

# CCA chosen as Culture Days feature celebration site

## Preparations underway all over the city for the provincially-celebrated weekend

**KIRSTEN GORUK**  
Herald-Tribune staff

In just over a month the province will celebrate Alberta Culture Days. Here in Grande Prairie, preparations continue, and with the Centre for Creative Arts chosen as a feature celebration site, the excitement is constantly building.

One of five feature celebration sites in the province, the title comes with additional grant money from the government to help those areas celebrate during the weekend of Sept. 27-29. Candace Hook, executive director with the CCA says that the money, which will be around \$19,000, will be used to promote and fund activities all over the city.

"It's really fun what we do with that money because rather than concentrating it all on the events we can do here at the centre, we partner with other local cultural organizations," she says.

"So we have film screening

planned that are being run through the Reel Shorts Film Festival over at (Second Street Theatre) and there's events going on at the library and the gallery."

As always, the Art Gallery of Grande Prairie will have special events and artwork to mark the weekend and the Beaverlodge Area Cultural Society has also been chosen as a host celebration site this year.

Work on one particular event, the centre's Wearable Arts Show is already underway, as the deadline for interested artists came and went on Aug. 19. Hooks says this year should be just as visually stunning as the ones before.

"We've had great interest. Almost everyone who's participated in past years has expressed an interest in coming back again this

year, plus we've added new artists. It's just one of those things that gets bigger and better every year," she says.

There will be two fashion

shows during the weekend, one that's free to the public, but only has room for the first 100 people and a second one requires tickets costing \$30. Those tickets will be on sale starting in September.

"It's a very unique event and it's a really big city event for Grande Prairie. It's something that we do here, one time a year and we've had a huge response. Everyone who comes to it definitely comes back again," Hook says.

Hook remains grateful for the support from both the provincial and federal governments when it comes to Alberta Culture Days, which fall into Canada Culture Days. It's a great feeling for her to see so many organizations come together to support culture and she believes that the general public is now also keen to get involved.

"I think now that it's been around for a few years, people are starting to really recognize it. They know when they hear that, that there's some fantastic programming coming up."

More information about the weekend's schedule will be released in a few weeks. For details, check out [www.creativecentre.ca](http://www.creativecentre.ca) or watch the DHT for more coverage closer to the date.

[kirsten.goruk@sunmedia.ca](mailto:kirsten.goruk@sunmedia.ca)

Twitter: @DHTKirsten



**"It's really fun what we do with that money because rather than concentrating it all on the events we can do here at the centre, we partner with other local cultural organizations."**

*Candace Hook  
CCA executive director*





DHT FILE PHOTO

Alexandra Lambricht models a outfit titled 'Organic' at the Centre for Creative Arts Wearable Arts Show last. Deanne Smith made the outfit out of plant matter and natural items. The popular fashion is a part of the CCA's Alberta Culture Days celebrations and several artists are returning with new creations for next month's presentation.