



**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

## **Songwriters celebrate Spirit Festival in Surrey, B.C.**

*Vancouver, B.C. February 3, 2011* – The Music BC Charitable Foundation and S.O.N.G. (Songwriters of a New Generation – formerly S.A.S.S.) present two days of concerts, keynotes, mentorship and workshops at the S.F.U. Campus in Surrey B.C. February 25<sup>th</sup> and 26<sup>th</sup>, 2011 celebrating songwriting as part of Surrey Winterfest.

This event is made possible through a generous contribution of funding from the B.C. Provincial Government through the Ministry of Community, Sport and Cultural Development Spirit Festival Program administered by the Assembly of BC Arts Councils.

The “Music BC S.O.N.G. School” will be open to all former and current S.O.N.G. students and all Music BC members free of charge (keynotes, songwriter circle and alumni concert are open to the public as set out below). The program will feature a Friday evening keynote and songwriting circle (where songwriters play and talk about their songs) including **Shaun Verreault** (Wide Mouth Mason) and **Kyprios**. Saturday will feature a songwriting keynote and break-out songwriting mentor/workshops in the afternoon. In the late afternoon, S.O.N.G. alumni will perform live to the public in the S.F.U. Campus mezzanine.

As the Executive Director of the Music BC Charitable Foundation, Bob D’Eith was pleased to say, “We are very excited to offer this incredible program as part of the province of B.C Spirit Festival programming. Music students and professionals will come together in a very intimate and creative environment to celebrate, perform and learn about songwriting”.

Don McLeod, Founder of S.O.N.G. adds, “S.O.N.G. is already in many schools around the province bringing songwriting to students as a form of creative expression. Presenting this program as part of Surrey Winterfest will demonstrate what our students have achieved over the past few years while introducing new students to songwriting.”

## **Event Details:**

**Date: Friday February 25<sup>th</sup>, 2011**

Venue: S.F.U. Theatre, Surrey Campus  
250-13450 102 Avenue Surrey, BC

Time: 5:30 – 6:00 pm Registration  
6:00 – 7:00 pm Keynote **Kyprios** – The Power of Words and Music  
7:00 - 10:00 pm Songwriter circle with Shaun Verreault, Kyprios, Jeff Johnson, Kevin Gau and Steph Lang.

*Priority will be given to Music BC Members and S.O.N.G. students past and present. A limited number of performance tickets will be open to the public for purchase through Music BC and at the door (\$15.00 plus applicable fees and taxes).*

**Date: Saturday February 26<sup>th</sup>, 2011**

Venue: S.F.U. Theatre, Surrey Campus

Time: 10:00 am registration  
11:00 am – 12:00 pm Keynote **Shaun Verreault** - A Career in Songwriting  
12:30 pm – 5:00 pm songwriting workshops and mentoring (with Don McLeod, Kyprios, Jeff Johnson and Kevin Gau)

*Priority will be given to Music BC Members and S.O.N.G. students past and present. A limited number of workshop tickets will be open to the public for purchase through Music BC and at the door (\$20.00 plus applicable fees and taxes).*

*Note: public may purchase tickets for all events at a cost of \$30.00 plus applicable fees and taxes.*

**Date: Saturday February 26<sup>th</sup>, 2011**

Venue: S.F.U. Surrey Mezzanine Stage

Time: 5:30 – 6:30 S.O.N.G. Alumni **The Knots** and Brandon Lehti from **The Latency**

*This is a free concert open to the public.*

WinterFest is Surrey's Premiere Music, Sports and Art Festival, which marks the one-year commemoration of the 2010 Winter Olympic and Paralympic Games and celebrates the legacy of Surrey's participation in the Games. The festival will feature some of BC's hottest bands on the main stage, including recording artists Hot Hot Heat and Peak Performance Project winner Kyprios, plus an amazing array of winter fun activities. The festival takes place Saturday, February 26 at Central City Plaza and SFU Surrey. Gates open at 12:00 noon and admission is free.

**Music BC Charitable Foundation** is a non-profit society, providing support for music education and musicians in British Columbia. Music BC is proud to administer the S.O.N.G. program teaching songwriting in B.C. schools and throughout B.C. communities. Please visit <http://www.musicbcfoundation.org/>.

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For more information or to interview a representative of Music BC, please contact Bob D'Eith at (604) 873-1914 or [bob@musicbc.org](mailto:bob@musicbc.org)

Registration and ticketing are available online at [www.musicbcfoundation.org](http://www.musicbcfoundation.org). For questions about registration and ticketing please contact Savannah Wellman at [savannah@musicbc.org](mailto:savannah@musicbc.org) or call (604) 873-1914.