

For Immediate release: July 13
Peterborough, Ontario
Heartstrings:
A Concert to Celebrate and Support
Willie P Bennett

Willie P Bennett is known as the quiet hero of Canadian Music, but after a heart attack last May a loud chorus of supporters have come forth to sing his praise and put together a gala concert designed as both a tribute and a benefit to help aid Bennett's recovery.

As soon as The Heartstrings concert, named after Bennett's Juno winning album, was announced three weeks ago literally dozens of people stepped forward to contribute to the show, including volunteer organizers, sponsors and a number of performers. Donations are coming in from all over the globe in recognition of the contributions that Bennett has made throughout his musical career.

Hank (Washboard) Fisher a long-time friend and one-time band mate explains why Bennett inspires the vast outpouring of support that Heartstrings is generating. "Willie is one of handful of what I'd call musical wizards. When you see him perform, on his own or with Fred Eaglesmith, you get the sense that it's not just some guy trying hard up there. It's a master craftsman delivering perfection."

Blackie and the Rodeo Kings, Heartstring's headliner, are a testament to this masterful perfection. This Canadian super group formed out of a love for the work of Willie P. Bennett and has gone on to great success as a part-time recording and touring act. Each of the three members of Blackie and the Rodeo Kings, Stephen Fearing, Colin Linden and Tom Wilson, has his own successful recording and touring career.

Fred Eaglesmith hosts Heartstrings in the hope of raising enough money so his loyal right-hand-man Bennett can afford the downtime and medication he requires to get better. Eaglesmith welcomes not only Blackie and the Rodeo Kings but also a list of guests who will help make Heartstrings a show to be remembered for some time. Guests include Washboard Hank, Liam Titcomb, The Shiners, Brock Zeman & Dan Walsh, Jesse Reid, Rev Ken and Rick Kane.

Heartstrings, July 27, 8 pm, Market Hall Performing Arts Centre Tickets, \$55.00, are available from the www.fredeaglesmith.com online store, and also at Titles Bookstore, and Moondance in downtown Peterborough. For more information contact the Hall at (705) 749-1146 www.markethall.org or www.williepbennett.com

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