



EXPANSION PROJECT: GRAND OPENING

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Galt Media contact: Anine Vonkeman
Marketing/Communications Officer
320-4009, avonkeman@galtmuseum.com

GRAND OPENING OF NEW GALT SET FOR MAY 6 **Official opening 10:00 | Museum open 11:00-4:30**

Free admission all weekend

After a 20-month closure, the Galt Museum & Archives will reopen its doors! Saturday's official opening program will be held in front of historic Galt Hospital building, and includes honour guards, the Lethbridge 2296 Army Cadet Pipe and Drum Band, remarks by various dignitaries including Senator Joyce Fairbairn and Blood Chief Charles Weaselhead, a message from the Galt Family and, of course, the Ribbon Cutting just prior to 11:00 am.

Inside, visitors will be able to take in the brand new **Discovery Hall** housing the permanent exhibit *Exploring Southwestern Alberta* and the temporary exhibit *Fifties Forever*, circulated by Glenbow Museum in Calgary, on display through September 17. Also open will be the **Viewing Gallery & event hall** where a **mini-tradeshaw** will feature various local and area Alberta attractions such as the Prairie Tractor & Engine Society, Southern Alberta Provincial Historical Sites and the Gem of the West Museum.

The expanded **Museum Store** will be open again after relocating from Park Place Shopping Centre, with a great selection complementing the stories told within the Discovery Hall. A special Galt Blend coffee – roasted locally – along with other beverages can also be purchased at the Museum Store to enjoy in the Viewing Gallery.

The new **Education Centre** houses the **Community Savings Learning Studio** - a multi-purpose room where young and old learners alike will be able to take in regular programs such as the brand-new *Café Galt* – as well as **the Lethbridge Iron Works Classroom** where school and community groups will be welcomed for their scheduled tours and the always popular *Saturdays at 1:00* program will take place beginning May 13.

Researchers will certainly appreciate the new **Archives Reference Room**, which, along with the expanded Collections storage facilities, now features compact rolled storage – allowing for enhanced access and increased shelf-space for the significant holdings at the Galt Museum. **30-minute behind-the-scenes tours** conducted by Collections Manager Kevin MacLean and Archivist Greg Ellis will be offered of these usually not accessible areas from 11:00 am to 4:00 pm. A maximum of 12 people/tour/time can be accommodated; the limited number of tickets will be available at the information desk on May 6 only [1-hour break at noon].

Throughout the day, the **UFA's History In Motion trailer** will be located at the north side of the Galt, **food and beverages** will be available for purchase in the SE corner of the Galt Museum site, and a great line-up of local and visiting performers will provide **entertainment on stage** in front of the historic Galt Hospital. Performers include hoop dancer JJ First Charger, Glencoulee, the Momiji Dancers of Lethbridge and District, the Okanawa Children's Choir, Lethbridge's own St. Patrick's Children's Choir, Most Vocal poets, Coulee Fiddlers, Billie the Cowboy Poet and more!

In addition, children will appreciate the talents of local **facepainters** on the south patio, the amazing Paul **"That Balloon Guy"** Thompson, and **meeting characters from Lethbridge's past** courtesy of The Playgoers of Lethbridge! A **tipi** will be located at the SW corner of Galt Museum site, with **Napi story telling** by Melvina Brave Rock and her marionettes beginning at 12:00 pm.

And if that is not enough, staff from the Helen Schuler Coulee Centre will conduct **30-minute coulee walks** exploring the ecosystem surrounding the Galt Museum at 11:30 am, 1:00, 2:00 and 3:00 pm [meet on the west side of the Galt at the sandwich board]. The Ford Fusion Street Team and Citytv will be on site from noon to 4:00 pm with a chance to win a car.

Please enter the NEW Galt parking lot via 4 Avenue South. Handicapped parking is available close to the Galt's main doors, using this parking lot. If that lot is full, overflow parking has been donated by Convergys and the Lethbridge Lodge, on the west side of the Lodge. Cars entering via 5 Avenue South can only park in the unpaved Green Acres lot NORTH of the Galt Museum. Alternatively, Lethbridge Transit routes #1, #2 and the U of L and LCC Shuttles stop at 5th Avenue and Scenic Drive South, just steps away from the Galt Museum. For those who are unable to walk distances, Lethbridge Transit will be running a **shuttle bus** from the City Hall parking lot [at the back of the building] to the Galt Museum, every 15 minutes, from 9:30 am to 5 pm.

Additional events taking place in the days leading up to the Grand Opening are the sold out 3rd annual **Evening of Celebration** hosted by the Friends of the Galt Museum on Thursday, May 4 and the **Gala Donor Reception** on Friday, May 5 acknowledging the many stakeholders and supporters of the Growing Our Legacy Campaign and overall expansion project.

For more details on the new Galt Museum & Archives, please visit www.galtmuseum.com.

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