



Enjoy the Music on National Fiddling Day – May 21st *“Celebrate with your favourite fiddle musicians” urges CGMFA*

Saturday, May 21st is National Fiddling Day, and Canadians are encouraged to enjoy this day set aside to recognize both the historical and contemporary importance of fiddle music in Canada.

The Canadian Grand Masters Fiddling Association (CGMFA) is a national organization that is devoted to the preservation and advancement of the art of Canadian fiddling. This year it is orchestrating National Fiddling Day celebrations for the country’s fiddling fraternity and for Canadians’ fondness of fiddle music.

”We expect hundreds of fiddlers across the country to perform on Saturday in jams and public shows and, collectively, we will shine a spotlight on Canada’s rich fiddling legacy,” says Graham Sheppard, CGMFA President. “From coast to coast, fiddle musicians represent Canada’s diversity and the many different styles of their fiddle music reflect each region’s richness and soul.”

“For more than three centuries Canadians have gathered and enjoyed fiddles at pubs, kitchen parties and cèilidhs, in church basements, around campfires and at square dances. Fiddle music has had, and continues to have a profound influence on Canadian musical culture and identity. Today, Canadian fiddlers are known around the world for our expressive, melodic music.”

On the May 21st weekend, fiddle groups across the country are hosting local jams and public shows. Canadians are encouraged to attend a fiddle performance and share their experience on social media with the **#nationalfiddlingday** hashtag. Mr. Sheppard urges all, “Get out and celebrate National Fiddling Day with your favourite music.”

About the CGMFA

Canadian Grand Masters Fiddling Association is devoted to the preservation and advancement of the art of Canadian fiddling by raising awareness of and appreciation for all styles of Canadian fiddling. The Association proudly promotes Canada’s National Fiddling Day recognizing the country’s fiddlers, their groups and the community as a whole. It also hosts an annual national competition that provides well-deserved recognition to Canada’s top fiddlers. The CGMFA is a national arts service organization with charitable status.

Visit www.canadiangrandmasters.ca, check **#nationalfiddlingday** and join the party May 21.

Media Contact: Graham Sheppard 613-791-7973 gshsheppard@cgmfa-acgmvc.ca