

FROM: CHILLIWACK ARTS &
CULTURAL CENTRE SOCIETY
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High Resolution photo: [Cowboys2.jpg](#),

Description: Experience Christmas through the eyes of a cowboy in the early days of British Columbia through song, poetry and drama.

Photo Credit: N/A

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Experience a festive dose of British Columbia history with *A Cowboy Christmas!*

CHILLIWACK, BC – Come and celebrate the holidays in the cowboy way! *A Cowboy Christmas* will take you on a magical journey to a simpler, quieter time captured through music and poetry on **December 18** at the Chilliwack Cultural Centre.

Featuring **Rob Dinwoodie** and his band **Open Range** from the O’Keefe Ranch stage show, this unique performance will let folks explore the cowboy way of celebrating the holidays, but with a local British Columbia twist. Journey through the early 1900’s from a cowboy’s perspective with song, verse and theatrics in a show rich in history. Join Rob Dinwoodie and the Open Range as they share intriguing cowboy stories with you in a very special Christmas presentation!

“People can expect a thoroughly entertaining evening as they experience Christmas through the eyes of a cowboy in the early days of British Columbia,” Dinwoodie explained.

Dinwoodie will be accompanied by his band **Open Range** - whose members, **Dixon Zalit** and **Tim Boulter** are well known for their diverse musical instrumentation and harmonies. They will perform familiar Christmas classics, along with songs about the province’s own cowboy history.

“The performance includes drama, music, song, and cowboy poetry,” Dinwoodie said. “There will be both traditional as well as original Christmas music that flows with the drama.”

The group originally got their start with the Cowboy Dinner Show that runs out of the O’Keefe Ranch in Vernon. Now they’re bringing this very popular show out of the Okanagan region and sharing the cowboy lifestyle with the rest of the province.

They’ll be joined by a few friends as well and Langley’s **Dave Longworth**, professional actor and cowboy poet will take the stage depicting the cowboy George Edwards. The narrative will be provided by author, historian, and western enthusiast **Ken Mather** as he creates the historical backdrop and shares stories about British Columbia’s fascinating history. **Ben Beveridge**, who was awarded the 2016 fiddle player of the year award at the British Columbia Country Music Association awards, will also be bringing his incredible talent and playing along with Open Range.

“The performance is based on story, our story of British Columbia, using the oral tradition of storytelling through poetry and song,” Dinwoodie explained. “It’s a show that will make this holiday season a memory for life!”

You won’t want to miss this opportunity to travel through our province’s history “the cowboy way”, so get your tickets early!

A Cowboy Christmas is sponsored by: Laurie Throness MLA, Unger Window and Door, Coast Chilliwack Hotel, The Chilliwack Progress, Department of Canadian Heritage, British Columbia Arts Council, Province of British Columbia, and the City of Chilliwack.

A Cowboy Christmas is coming to the Chilliwack Cultural Centre on **December 18 at 7:30 pm**. Tickets are \$35 for adults, \$32 for seniors, and \$30 for youth, and are available at the Centre Box Office, online at www.chilliwackculturalcentre.ca, or by calling 604-391-SHOW(7469).

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For additional information and to arrange interviews, contact:

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Chilliwack Cultural Centre

Owned by the City of Chilliwack, the Cultural Centre houses two unique performance venues, an art gallery, music instruction studios, arts and crafts studios, meeting rooms, offices, and

is home to the Chilliwack Academy of Music and the O'Connor Group Art Gallery. Since opening in 2010, over 290,000 tickets have been sold through the Centre Box Office, with a value exceeding \$4,280,000. The Centre is overseen by The Chilliwack Arts & Cultural Centre Society on behalf of the City.

Chilliwack Cultural Centre highlights:

- 597 seat performance theatre
- 168 seat recital hall / rehearsal space / dance studio / meeting space
- Chilliwack Art gallery (22-foot high display area)
- 21 music instructional rooms
- Arts, crafts and performance studios
- Storage and Archival Resource Room

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Chilliwack Symphony Orchestra and Chorus

Chilliwack Visual Artists Association

The Chilliwack Arts & Cultural Centre Society is registered under the British Columbia Society Act as a not-for-profit society (society number S-54973), and is a registered Canadian

charitable organization under the Canadian Charities Directorate. (Charity number 805742897
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