



**Media Release
For immediate release**

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Market Hall's Dance Floor Named In Honour of Bill Kimball

Market Hall is pleased to announce a major group donation of \$45,130 to the Market Hall Performing Arts Centre in support of their *Community Fundraising Campaign*, to honour local arts champion Bill Kimball for his outstanding contribution to the arts in the region and his decades of support for the Market Hall.

In recognition of the \$45,130 raised by the "Friends of Bill Kimball", the Market Hall has **named the new sprung wooden dance floor, located in the main theatre, in honour of Bill Kimball.**

This group of donors wanted to recognize Kimball's outstanding achievements in the arts while supporting the restoration and renovation of the Market Hall. Peterborough's astonishing spirit of philanthropy and volunteerism powered this fundraising campaign to acknowledge two of this city's outstanding cultural icons – Kimball and the Market Hall.

"Bill Kimball has always understood Market Hall as the symbolic and historic heart of Peterborough and saw its potential as a fine performance space. He has been passionate and tireless over the years in keeping that vision alive as well as in fostering dance and the performing arts. It was exciting to witness not only the generosity, but also the tremendous enthusiasm and gratitude that so many people feel for Bill's years of commitment," says Barbara Chisholm, organizer of the group donation.

"Bill Kimball has watched the Market Hall transform over almost three decades and has been a real catalyst for change. He always puts his heart and soul into everything he undertakes and is a true visionary for Peterborough and the surrounding community," notes Karen August, general manager of Market Hall Performing Arts Centre.

Joining the individual contributions was a significant corporate donation of \$10,000 from LLF Lawyers, a strong supporter of our community's cultural endeavors. Says Randy Northey, Partner and Business Lawyer with LLF Lawyers - "The restoration and renovation of the Market Hall, in the very heart of our City, is a wonderful success story, both for Peterborough's performing arts community and for the downtown in general. When LLF Lawyers heard that an initiative was afoot to support Market Hall's fundraising campaign and, at the same time, recognize Bill Kimball for his leading role in our arts community, we really wanted to participate and show our appreciation."



The fund also included a \$5,000 donation from Kawartha Cardiology and a \$1,500 donation from The Bierk Art Fund. “The Bierk Art Fund at the Community Foundation of Greater Peterborough was created to honour the memory of Liz and David Bierk and to recognize their lifelong contribution to the arts. This legacy naming opportunity for Bill Kimball at the Market Hall is a perfect fit for the objectives of the fund and the kind of community building that is at the heart of the Community Foundation’s mandate.” - Andrea Dicks, Executive Director, Community Foundation of Greater Peterborough.

This generous contribution will help The Market Hall’s Community Fundraising Campaign reach its goal of \$1.2 million. Government funding from the Federal, Provincial and Municipal governments through the Infrastructure Stimulus Fund was also secured as a means of supporting the extensive renovations and restorations.

Kimball’s Growing Legacy

Kimball has worn many hats during his affiliation with the Market Hall. In 1983 he was part of the Artspace team - with David Bierk - that envisioned the Market Hall as an arts centre with state-of-the-art facilities. Bill’s role was to be the connection between the architect, the construction team and the future users of the space and he continued working there in various capacities, as a performance director, facility manager and dance curator, until 1994. That year he founded Peterborough New Dance (now known as Public Energy), a performance presentation organization that used the Market Hall as its principal venue.

When the Market Hall was threatened with being turned into a bingo hall in 1998, he helped organize the Friends of Market Hall and became a founding member of the Hall’s new board of directors. In 2010/2011 Market Hall Performing Arts Centre Inc. undertook an extensive renovation and restoration project and Bill became construction liaison for this Market Hall project and helped see the undertaking through to completion. The Market Hall is now newly renovated as a state-of-the-art performing arts centre, the culmination of a vision first put forward in 1983.

As Public Energy’s Artistic Producer and Executive Director, Bill Kimball is now busy gearing up for Public Energy’s 2011/2012 performance season. Public Energy’s home office is now located in the Market Hall and it acts as Public Energy’s principal presenting venue, making it clear that Kimball’s close affiliation with Market Hall continues as strongly as ever. Public Energy is best known for its dance, theatre, performance and interdisciplinary programming. Since 1994 Public Energy (formerly Peterborough New Dance) under Bill’s leadership, has:

- Presented a main stage performance series of dance and theatre companies and independent choreographers from across Canada,
- Commissioned new work,
- Supported the development of the local dance, theatre and performance community by presenting area artists and arranging specialized classes and workshops.



*Market Hall Performing Arts Centre works to develop, nurture and sustain
the performing arts in Peterborough's historic Market Hall.*

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