



## LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY OF ALBERTA

# NEWS RELEASE

October 28, 2009

### **Legislative Assembly Chamber gets a new view** Commemorative stained glass window unveiled

*Edmonton*— The public gallery in Alberta’s Legislative Assembly Chamber became more colourful today with the unveiling of a stained glass window commemorating the 2006 celebration of 100 Years of Democracy of the Legislative Assembly of Alberta. The window is a gift from the city of Edmonton.

The Hon. Ken Kowalski, Speaker of the Legislative Assembly notes, “Through the generosity of the city of Edmonton, the Legislature and the capital city have been enriched by this stained glass window that will provide members of this Assembly and guests with a symbolic view of this great province of ours.”

The window, which was designed by Barbara and Pawel Jozefowicz, stained glass (vitraux) artists, was inspired by Barbara’s visit to the Legislature. The window’s curving, flowing lines reference the architecture of the Alberta Legislature. The theme of the design is Alberta, the Land of Opportunities, where a central figure representing Alberta, the fourth daughter of Queen Victoria, receives the viewers with one arm extended in welcome, and another full of bounty. The figure is framed from above by the aurora borealis (northern lights), which dance above with a form echoed below in the North Saskatchewan River, which flows through the centre of the composition. For the artist, the river symbolizes communication, linking an ongoing exchange between both physical halves of the city of Edmonton with its energetic force. The golden wheat offered by Alberta, with its prairie landscape and rich colour blocks of fields, symbolizes a wealth of opportunity and hope for the future. The expansive sky and warmth of the setting sun in the horizon represents the great value of the opportunities in Edmonton as the capital of Alberta. The red of St. George’s Cross at the bottom alludes to the arms of the Hudson’s Bay Company and the progressive industry which founded the city. In the foreground the wild rose blooms with abundance, depicting the hearty flower which grows in challenging climates.

The window, located on the east wall of the Chamber’s public gallery, was unveiled during session on October 28, 2009 by the Hon. Ken Kowalski, Speaker, Legislative Assembly of Alberta and His Worship Stephen Mandel, mayor, city of Edmonton. Visit [www.assembly.ab.ca](http://www.assembly.ab.ca) for more information and photos of the window.

- 30 -

**Contact:**

Beverly Alenius  
Executive Assistant to the Speaker of the Legislative Assembly  
780.427.2464

Centennial Window Glass Artwork



ALBERTA,  
the Land of Opportunities



Unveiling on Wednesday,  
October 28<sup>th</sup>, 2009

2009

# ALBERTA,

the Land of Opportunities

Artists: Barbara and Pawel Jozefowicz

This stained glass window was a gift from the City of Edmonton commemorating the 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Legislative Assembly of Alberta

## About the Art

Inspired by the iconic architecture of the Alberta Legislature Building, the artists created a composition that references its curving, flowing lines. The theme of the final design is Alberta, the Land of Opportunities, where a central figure representing Alberta, the fourth daughter of Queen Victoria, receives the viewers with one arm extended in welcome and another full of bounty.

The figure is framed from above by the aurora borealis (northern lights), which dance with a form echoed below in the North Saskatchewan River, which flows through the centre of the composition. The river symbolizes communication for the artist, linking an ongoing exchange between both physical halves of the city of Edmonton with its energetic force. The golden wheat offered by Alberta, with its prairie landscape and rich colour blocks of fields, symbolizes a wealth of opportunity and hope for the future.

The expansive sky and warmth of the setting sun in the horizon represent the great value of the opportunities in Edmonton as the capital of Alberta. The red of St. George's Cross extends along the bottom of the composition, an allusion to the arms of the Hudson's Bay Company and the progressive industry which founded the city. In the foreground the wild rose blooms with abundance, depicting the hearty flower that grows in challenging climates.

## About the Artists

Barbara and Pawel Jozefowicz are stained glass (vitraux) artists with international experience in creating glass artworks and completing glass art restoration. As newcomers to Edmonton the artists were inspired to create an image to represent Alberta as a place of opportunities, beauty and numerous resources.

Barbara Jozefowicz studied hand-painted glass art techniques as an apprentice in Buenos Aires, Argentina, and completed fine art studies with a major in painting at the Bellati Academia de Arte in Buenos Aires, Argentina, and the Arte Academia Julio Reyes in Havana, Cuba. She has also completed studies in Krakow, Poland, in Engineering, where she is certified in that profession.

Barbara and Pawel Jozefowicz have completed glass artworks for the Polish Embassy in Buenos Aires, Argentina, the International Cinema Festival in Spain, and the Polish-Argentinean Chamber of Commerce among others and have exhibited paintings in art galleries across Europe and South America.

Barbara Jozefowicz utilizes an ancient technique of hand-painted glass practised by glass masters since the 16<sup>th</sup> century where the vitraux is preserved through exposing the painted glass to high temperatures. Her designs highlight the architectural surroundings of the artwork and present a dynamic composition where the interaction of light and coloured glass creates countless shades of beauty.