

For Immediate Release: April 8, 2022

**Mill Creek Colliery Band
'Gateway to the Future'
Saturday, May 7, 7:30pm**

Edmonton's well-loved brass band, the **Mill Creek Colliery Band** has been entertaining audiences in greater Edmonton area and beyond for 20 years. To celebrate this landmark anniversary, the band is inviting friends, fans, former members, and connoisseurs of fine music to its 20th anniversary gala concert, on Saturday, May 7th, 7:30pm, at Robertson Wesley United Church (10209 – 123 St. NW, Edmonton). The audience will not only experience brass banding at its best, but will be thrilled with the artistry of the band's special guest, renowned trumpet/cornet virtuoso **Ashley Hall**. Furthermore, the audience will be treated to two world premieres of Canadian compositions!

Edmonton's own 28-piece brass band, under the leadership of principal conductor **David Hoyt**, will wrap up its 20th season with a program of beautiful and exciting music including: *Through the Flames* (P. Lovatt-Cooper), *Academic Festival Overture* (J. Brahms/ D. Wright), *Love Changes Everything* (A. Lloyd Webber/ S. Bulla), and *HMS Pinafore* (A. Sullivan/ G. Sommerset). The band will pay tribute to its beloved first conductor, **Malcolm Forsyth**, by performing one of many pieces Malcolm composed/arranged for the band, *Musical Priest*. **Ashley Hall** will be featured in two solos, the highly demanding *Concerto for Cornet* (P. Sparke) and the moving *Share My Yoke* (J. Webb/I. Bosanko), both accompanied by the band. We are delighted to present the world premiere of *Gateway*, a piece commissioned for this occasion from Canadian composer **Marcus Venables**. The piece honours Edmonton's history as 'Gateway to the North' and celebrates the band's bold strides into a bright and exciting future. The band is also honoured and proud to feature a world premier brass band version of the 13th Regiment March, originally composed in 1883 by Canadian composer, Ernest Lavigne, and arranged by one of its long-time members and current hornist, **Carol Thurgood**. To cap off a fine program, the band will honour the many fine musicians who have contributed enormously to the its success over two decades by performing a the march, *Blaze Away* (A. Holzmann). Former members of the band are invited to bring their instruments to the concert and join the band in this performance, conducted by former principal conductor **Aaron Au**. We are also excited to have Aaron join us as compère for the evening.

Tickets are \$25 (students/seniors \$20). Youth and children under 18 are free.

Tickets are available at the door, or in advance through TIX ON THE SQUARE [Charge-by-phone 780-420-1757 or on line at www.tixonthesquare.ca]

Contact: 780-431-2437, info@millcreekbrass.ca