

November 10, 2021

A statement from The Citadel Theatre:

### **Content Warning: Discusses Sexual Assault and Exploitation**

Last week Edmonton Police Services issued a media release stating that they had charged Patrick Howarth with sexual assault and exploitation of a minor dating back to 2006 when he was employed with the University of Alberta and The Citadel Theatre. In addition to these facts, our own internal investigation revealed to us that Howarth has worked on contract as an actor, fight director and instructor multiple times at the Citadel over the past 15 years, and we want to reiterate our unequivocal support for all survivors of any kind of violence.

We grieve with all people who have experienced sexual violence in our community. When it affects the theatre community, as this has, it reinforces the need to work even harder in our efforts to ensure the Citadel is a safe space for everyone who works with us.

The development of a culture of safety and consent in our theatre community is a priority for our team. We are committed to finding ways to support survivors and create a safe and supportive place for people to experience, learn and grow in the theatre. This is a journey, and we are actively seeking out more opportunities to adapt our policies, hiring and vetting processes, and training in any way that improves our ability to make this a safe space.

We are working closely with the Edmonton Police Service to provide all the information they require and will continue to provide any support they need in their investigation.

We have reactivated an independent third-party support contact for people who may have concerns about violence of any kind within our theatre community. We encourage anyone who would like to disclose information anonymously or otherwise to reach out:

**The Citadel Theatre Disclosure Program** - The Citadel Theatre Disclosure Program facilitates reports of wrongdoing and ensures that there is a safe space for the "Citadel Community" to come forward to share concerns related to their employment or experiences with Citadel Theatre. Users can expect a reporter-led, trauma-informed process that enables them to share their experience, understand their options (if any) for resolution and access resources.

The program will offer telephone and e-mail as a first point of contact with the option for a follow up conversation/meeting with a disclosure advisor. Participants will be given the option of meeting with a male or female advisor.

**Email:** [citadeldisclosure@telus.net](mailto:citadeldisclosure@telus.net)

**Telephone #:** 780-566-8819

The Citadel Theatre stands with all survivors of sexual violence, and will continue to offer any support we can to survivors, their families or anyone else who is impacted by violence of any kind in our community.

Please also consider these resources if you need additional support, have questions, or would like to report a crime:

1. **SACE Support and Information Line** - The SACE Support and Information Line is available daily from 9 am to 9 pm. This line is available for anyone who has experienced sexual assault or abuse, as well as to those who are supporting anyone impacted by it. Call 780-423-4121 to be connected to a volunteer trained in supportive listening.
2. **Alberta's One Line for Sexual Violence** - SACE has partnered with Alberta's One Line for Sexual Violence to help provide phone, text, and chat support to all Albertans who have been impacted by sexual violence. Trained volunteers are available every day from 9 am to 9 pm. Call or text 1-866-403-8000 for support. Interpretation services in over 200 languages are also available (phone calls only).
3. **Edmonton Police Service** - The EPS encourages any other complainants or anyone with information regarding these incidents to contact the EPS at 780-423-4567 or #377 from a mobile phone. Anonymous information can also be submitted to Crime Stoppers at 1-800-222-8477 or online at [www.p3tips.com/250](http://www.p3tips.com/250).
4. **The Citadel Executive Leadership** – Daryl Cloran ([dcloran@citadeltheatre.com](mailto:dcloran@citadeltheatre.com)) and Sarah Pocklington ([spocklington@citadeltheatre.com](mailto:spocklington@citadeltheatre.com)) are available to answer any questions or provide additional support.



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