

## Media Advisory *for immediate release*

Radical Access Tour May 22nd, 2009 beginning at Calgary's City Hall

The Disability Action Hall kicks off the week-long *Radical Access Tour* of The Cultural District at 10 am May 22<sup>nd</sup> in the atrium of the Calgary Municipal Building. The purpose of the tour is to celebrate businesses and public places that are truly inviting for all Calgarians to visit and enjoy.

At 10am, four teams armed with score cards and accompanied by accessibility experts and celebrity guests will head out in four directions to find the winners of the first *Welcoming City Awards*: The Most Thoughtful Building, The Howdy Award, The Mad Dash Award, and the Wild Card Award. The teams will look for innovative adaptations and good design, and will provide first-hand suggestions for quick and inexpensive upgrades that will make our DT buildings even more accessible and welcoming.

How welcoming is the heart of our city for people with various types of disabilities? The Public and Media are invited to hear the teams' discoveries at 11:30 am in the Atrium, and share in a discussion about the findings.

The winners will be announced at the Annual SPEAK OUT Pride Parade held at Olympic Plaza on Friday May 29th, 2009 from noon till 2. This event is made possible through the support of the Calgary SCOPE Society, Calgary Dollars Take Action Grant, The Arusha Centre and dedicated artists and volunteers whose passion is to create a thoughtfully designed city.

Score cards for self-guided Radical Access Tours and tips on how to make your businesses disability friendly will be available at [www.proudtobedisabled.com](http://www.proudtobedisabled.com). Everyone who submits a Radical Access Tour score sheet will be eligible for a \$50 gift certificate for The Palomino honky-tonk restaurant. So come on down, meet the teams and maybe even take the self-guided tour yourself - help us create a great city for all citizens!

**Who:** The Disability Action Hall and Friends  
**Where:** The Cultural District  
**When:** Kick off of tour begins Friday May 22nd 10 am in the Atrium of the Municipal Building  
**What:** Radical Access tour Challenge  
**Contact:** Colleen Huston, Disability Action Hall 403.717.7630 (b) or 403.473.3510 (c)

