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MEDIA RELEASE

Canada's premier country artists headline Nashville North at Stampede 2016

Calgary Stampede shares Calgary's 'Year of Music' by announcing the Nashville North lineup in the heart of Toronto

Toronto – Are you ready for the best country music party in Canada? The 2016 Nashville North lineup for the 2016 Calgary Stampede will feature some of our nation's top country music stars.

2014 Canadian Country Music's Rising Star Award winner, Tim Hicks; 2016 Country Album of the Year JUNO Nominee, High Valley; and 2014 Grammy Nominee for Best Country Single, Deric Ruttan are just a few of the artists who will be entertaining guests at Calgary's best country music venue, during the Stampede July 8 – 17.

With chart topping bands, rapidly-rising new acts and local musicians – Nashville North will be a true country experience and the best place to catch live music all day long.

The official announcement came via a special release party in Toronto that heightened Stampede fever out east. With a surprise performance from Nashville North headliner The Washboard Union, the event helped promote the Calgary Stampede and the city's Year of Music.

"Some of the most popular country music acts from across Canada will be hitting the stage at Nashville North and we are thrilled to welcome such a talented group of performers to the Stampede this year, especially in Calgary's 'Year of Music'," said Samara Lastiwka, programming production manager for the Stampede.

The talented lineup of headline Nashville North acts are listed below:

Thursday, July 7 (Sneak-A-Peek)	Tim Hicks (Budweiser Big Ticket)
Friday, July 8	High Valley
Saturday, July 9	Wes Mack
Sunday, July 10	Aaron Pritchett
Monday, July 11	Tebey
Tuesday, July 12	John Conlee (afternoon), Deric Ruttan (evening)
Wednesday, July 13	Cold Creek County
Thursday, July 14	The Kentucky Head Hunters
Friday, July 15	The Washboard Union
Saturday, July 16	Jojo Mason (9 p.m.), Madeline Merlo (10:30 p.m.)
Sunday, July 17	Nashville North All-Star Band hosted by Jason Greeley

Other performers include The Dungarees, Trinity Bradshaw, Tanya Ryan and Drew Gregory, along with Jason Greeley and Craig Moritz that will keep the party going well into the night.

Prospective Nashville North headliners should watch for the annual Nashville North Star competition. Preliminaries take place in Nashville North at 5 p.m. on Saturday, July 9, with the finals on Monday, July

Calgary Exhibition and Stampede Limited

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11 at 8 p.m. The newly crowned winner will perform to a packed house on Saturday, July 16 at 8 p.m. The Nashville North Star competition will be accepting video entries from May 30 – June 20.

New for 2016, three different food vendors will be within the Nashville North enclosure, providing guests with more options for meals.

In addition, the VIP lounge is back. This bookable, semi-private lounge has a clear view to the stage and room for up to 150 people. The experience also includes VIP exclusive entrance, a full service bar, private washrooms and a personal hostess.

Entry into Nashville North is free with paid Stampede Park admission. If you'd like to skip the line, check out the Buck the Line packages which include park admission along with VIP, no-line access for the date of purchase. Nashville North, located just inside the Olympic entry, at the north end of Stampede Park, is open from 11 a.m. until 2 a.m. on weekends and Western Heritage Day (July 12), and open 3 p.m. until 2 a.m. on all other days. Entry to Stampede Park closes at midnight, while entry to Nashville North from within Stampede Park runs until 1:45 a.m.

This year's Stampede runs July 8-17, 2016. For more information about this year's talent, a full schedule, details for booking the VIP Lounge or Buck the Line passes, please visit www.calgarystampede.com/nashvillenorth.

About the Calgary Stampede

The Calgary Stampede celebrates the people, the animals, the land, the traditions and the values that make up the unique spirit of the west. The Calgary Stampede contributes to the quality of life in Calgary and southern Alberta through our world-renowned Stampede, year-round facilities, western events and several youth and agriculture programs. Exemplifying the theme We're Greatest Together, we are a volunteer-supported, not-for-profit community organization that preserves and celebrates our western heritage, cultures and community spirit. All revenue is reinvested into Calgary Stampede programs and facilities.

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