



**Arts Centre for Edson Society Press Release  
January 14, 2013  
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**ACES Announces New Slogan: “Arts & Culture Matter”**

The words “Arts & Culture Matter” have never had a truer meaning than to represent the work done by the Arts Centre for Edson Society (ACES). The group, formed in 2007, advocates for the arts and culture community in Edson and area, and for the future development of a new performing arts facility in Edson.

“Arts and culture is alive and well in our community,” says ACES President Peter Taylor. “There are so many groups and individuals who do such great work. ACES wants these people to know that we admire their passion for the arts and we want to give them a place to call home.”

That home is in the vision ACES puts forward to see a 500 seat theatre and visual arts gallery attached to the Edson and District Recreation Complex.

Taylor mentions that many arts and culture groups volunteer throughout the community each and every year. “When you see the amazing work done by all these groups in town, you begin to see just how important arts and culture is to the fabric of our community,” he says. “Our new slogan, arts and culture matter, goes right to the heart of that message.” Taylor mentions that the new facility would not just focus on the arts as the Rec Complex would be retrofitted with an insulated curling rink, viewing bleachers in the curling rink, and large door connecting the new theatre with the curling rink making the venue possible to hold large concerts and banquets.

With the new slogan, ACES continues to advocate that a new theatre is a top priority. This need can be seen by the extremely high number of events happening in Edson each year combined the number of attendees.

“We have seen a large number of events happen in Edson where a large audience comes out to support it,” says ACES and Creative Campus Member Tracy Templeton. A number of events she refers to is the Rotary Sundays in the Park (2000 people attend), Chautauqua season (over 700 people attend), and both Holy Redeemer and Pine Grove School productions (over 1600 audience members each). “These numbers clearly showcase a need for a new performing arts venue and place for these artists to appropriately showcase their work. And audiences are willing to attend to fill those seats.”

In addition to the many local events each year, Edson is has been blessed to have a number of special events over the last few years including Travis Tritt (1100 audience members) and the Edson Centennial Celebrations that saw the Edmonton Symphony Orchestra and the Shumka Dancers have over 700 audiences members each.

In the coming months, expect to see ACES at a number of arts and culture events and the Edson and District Trade Show, along with some presentations showcasing their work to Yellowhead County Council, the Edson Business Support Network and the Edson and District Chamber of Commerce.

“The main message we’re trying to get to the public is arts and culture matter,” says Taylor. “And if they respect the work of the artists and professionals that help to make our community better, then they will see a new theatre as a definite need.”

If you would like more information on this article please feel free to contact Peter Taylor, President of ACES at 780-725-2006, visit their website: [artscentreforedson.ca](http://artscentreforedson.ca) or join the Facebook page: “Arts Centre for Edson Society”.