

Media Release: Edmonton, AB August 1, 2007

Global Country is launching a campaign to ensure that we preserve some key elements that are so important to our Canadian music heritage. First, Global Country extends its support to the Canadian Country Music Hall Of Fame (CCMHF). The Hall of Fame is located in Calgary on the Stampede grounds. This is the only national Canadian Country Music Hall of Fame, paying tribute to artists from coast to coast, and home of the official Canadian Country Music Association's (CCMA's) inductees. Gary Buck, the founder of the CCMHF passed away 3-1/2 years ago. The Hall is currently with the estate and now owned by Mrs. Gary (Deb) Buck. It is hoped that it will be settled shortly. Some years ago Global Country was the custodian of the CCMA's Country Music Hall of Honour inductee plagues and memorabilia that were located in the Edmonton Convention Center. When the Canadian Country Music Hall of Fame relocated to Calgary after being in two provinces, Kitchener-Waterloo, Ontario and Swift Current, Saskatchewan: Global Country and the CCMA moved the plaques and memorabilia to the Canadian Country Music Hall Of Fame in Calgary. Now that the Hall is in limbo and only open ten days per year during the Calgary Stampede Global Country has come to the support in helping the foundation (Country Music Hall of Fame Foundation) to keep the Hall of Fame alive and well. Maryanne Gibson, President/CEO, Global Country, spent the week during the 2007 Calgary Stampede at the Hall of Fame providing assistance and reviewing the content of the Hall itself. Visitors came from Australia, England, various US states, Ontario, the Maritimes and Alberta. They were able to learn about the history of Canadian Country artists and view the plaques and memorabilia.

<u>Second</u>, **Global Country** continues its pursuit in building a **Country Music Centre** that will feature Canada's Grand Old Opry. Details on this project can be found on the **Global Country** website: **www.globalcountry.ca**

We have three elements in this country that will keep country music alive and well in Canada. Those are (1) *The Canadian Country Music Hall Of Fame*; (2) the proposed *Country Music Centre* featuring the Grand Old Opry; and (3) *Country Music News (CMN)*.

The long-term uncertainty of the *Canadian Country Music Hall of Fame* and the proposed *Country Music Centre* brings concern to us at *Global Country*. We need to ensure that all elements are kept. Once they are gone we have lost our history and the work of pioneers like Gary Buck, *Global Country*, and many other folks, will have gone for not.

Country Music News (Canada's only surviving country music newspaper) continues to bring to us news from all across Canada. We certainly appreciate the efforts of *CMN* Publisher/Editor Larry Delaney who continues to keep that alive. Please support *Country Music News* with your advertising and subscription.

Your support in this initiative is needed. If we all work together there is a chance that nothing will be lost.

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