



For Immediate Publication

Two New Brunswick artists chosen to perform at the 2015 Toronto Pan Am Games

May 13th, 2015 (Fredericton, NB) – The New Brunswick Arts Board (**artsnb**) is happy to announce the artists chosen to perform as part of the Pan Am and Parapan Am games. New Brunswick had been invited to showcase some of their artistic performers in the Celebration Zone during the Games this summer.

Ross Neilsen and Chris Colepaugh will be travelling to Toronto between July 12th –August 14th, 2015 to stage an outdoor show in Toronto during the games. These two artists were chosen by a jury of professional artists to represent New Brunswick based on the excellence of their artistic practice and on the basis of the quality of their performance.

The Pan American Games are the world's third largest international multi-sport Games; they are only surpassed in size and scope by the Olympic Summer Games and the Asian Games. In 2015, Toronto will be the proud Host City of the Pan Am and Parapan Am Games. Close to 7,000 athletes from across Latin America, South America, the Caribbean and North America will put their years of intense training, perseverance and sacrifice to the test in world-class competition in 36 Pan Am sports and 15 Parapan Am sports at the Toronto 2015 Pan Am / Parapan Am Games.

"It's very exciting to send two fine cultural ambassadors from New Brunswick to this international event," said Akoulina Connell, "these performances from across Canada contribute fundamentally to a better understanding of who we are as a country."

Ross Neilsen

Canada's hardest working blues rock musician, Ross Neilsen, does it right. He's taking strong, timeless material to the place that matters: The People. Seven Years, over 1200 shows and more than half a million kilometers traveled. In a time of corporate cookie-cutter music, this is the return to real. Proving hard work pays off Neilsen has been honoured with a nomination for Best New Artist at The Maple Blues Awards in 2010, two Rising Star nominations from CBC, back to back Blues Album of the Year nominations from the East Coast Music Association, a win for Best Blues Recording for Redemption at the 2010 MusicNB awards, a semi finalist in the solo/duo category at the International Blues Challenge in Memphis, TN in 2012 and most recently Five nominations from Music New Brunswick including Album of the year, best group and best rock recording for RESURRECTION as well as Best male solo Recording for THE SHACK UP SESSIONS and a win for best blues recording for THE SHACK UP SESSIONS. He is a real, old-school kind of artist. Write. Tour. Record. Tour. Repeat. - See more at: <http://rossneilsen.com>



Chris Colepaugh

Chris Colepaugh channels the cry of a Gibson doubleneck 12/6 through an over-driven tube amp in a hard-driving southern-rock groove. Multi-award winning, international touring and with a fest o' crunchy guitar licks, Colepaugh will have you air-guitaring all night long. Relentless touring over the past several years have allowed Colepaugh & Crew to develop a legendary live show and a reputation for musicianship. Such that, Chris Colepaugh was handpicked to lend his skills to fellow Canadian Roch Voisine for tours throughout France, Belgium and Switzerland, and even performing at the 2014 Olympics in Sochi, Russia. For more information and music samples: <http://www.colepaugh.com>

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The New Brunswick Arts Board is an arm's length arts funding agency with a legislated mandate to facilitate and promote the creation of art as well as administering funding programs for professional artists in the province.