## **EUROFEST BC SOCIETY**



EUROPEAN FESTIVAL \* EUROPE DAY



Mr. Peter Julian Member of Parliament for Burnaby South 7615 Sixth Street Burnaby BC V3N 3M6

Esteemed Mr. Peter Julian,

Metro Vancouver has been Celebrating its European Heritage at the European Festival since 1998. The festival is a great opportunity to highlight not only our European heritage but to promote European culture amongst non-European Canadians. This two day event that will take place at Swangard Stadium in Burnaby, will be packed with entertainment for everyone in the family.

This year, 30 European nations are directly involved in the festival which is expected to attract more than 10,000 visitors and many public figures and dignitaries, from Mayors and MLA's to MP's and Members of the Consular Corps.

One of the highlights of the Festival is the Official Opening Ceremony during which each country present has the opportunity to proudly fly its flag in the Flag Parade. As you may imagine this is a source of great pride for all and inspires the youth to identify with its roots.

Other components of the festival are the Ethnic Dance Performances that happen on the main stage for most of the two days. The Cultural Exhibits that allow participating countries to display information about their history and promote tourism and the Arts Exhibits which serve to highlight the connection between the "old country" and Canada.

We must also not forget the much loved Food Tent. Here visitors can sample various ethnic European dishes, many of which are not generally available in the local restaurant market. In case you are wondering we will also have a Beer garden, this year sponsored by KROMBACHER, one of the bestselling beers in Germany.

It is therefore my privilege to invite you and your guest to Participate in this year's European Festival Opening Ceremony, and to say a few words to all present (please restrict comments to 3 minutes).

European Festival Flag Parade May 31<sup>st</sup>, 2014 2:30 – 3:00pm Swangard Stadium, Burnaby Directly after the Parade, you are invited to a reception in the VIP room organized by our 2014 Feature Nations – Germany and Métis (with wine sponsored by the Consul General of Germany).

Reserved Parking will be available on the Impark Parking Lot at Boundary and Kingsway and your two complementary tickets will be available at the will call booth. The flag parade will commence at 2:30 sharp and all participants are requested to meet in the designated VIP meeting room at the South East Corner of the Grand Stand prior to the parade. Volunteers will be available to guide you at the event. Further instructions regarding the parade will be given during that meeting since the Parade route etc. will depend on weather conditions. Should you have any questions please do not hesitate to contact me directly.

We thank-you for your consideration and look forward to having you in attendance at this year's festival.

Yours sincerely

António Capela

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