National Call for Expressions of Interest for PODIUM 2028 Organizing Committee

What is Podium?
Podium is Choral Canada's national biennial bilingual choral conference and festival, bringing together participants from across the country and beyond who are passionate about group singing. As the country's premier meeting place for the choral and group singing sector, Podium creates space for networking, mobilizes knowledge through varied presentation formats, and fuels a love of group singing through new music, creative performances and innovative practices.

When and Where is PODIUM 2028?
The 2028 edition of Podium, co-hosted by Choral Canada and the Manitoba Choral Association, will be held in **Winnipeg, Manitoba** from May 18-21, 2028, in Treaty 1 Territory, the traditional lands of the Anishinaabeg, Inninewak, Anishinewak, Dakȟóta Oyáte and Dënesųłı́né peoples, and the National Homeland of the Red River Métis, with drinking water sourced from Shoal Lake 40 First Nation in Treaty 3 Territory.

Call for ORGANIZING COMMITTEE MEMBERS
We are seeking **volunteers from Manitoba and across the country** to join the PODIUM 2028 Organizing Committee. The committee is a working group responsible for planning and overseeing the PODIUM 2028 conference and festival. Committee members are responsible for:

- Chairing sub-committees (see below)
- Working closely with the staff and the PODIUM 2028 Co-Curators
- Participating in virtual monthly meetings

Members of the Organizing Committee will be asked to commit to a term running **November 2026 to May 2028**. This is a volunteer role; on top of monthly meetings, committee members contribute roughly 2-5 hours a month, depending on the sub-committee and the tasks a member takes on. In-person attendance at PODIUM 2028 is encouraged but not required – committee members are responsible for their own travel and accommodation costs.

Sub-Committees
The PODIUM 2028 Organizing Committee includes, but is not limited to, the following sub-committees:

- Accessibility
- After-Hours Events and other social gatherings
- Bilingualism and Translation
- Community Engagement (Choirburst, Pop-Up Concerts, etc.)
- Conducting Masterclasses
- Exhibitor Marketplace
- Interest Session Hosts
- Networking (including One-on-One, Roundtables, Meet the Music Creators)
- Social Media
- Technical Team
- Virtual Conference
- Volunteer Recruitment

We would like to hear from **individuals who are passionate and knowledgeable about the choral art form and group singing**. They are collaborative team players with excellent interpersonal and listening skills. They are broad-minded, creative, proactive, and have a willingness to work hard and complete identified tasks.

Diversity of Voices
The PODIUM 2028 Organizing Committee will be composed of individuals who represent a variety of backgrounds, lived experiences and perspectives. We value fresh points of view and original ideas. We strongly encourage people who identify as Indigenous, Black, Person of Colour, Disabled, 2SLGBTQ+, gender-diverse, and intersections of these identities, to express their interest for the committee positions.

All are welcome and steps will be taken to ensure everyone feels respected, heard, and accommodated, so that they can be their full self in this important work.

Language
The working language of the committee is English, but please note that many aspects of PODIUM 2028 are bilingual (English and French).

Submitting your Expression of Interest
If you are interested in serving on the Organizing Committee, please apply by sending an email with the subject line "PODIUM 2028 Expression of Interest – Organizing Committee" to info@choralcanada.org by **Friday, October 30, 2026**.

Please include a brief summary of your background and experience, describing why you would like to serve on this committee.

Selection
Committee members will be selected by staff and Board members from the two partnering organizations, Choral Canada and the Manitoba Choral Association. Selection will be based upon the candidate's expression of interest and the qualifications outlined above. All individuals who express interest in committee positions will be contacted directly regarding the outcome of the process.

Our Commitment
Choral Canada and the Manitoba Choral Association are committed to accessibility, diversity, equity, and inclusion in all their work. They strive to build diversity and inclusivity into their teams, programs and services, and are committed to addressing decoloniality and anti-racism within their organizations and work. Choral Canada and the Manitoba Choral Association aim to foster a bilingual organizational environment in which all people wishing to participate in Podium may flourish.

Questions
If you have any questions about these positions, or if you require any support submitting your expression of interest, please contact Choral Canada at info@choralcanada.org or (647) 606-2467.

We look forward to hearing from you!

Steven Bélanger
Executive Director
Choral Canada

Karla Ferguson
Executive Director
Manitoba Choral Association

Choral Canada's office is located in Tkaronto, Dish With One Spoon territory and covered by Treaty 13 and the Williams Treaties. We are grateful to work, live and make music on the traditional territory of many nations, including the Mississaugas of Credit, Anishnabeg, Chippewa, Haudenosaunee and Wendat.

The Manitoba Choral Association is grateful for the opportunity to work on lands covered by treaties 1, 2, 3, 4, and 5; the traditional lands of the Anishinaabe, Ininiwak, Anishininiwak, Dakota, and Dene Peoples; and the homeland of the Métis Nation. We acknowledge our responsibility to keep reconciliation and collaboration at the heart of all we do.