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NEWS RELEASE

Calgary Stampede Showband earns honours in Europe

Calgary – The Calgary Stampede Showband has earned high marks competing in two prestigious marching show band competitions in The Netherlands. Last Sunday, they participated in the World Association of Marching Show Bands (WAMSB) and the World Music Contest (WMC) competitions.

In the WAMSB event, they scored 92.10 (max. 100), finishing 0.90 points behind the winning Thailand entry and ahead of the third-place band from Japan. In the WMC Show Competition, the Stampede Band earned 92.54 points for third place, their best ever placing in that competition. They were also named WMC International Marching Champions.

“We are immensely proud of our band members,” says Mike Jewitt, Calgary Stampede Showband Director. “To compete and perform at a world-class level, representing Calgary and Canada, re-affirms our place among the best in the world. It is also a strong statement about the educational program of the Calgary Stampede and its emphasis on youth development.”

Both competitions involve the presentation of a 12-minute moving field show. Before a near sell-out audience of 18,000 in the Parkstad-Limburg Stadium in Kerkrade, the Stampede Band produced a fast-paced, emotional presentation ending with a difficult full-band rotating square movement and a standing ovation.

The Calgary Stampede Showband is a world-class brass and woodwind ensemble and official representative of the Calgary Exhibition and Stampede since 1971. Its 135 members are drawn from Calgary and area with ages ranging from 16 to 21. Two-time WAMSB World Champions, the Stampede Band is internationally recognized for its innovative and emotional performances integrating music, choreography, dance and song.

The Band returns to Calgary on Thursday, Aug 6: Air Transat Flight TS 861, at 1 p.m.

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The Calgary Stampede is a volunteer-supported, not-for-profit community organization that preserves and promotes western heritage and values. The Stampede contributes to the quality of life in Calgary and southern Alberta through its world-renowned 10-day Stampede, year-round facilities, western events and several youth and agriculture programs. All revenue is reinvested into Calgary Stampede programs and facilities. For more about the Stampede, visit www.calgarystampede.com.

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