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## **Universal Music Canada donates archive of music label EMI Music Canada to University of Calgary**

**Partnership with National Music Centre offers public access for education and celebration of music**

On March 31, 2016, the University of Calgary announced a gift from Universal Music Canada of the complete archive of EMI Music Canada. Universal Music Canada acquired the archive when Universal Music Group purchased EMI Music in 2012.

The University of Calgary has partnered with the National Music Centre (NMC) to collaborate on opportunities for the public to celebrate music in Canada through educational programming and exhibitions that highlight the archive at NMC's new facility, Studio Bell. This partnership began with NMC's critical role in connecting the university with Universal Music Canada.

The EMI Music Canada Archive will be accessible to students, researchers and music fans in Calgary and around the world. The University of Calgary has also partnered with the National Music Centre to collaborate on opportunities for the public to celebrate music in Canada through educational programming and exhibitions that highlight the archive.

### **About the EMI Music Canada Archive**

The EMI Music Canada Archive documents 63 years of the music industry in Canada, from 1949 to 2012.

The collection consists of 5,500 boxes containing more than 18,000 video recordings, 21,000 audio recordings and more than two million documents and photographs.

More than 40 different recording formats are represented: quarter-inch, half-inch, one-inch and two-inch reel-to-reel tapes, U-matic tapes, film, DATs, vinyl, Betacam, VHS, cassette tapes, compact discs and DVDs.

The archive includes master recordings, publicity photos, demo tapes, album cover art, creative outlines for music videos, marketing plans, awards, drafts of song lyrics and correspondence between artists, producers, engineers and EMI Music Canada executives.

The EMI Music Canada Archive includes audio-visual recordings of more than 2,500 Canadian and international artists.

There are approximately 13,000 original audio session tapes and master recordings (an estimated 4,200 hours), 3,100 original studio two-inch multi-track reels (an estimated 700 hours of audio recordings), 183,000 metres (600,000 ft.) of film and 5,000 compact discs.

Archives are measured in linear metres. If the boxes containing the EMI Music Canada Archive were lined up end-to-end, they would stretch 1,700 linear metres (1.7 kilometres) or 5,600 ft. (just over one mile).

Because of the immensity of the EMI Music Canada Archive, the collection will be transferred in multiple shipments over the next few years. The bulk of the archive is currently housed in a climate-controlled storage facility in Toronto.

The EMI Music Canada Archive is the single largest collection in the University of Calgary's archival holdings, which include substantial collections such as the John P. L. Roberts Music Collection and the Canadian Architectural Archives.

### **About EMI Music Canada**

Established in 1949, EMI Music Canada included Capitol Records Canada and was the recording company for a range of Canadian artists and the distributor of international music.

EMI Music Canada was headquartered in Toronto with branch offices in Vancouver, Calgary and Montreal.

Capitol Records Canada, under EMI Music Canada, was the first label in North America to release The Beatles and Pink Floyd. The 1963 singles by The Beatles "Love Me Do," "Please Please Me" and "From Me to You" were released in Canada months before "She Loves You," the band's first release in the United States.

EMI Music Canada distributed over 50 Canadian independent record labels.

EMI Music Canada was the first company to sign an all-First Nations label, First Nations Music Wawataqy Recordings, and the first to distribute a hip-hop label, Beat Factory, in Canada.

### **Artists represented in the EMI Music Canada Archive**

EMI Music Canada signed or distributed more than 200 Canadian artists over its 63-year history. These include Tom Cochrane, Anne Murray, Glass Tiger, the Rankin Family, Helix, Paul Anka, Guy Lombardo, John McDermott, the Tea Party, Moist, the Band, Gil Evans, Maynard Ferguson, Sarah McLachlan, Rita MacNeil, Colin James, Burton Cummings, David Usher, Kim Mitchell, Nickelback, Sylvia Tyson, Murray McLaughlan, Red Rider, Susan Aglukark, k-os, Econoline Crush, Stompin' Tom Connors, Robbie Robertson, Lisa Del Bello/Dalbello, Rush, Grapes of Wrath, David Wilcox, Luba, April Wine, Beau Dommage, St. Lawrence String Quartet, Shirley Eikhard, Streetheart, Dream Warriors, Pierre Lalonde, I Mother Earth, the Watchmen and Prism.

While focusing on the development of Canadian talent, EMI Music Canada and Capitol Records Canada also distributed the music of top international artists including the Rolling Stones, David Bowie, Duran Duran, Frank Sinatra, The Beatles, the Beach Boys, Garth Brooks, Kenny Rogers, Pink Floyd, Alice Cooper, Iron Maiden, Megadeth, Steve Miller Band, Heart, Pet Shop Boys, Crowded House, Janet Jackson, Tina Turner, Smashing Pumpkins, Radiohead, MC Hammer, the Spice Girls, Robert Palmer, Stevie Ray Vaughn, Glen Campbell, Bonnie Raitt, Kingston Trio, Norah Jones, Cliff Richards, Barry Manilow, Paul McCartney, Wings, John Lennon, George Harrison, Ringo Starr, Kate Bush, Nitty Gritty Dirt Band, Poison, Queen, UB40, The Knack, Dean Martin, Joe Cocker, Miles Davis and Nat King Cole.

### **Vision for the EMI Music Canada Archive**

The EMI Music Canada Archive will be managed by the University of Calgary's Archives and Special Collections.

Scholars in music and the performing arts, business, communications and cultural studies will have access to a rich archive of textual documents and audiovisual objects that show the development of music in Canada.

From a cultural heritage perspective, this archive dramatically enhances the collection and capacity of Libraries and Cultural Resources and will present rich professional, curatorial and technological opportunities for information

professionals motivated to develop outstanding collections and services for the scholarly community locally, nationally and internationally.

Libraries and Cultural Resources will work with the Faculty of Arts, the School of Creative and Performing Arts and other academic departments and faculties to develop instructional and curricular programming that incorporates these rich primary sources into learning opportunities for our undergraduate and graduate students. This rich trove of historical information will both support and ignite our faculty members' research.

The University of Calgary's partnership with the National Music Centre (NMC) will make the EMI Music Canada Archive accessible to music fans and the general public. They will collaborate on opportunities for the public to celebrate music in Canada through educational programming and exhibitions that highlight the archive and establish Calgary as a hub for the preservation and celebration of Canadian music.

### **About Libraries and Cultural Resources (LCR), University of Calgary**

Libraries and Cultural Resources (LCR) operates eight University of Calgary libraries on campus and across the city. Included in LCR are two art galleries — the Nickle Galleries and the Founders' Gallery at The Military Museums of Calgary — as well as Archives and Special Collections, the University of Calgary Copyright Office, Research Data Centre and the University of Calgary Press.

LCR develops, preserves and provides access to archival materials as well as large collections of print, digital and three-dimensional objects. This unique organizational structure provides a key strategic advantage to students and researchers and makes information readily available in various formats.

The acquisition of the EMI Music Canada Archive is a significant development that supports LCR's vision of building a leading special collections program that is recognized across Canada and internationally. The EMI Music Canada Archive contributes to the University of Calgary's strengths in music-related collections which include an extensive Visual and Performing Arts collection and the John Roberts Music Collection, which documents the development of 40 years of classical music in Canada, including pieces commissioned by Roberts during his career as Head of CBC Radio Music.

The gift of the EMI Music Canada Archive represents a major milestone in the progress of *Energize: The Campaign for Eyes High*, the University of Calgary's multi-year fundraising campaign currently underway. The campaign aims to positively charge our campus community, our city and beyond with student experience to unleash potential, research outcomes to benefit society, and community connections to strengthen our ties.

### **About Universal Music Canada (UMC)**

Universal Music Canada, a unit of Universal Music Group, is Canada's leading music company. Its businesses also include Universal Music Publishing Group, the industry's leading global music publishing operation. Universal Music Group is a unit of Vivendi, a global media and communications company. For further information on Universal Music Canada, please visit [www.universalmusic.ca](http://www.universalmusic.ca).

### **About the National Music Centre (NMC)**

NMC is a national catalyst for discovery, innovation and renewal through music. In its new home at Studio Bell in Calgary's East Village, NMC will preserve and celebrate Canada's music story and inspire a new generation of music lovers through programming that includes on-site and outreach education program, performances, artist incubation and exhibitions. For more information, please visit [studiobell.ca](http://studiobell.ca).

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## **About the University of Calgary**

The University of Calgary is making tremendous progress on its journey to become one of Canada's top five research universities, where research and innovative teaching go hand in hand, and where we fully engage the communities we both serve and lead. This strategy is called *Eyes High*, inspired by the university's Gaelic motto, which translates as 'I will lift up my eyes.'

*For more information, visit [ucalgary.ca](http://ucalgary.ca). Stay up to date with University of Calgary news headlines on Twitter @UCalgary. For details on faculties and how to reach experts go to our media centre at [ucalgary.ca/news/media](http://ucalgary.ca/news/media).*