



PRINCE GEORGE  
SYMPHONY  
ORCHESTRA

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

## Mass Choir Joins the PGSO for Opera Event

### 180 choral singers from around BC to participate in *'O' is for Opera* concert

Prince George, BC – The Prince George Symphony Orchestra (PGSO) and the Prince George Cantata Singers are joining forces to stage a major musical event. *'O' is for Opera* is the PGSO's final concert of the season and the highlight of this year's Chorifest celebration. Choristers from across the province will attend the three day choral conference, culminating in a mass choir performance of some of the most popular and beloved opera music. *'O' is for Opera* takes place Sunday May 22, 2011 at 3 pm at the Prince George Civic Centre. Tickets available at Studio 2880 or at the door.

Chorifest is an annual provincial choral conference returning to Prince George for the first time since 1985. The Prince George Cantata Singers is the host choir for Chorifest 2011. This year's opera theme will give local audience members the rare treat of hearing great opera choruses sung by a 180 voice choir with full orchestral accompaniment. The concert will be memorable for other reasons.

"On top of the magnificent choral pieces that we're having, we are happy to present soprano Sarah Kirsch as a featured soloist," said Ruth Langner, general manager of the PGSO. "But this is also a bittersweet concert for us because our Maestro will be leaving us after this."

PGSO conductor and music director Leslie Dala is wrapping up his last season with the orchestra after eight years at the podium. *'O' is for Opera* will be a fitting showcase of Dala's talents and musical range, drawing on his experience with symphonic music, opera, and contemporary works. A reception following the concert will provide an opportunity to say farewell to Dala.

The Prince George Symphony Orchestra is the only semi-professional orchestra of its kind in Northern BC. This season celebrates a landmark achievement, the 40th year the PGSO has been performing quality live music for the citizens of Prince George and surrounding communities. The orchestra produces a full season of main stage concerts as well as children's concerts, outreach concerts, a variety of educational activities, chamber music, and recitals.

For more information or to schedule an interview, please contact Ruth Langner at 250-562-0800 or gm@pgso.com. Photos are also available.