

Media Release

Local music collection launched through EPL's Capital City Records

Digital public space curates Edmonton's music and its history

For immediate release:

EDMONTON, AB, August 5, 2015 – Albums by 46 local Edmonton musicians are now available for free streaming and download, thanks to the Edmonton Public Library's (EPL) first digital public space.

[Capital City Records: Edmonton Local Music](#) was developed to celebrate and promote Edmonton-made music, while also building an ongoing historical record of the local music scene. Anyone can stream the albums online and Edmontonians with a free library card can also download tracks.

"EPL is thrilled to launch this innovative and community-informed initiative," said Pam Ryan, Director of Collections and Technology at EPL. "We're proud to promote and share some incredible local music talent with Edmontonians.

"We are also committed to making the Capital City Records platform fully open source so any public library can use it to work with and celebrate their local music community."

To kick off the project, EPL began looking for EPs and full-length albums of any genre in February 2015. Over 120 albums were submitted and a jury consisting of members of the local music community made the selections. Jurors include Quarters Arts Society artistic director Lori Gawryluik, iHuman Youth Society music coordinator Enoch Attey, CJSR program manager Chad Brunet, Edmonton Journal music writer Sandra Sperounes and Alberta Music executive director Chris Wynters.

Whether you feel like rocking out to Electricity for Everybody!, jamming to Shout Out Out Out Out during your next workout or relaxing to the folk refrains of Carrie Day, Capital City Records includes some of Edmonton's best local music produced in the last five years.

"Any and everything that connects artists and producers with fans and consumers is something I can get behind, and quite frankly this one is one of those: 'Why didn't anybody think of this before?'" said Tom Brent of the band Columbus.

"We are very proud to be a part of the launch of Capital City Records," said Douglas Mitchell of the band vera. "So much of the music being made here in Edmonton - across all genres - is honest and heartfelt art. At its best, music reminds us of how connected we are to each other, so any efforts to make it more accessible is a positive for the art form and the community it springs out of.

Spread the words.

“In vera, we make the music we do to be heard and felt, and Capital City Records has set up a system where the artists are respected while the public can freely partake.”

Input from Edmonton’s music community helped shape Capital City Records, starting with the 2014 unconference YEG BandCamp. Along with curating music with the jury, EPL is telling stories about music history with over 150 local concert posters going back to the 1970s. Anyone interested in sharing a concert poster collection can contact localmusic@epl.ca.

The music collection, meanwhile, will grow by 100 albums per year with each accepted musician being awarded a small honorarium. The next call for submissions is tentatively scheduled for Fall 2015. For more information, visit capitalcityrecords.ca.

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About the Edmonton Public Library

The Edmonton Public Library (EPL) is proud to be [2014 Library of the Year!](#) We’ve come a long way since 1913 when books were all you could find on our shelves... and we’re just getting started! Today, EPL carries everything you care about. We are Edmonton’s largest lender of all manner of information and entertainment. Our professionally trained staff take you beyond Google with the knowledge, discernment and desire to help you navigate a universe of information. The second most visited place in Edmonton, every year EPL hosts over 14 million in-branch and online visits across our 19 branches and website. We deliver our incredible content to you everywhere – in the library, at home or on your handheld device. Unmatched access and unrivalled value – that is today’s EPL. EPL is a registered charity and relies on donations to enhance services. Spread the words. www.epl.ca/donate.

For more information, contact

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