



CITADEL THEATRE

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Artistic Director DARYL CLORAN
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MEDIA RELEASE

THE CITADEL THEATRE BEGINS SEARCH FOR NEXT EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

March 15, 2017

(EDMONTON) After 13 years at the helm of Edmonton's Citadel Theatre, Executive Director **Penny Ritco** is stepping down, and the search for her replacement has begun.

"Penny is nationally regarded as a leader in Canada's theatre industry and we are lucky to have benefited from her expertise and passion over her years of service," said Board of Directors President, **Sheila Witwicky**. "Penny has played a critical role in ensuring the Citadel's ongoing success and vitality in our community."

Ritco will remain at the Citadel through a period of transition to ensure the incoming Executive Director is prepared to take on the challenging role of managing a \$12-Million not-for-profit theatre business.

Together with **Bob Baker**, Ritco established the Citadel/Banff Centre Professional Theatre Program and Citadel Young Companies and structured the Academy at the Citadel. They also created the Beyond the Stage Series and reimagined the Rice Theatre as a new cabaret venue, in addition to initiating key partnerships with other arts organizations including Catalyst Theatre and Rapid Fire Theatre. Under Ritco's leadership, the Citadel completed an impressive \$15-Million in facility upgrades including the new entry and digital marquee to mark the Citadel's 50th Anniversary.

"We thank Penny for her tremendous service over the last 13 years," said **Sol Rolinger**, Chair of the Citadel Theatre Board of Governors. "We chose Penny at a time when the Citadel needed strong executive leadership. She is leaving the theatre in a healthy position to carry on the Citadel's fifty year legacy in Edmonton."

"Penny has had a profound impact at the Citadel. She believes so fully in this company, this city, and the transformative power of art—and she has worked tirelessly to ensure the Citadel is a place where art can thrive," says Artistic Director **Daryl Cloran**. "The Citadel's success over the past 13 years is due in great part to Penny's visionary leadership. I am incredibly grateful that I got to spend this past year as her partner."

“It has been my privilege to co-lead the Citadel with Bob (Baker) and now Daryl (Cloran) and to have worked with a fantastic team of dedicated, creative and hard-working people. I’m confident that they embrace Daryl’s vision to make the Citadel inclusive, innovative and international, and will take this theatre to new heights,” said Ritco.

The search for a new Executive Director for the Citadel Theatre has commenced. “This is an exciting time for the Citadel and we are keen to find an Executive Director that will continue to shape the Citadel’s role and contribution to Edmonton,” concluded Witwicky.

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For more information, contact:

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Interested candidates should visit <http://www.citadeltheatre.com/involved/employment-opportunities/> for more information about the recruitment.

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