience that is sure to create a memory they won't forget!

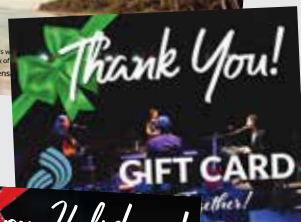
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Visit decostecentre.ca/membership to see a list of Member Partners and applicable discounts.

Learn more at:

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VENUE LEGEND EXPLAINED

Amazing talent will continue to be showcased at venues throughout Pictou County as we continue our "On the Road" tour while construction continues at the deCoste.

Use the colour codes presented below for each venue as your guide to show locations. There is limited seating in some locations, so be sure to get your tickets early and avoid disappointment! We look forward to seeing you at the shows!

Venue:
Pictou Legion
130 Veterans Dr.,
Pictou, NS
Performances held on upper level

Venue:
PC Wellness Centre
2-2756 Westville Rd.,
Pictou County, NS
Performances held in conference rooms

New Venue:
River Gallery
49 Water St.,
Pictou, NS



Tickets & Info: www.decostecentre.ca
(902) 485-8848 | 1-800-353-5338

Box Office Location:
25B Front Street, Pictou, NS
Monday to Friday 10:00 am to 4:00 pm

Unveiling Exclusive Ticket Deals!

**WE WANT TO REWARD MEMBERS
AND ENTERTAINMENT ENTHUSIASTS**

It's heating season and costs are rising everywhere. Saving money is more important than ever as winter sets in. We are happy to offer volume discounts to customers who buy multiple tickets to shows in the **Legend's Tribute Series** and **Songcrafter Series**.

LEGENDS
TRIBUTE SERIES

Song
CRAFTERS

HERE'S HOW IT WORKS:

Buy 2 series tickets — **SAVE 10%**

Buy 3 series tickets — **SAVE 15%**

Buy 4 series tickets — **SAVE 20%**

**To take advantage of this offer,
call the box office at 902-485-8848.**

Venue: Pictou Legion



James Mullinger

10 Years in Canada

FRI., JANUARY 19 | 7:30 PM

\$26 + fees & taxes = \$36.23

Members \$23 + fees & taxes = \$32.78

Renowned British comedian James Mullinger, now a Canadian citizen, stormed into the country's entertainment scene after relocating to the Maritimes in 2014. With sold-out shows, TV appearances, and various creative ventures, he's cemented his place in Canadian comedy. Celebrating his tenth year in Canada, he's back on the road with a stand-up show, sharing insights and experiences gained during his time in this special place. Unveiling the quirky, honest, and humorous aspects of the country, this show marks a significant milestone. From classic routines to fresh material, it's an event not to be missed. It promises laughter and inspiration for all, both familiar fans and newcomers. This exclusive 2024 performance in Pictou County is a unique opportunity to experience Mullinger's comedic brilliance firsthand.



Venue: Pictou Legion



Joe H. Henry, Jud Gunning, & Steve MacIntyre

THUR., JANUARY 25 | 7:30 PM

\$26.50 + fees & taxes = \$36.80

Members \$23.50 + fees & taxes = \$33.35



Joe H. Henry, a passionate singer, channels his Metis heritage and musical roots, gathering inspiration amidst struggles. He debuted his EP, *Wilder on the Mountain* early in 2023, encapsulating his unique voice and storytelling prowess.

Jud Gunning, a rising star in Nova Scotia's music scene, has earned recognition for his genuine love for music performing at Stanfest & Pictou Lobster Carnival concerts.

Cape Breton singer-songwriter Steve MacIntyre crafts songs to evoke emotions, drawing parallels to a mix of John Prine and Stan Rogers. His repertoire blends themes of love, life, and loss, refined through his experiences with renowned regional artists.

All three performers are delighted to be back following their well-attended Pictou performances this past summer.

Venue: PC Wellness Centre



Poet of the Common Man A Tribute to Merle Haggard

With Lawrence Maxwell
& The Fugitives

SUN., JANUARY 28

2:00 PM - MATINEE SHOW

\$40 + fees & taxes = \$52.33

Members \$37 + fees & taxes = \$48.88



Merle Haggard – “the Poet of the Common Man” – is widely considered one of the most important singer-songwriters in the history of country music. During a career that lasted from the 1960s until his death in 2016, he recorded more than 70 albums and had over 40 #1 singles.

Merle says that “Country music is about those things that we believe in but we can’t see – like dreams, and songs, and souls.”

Lawrence Maxwell is a PEI-born singer-songwriter, a multiple Music PEI award winner, and ECMA-nominee with three studio albums under his belt. He has developed a show that weaves songs and stories from the turbulent and triumphant life of “The Hag.” From the hits that made Merle famous to the songs that slipped by the wayside.



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Venue: PC Wellness Centre



Vinyl 33 presents
The Music of Trio
**Emmylou Harris,
Linda Ronstadt, and Dolly Parton**

SUN., FEBRUARY 18 | 2:00 PM - MATINEE SHOW

\$40 + fees & taxes = \$52.33 | Members \$37 + fees & taxes = \$48.88



The music you remember, the way you remember it!

This tribute to Linda Ronstadt, Emmylou Harris, and Dolly Parton features the talents of Cape Breton artists Jenifer Dingwall, Jenn Sheppard, and Ashley Buckingham along with an eight piece band.

Together they're set to bring you the most-loved songs by these iconic women. Whether its Dolly Parton's "Workin' 9 to 5", Linda Ronstadt's "You're No Good", or Emmylou Harris's "Two More Bottles of Wine", we know show-goers will be singing and clapping along non-stop. Immerse yourself into two hours of intricate harmonies and singable, familiar melodies. Come spend a Sunday afternoon with The Music of TRIO!

Venue: River Gallery



Duo Cordelia

THUR., FEBRUARY 22 | 7:30 PM

\$28 + fees & taxes = \$38.53

Members \$25 + fees & taxes = \$35.08 | **FREE for Students**



DEBUT ATLANTIQUE



Duo Cordelia, formed in 2016, features violinist and composer Vanessa Marcoux and pianist Marie-Christine Poirier. Highly active in the Canadian classical music scene, the duo pushes boundaries by blending improvisation, diverse repertoire, traditional melodies, and Vanessa's original compositions. This fusion of classical and lesser-known works creates a deeply moving concert experience, bridging musical universes.

The duo has received grants from the Quebec and Canada Arts Councils and is preparing to release their debut album in 2023. Marcoux, a skilled violinist and composer, holds degrees from prestigious institutions and has performed worldwide as a soloist and chamber musician, exploring various genres. Poirier, a pianist, has a master's degree and has gained recognition as part of the Duo Fortin-Poirier. Alongside Vanessa, Marie-Christine performs with Duo Cordelia, teaches, and delivers solo performances across Canada, Mexico, the USA, and Europe.

Venue: Pictou Legion

Song
CRAFTERS

Guy Davis

THUR., FEBRUARY 29 | 7:30 PM

\$35 + fees & taxes = \$46.58

Members \$32 + fees & taxes = \$43.13

Guy Davis is a true luminary of acoustic blues, widely regarded as one of the premier exponents of the genre worldwide. With his exceptional skills on both the guitar and the harmonica, he effortlessly weaves captivating tales through his music. Renowned for his distinct and compelling voice, Guy possesses an innate ability to transport listeners to another time and place with his heartfelt performances. As a master storyteller, he has garnered immense respect and admiration, solidifying his position as one of the eminent figures among contemporary blues artists. Guy Davis's immense talent and unwavering dedication to his craft have rightfully earned him a place among the true greats of his generation.



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Venue: Pictou Legion

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Terra Spencer

SAT., MARCH 2 | 7:30 PM

\$26.50 + fees & taxes = \$36.80

Members \$23.50 + fees & taxes = \$33.35

Raised on the mud banks of the Avon River, award-winning Nova Scotian funeral director-turned-songwriter Terra Spencer has won over audiences in Canada, the UK, and Germany since her 2018 debut. She has already crafted a catalogue of startlingly intimate songs, marrying fingerstyle guitar, gospel piano, and her butterscotch voice with sly humour and 70s wood-paneled warmth. Terra recently released her third album, *Old News*, created with Ben Caplan and celebrated with a cross-Canada and UK tour, and is currently touring with Canadian folk icon David Francey. In a room of 5 or 500, every show is a knee-to-knee conversation with a natural storyteller. "The real deal." - Ron Sexsmith



Venue: PC Wellness Centre

LEGENDS
TRIBUTE SERIES

Gypsy A Fleetwood Mac Experience

SAT., MARCH 9 | 7:30 PM

\$40 + fees & taxes = \$52.33 | Members \$37 + fees & taxes = \$48.88

The music of Fleetwood Mac is recognized and loved by many. Songs like "Dreams", "Go your Own Way", "Rhiannon", "Don't Stop" and "The Chain", bring memories flooding back.

Experiencing the band GYPSY is truly an authentic music event. Don't miss this local Halifax band that gives you Fleetwood Mac, songs of Stevie Nicks and even her duets with Don Henley and Tom Petty.

Vocals by Sharon Resky, Jon Cornwall (keyboards & guitar) and Sheila Lamplugh (keyboards) blend like Stevie Nicks, Lindsay Buckingham and Christine McVie. Don Morash's guitar playing makes you feel like Lindsay Buckingham is in the songs. Aran Hill plays a fretless bass that John McVie would be proud to listen to. Maurice Nadeau, drummer for GYPSY, lays down an excellent beat and even looks a bit like Mick Fleetwood.





Rotary Club of Pictou Presents

Venue:
Pictou County
Wellness Centre



9 to 5, The Musical

THUR., MAR. 21 | FRI., MAR. 22 | SAT., MAR. 23 | 7:30 PM

Tickets: \$39.50 + fees = \$45.00

Three unlikely friends take control of their office and learn there is nothing they can't do, even in a man's world. The Rotary Club of Pictou presents *9 to 5, The Musical*. Based on the seminal 1980 hit movie and set in the late 1970s, this hilarious story of friendship and revenge in the Rolodex era is outrageous, thought-provoking, and even a little romantic.

9 to 5, The Musical is presented through special arrangement with Music Theatre International (MTI). All authorized performance materials are also supplied by MTI. www.mtishows.com

Originally produced on Broadway by Robert Greenblatt, April 2009.
Music and Lyrics by Dolly Parton - Book by Patricia Resnick.
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Epic Eagles Tribute

SUN., APRIL 7 | 7:30 PM

\$40 + fees & taxes = \$52.33

Members \$37 + fees & taxes = \$48.88

Get ready for an unparalleled tribute to “The Eagles” by Canada’s Epic Eagles. This definitive tribute band delivers a time-travel experience from the iconic band’s inception to the present day, playing hits like “Hotel California,” “One of These Nights,” “Life in the Fast Lane,” “Desperado,” and “Take It Easy.”

Dean Young, known for his nearly two-decade tenure with the Canadian tribute “Hotel California” as Don Henley, leads with his powerful vocals. Accompanying him is the versatile vocalist/instrumentalist Mike Alonzo, covering multiple Eagle members. The band, including Jeff Salem, Dan Bohemier, and Frank Koren, masterfully presents the Eagles’ catalogue, ensuring an electrifying show echoing the band’s legacy.

Audiences revel in the high-energy performance and uncanny vocal resemblance, promising a trip back in time while propelling into the future. “Epic Eagles” promises an unforgettable musical flight!



Venue: PC Wellness Centre



Island Girls

SUN., APRIL 14 | 7:30 PM

\$42 + fees & taxes = \$54.63

The deCoste is pleased to present the Savoy Theatre’s production of ISLAND GIRLS Music & Comedy, featuring four of Cape Breton’s busiest female performers: Bette MacDonald, Heather Rankin, Lucy MacNeil, and Jenn Sheppard.

The Fab Fem Four – each representing a different facet of Cape Breton Island’s entertainment community – are set to combine their individual musical and comedic talents, to take audiences on a journey to celebrate all things Cape Breton. Show-goers can expect to enjoy some belly laughs while they catch up with a few familiar characters, sing along with some old favourites and maybe even hear some new ones. This show is sure to help you shake off those winter blues!

Venue: PC Wellness Centre



Cassie & Maggie MacDonald

SAT., APRIL 20 | 7:30 PM

\$26.50 + fees & taxes = \$36.80

Members \$23.50 + fees & taxes = \$33.35

Venue: Pictou Legion

SPOT
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Nova Scotian sisters Cassie and Maggie have been lighting up the world with their unique blend of traditional and contemporary Celtic instrumentals and vocals. Appearing on stages across North America, the UK, and Europe, the sisters have enchanted audiences far and wide with lively fiddle, piano, and guitar arrangements. Their stunning sibling vocal harmonies, in both English and Gaelic, complement their intricate and percussive step-dancing style.



The Once

TUES., APRIL 23 | 7:30 PM

\$35 + fees & taxes = \$46.58

Members \$32 + fees & taxes = \$43.13

Venue: Pictou Legion

Song
CRAFTERS

Newfoundland has a storied history of stunning songwriters, poets, and players. Over the course of the last decade The Once have been propelled by the rare chemistry that comes from a decade of writing and touring together. Their songs have been placed in international film and television, they have YouTube videos with millions of hits, and there's a trail of trophy nominations and wins from the East Coast Music Awards, the Canadian Folk Awards, and the JUNO Awards in their wake. Geraldine Hollett's voice is a large part of the band's ethereal sound, and there is nowhere it would sit better than in between the rhythmic and supportive voices of Phil Churchill and Andrew Dale, and the lush soundscapes they build.



21 Gun Salute The Explosive AC/DC Tribute

FRI., APRIL 26 | 7:30 PM

\$40 + fees & taxes = \$52.33 | Members \$37 + fees & taxes = \$48.88

21 GUN SALUTE is undoubtedly one of the premiere AC/DC reviews ever assembled. The band pays true homage to AC/DC's high voltage rock 'n' roll. From the Bon Scott raw rock 'n' roll early years, to the band's evolution throughout their thirty-year tenure with Brian Johnson.

Every detail has been painstakingly reproduced, from the Smoking Cannons & the Hell's Bell stage props to Angus's school boy outfit. An explosive show that includes the signature live antics and lead singer's absolute dead-on vocal rendition of both Bon Scott to Brian Johnson.

Lead vocals that belt out the high notes effortlessly whilst strutting the stage the AC/DC trademark style. This act is a must-see show performed by experienced true professionals, who are down to earth blokes.



Venue: PC Wellness Centre



Not Gone Yet! Ian Thomas

SUN., APRIL 28 | 7:30 PM

\$68 + fees = \$ 73.50

Ian Thomas is "the complete entertainment experience!" He is a film-composer with 22 feature films to his credit; an author; an actor, much sought after as a voice-over artist and recognized for roles such as Dougie Franklin on the Red Green Show... and, of course, a Juno-award-winning singer-songwriter whose songs helped form the bed-rock of the Canadian musical landscape, a contribution recognized by SOCAN when Ian was honoured with a National Achievement Award for Songwriting.

Ian Thomas, with his stellar 4-piece band, brings past to present recreating the original sound of all the hits ... 70s, 80s, 90s and beyond. Ian Thomas ... Not Gone Yet!

Venue:
Pictou County
Wellness Centre





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Venue: Pictou Legion

Song
CRAFTERS

David Francey

FRI., MAY 3 | 7:30 PM

\$35 + fees & taxes = \$46.58

Members \$32 + fees & taxes = \$43.13

David Francey is a Scottish-born Canadian carpenter-turned-songwriter, who has become known as "one of Canada's most revered folk poets and singers" (Toronto Star). For decades, he worked across Canada in rail yards, construction sites, and in the Yukon bush, all the while writing poetry, setting it to melodies in his head and singing it to himself as he worked. A truly authentic folk singer, Francey is a documentarian of the working person who never imagined earning a living from his music. His first album *Torn Screen Door* came out in 1999 and was a hit in Canada. Since then, he has released eleven albums and won three Juno Awards.



Venue: Pictou Legion

SPOT
LIGHT
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2 FOR 1

Kellie Loder

WED., MAY 8 | 7:30 PM

\$26.50 + fees & taxes = \$36.80

Members \$23.50 + fees & taxes = \$33.35

There is something truly captivating about Juno award nominee, Kellie Loder. It can be found in their poignant and timely lyrics set against magical melodies. It can also be found in the singer/songwriter's electrifying live shows, inspiring profound emotion in listeners. You'll cry, you'll laugh, and you'll tell your friends about it. CBC Q's Tom Power proclaims "If I were a betting man, I'd bet the house on Kellie Loder being the next big thing out of Newfoundland".



**2022 Runner-up on
Canada's Got Talent.**

Venue: PC Wellness Centre

Song
CRAFTERS

The Good Brothers

SAT., MAY 11 | 7:30 PM

\$35 + fees & taxes = \$46.58

Members \$32 + fees & taxes = \$43.13

The Good Brothers original line-up of Bruce, Brian and Larry Good continue to deliver a world-class show that features their trademark sibling harmonies. This legendary group are the recipients of eight Juno awards for Best Country Group and headlined gigs at Massey Hall, Roy Thompson Hall, The National Art Centre, and performed countless shows at L.A.'s Universal Amphitheatre with (their mentor) Gordon Lightfoot.



The Good Brothers are inductees into the Canadian Country Music Hall of Fame, and the North American Country Music Hall of Fame, and received two nominations for Country Group and Roots Artist of the year at the Canadian Country Music Awards.

They have gained a worldwide audience over the course of their accomplished career. Their acclaimed show encompasses country, bluegrass, folk, and the occasional selection from their rock and roll songbook.

Venue: Pictou Legion

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series | MEMBERS
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The Slocan Ramblers

THUR., MAY 16 | 7:30 PM

\$26.50 + fees & taxes = \$36.80

Members \$23.50 + fees & taxes = \$33.35



The Slocan Ramblers (featured on the Grand Ole Opry in Nashville TN, 2020 IBMA Momentum Band of the Year Award Winner & 2019 Juno Award Nominee) are Canada's bluegrass band to watch. Rooted in tradition, fearlessly creative and possessing a bold, dynamic sound, The Slocans have become a leading light of today's acoustic music scene. With a reputation for energetic live shows, impeccable musicianship and an uncanny ability to convert anyone within earshot into a lifelong fan, The Slocans have been winning over audiences from Merlefest to RockyGrass and everywhere in between.

Say hello to your new favorite bluegrass band!

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