



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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*Vancouver's Goh Ballet represents Canada at the
16th Meet In Beijing Arts Festival*

VANCOUVER, BC (April 12th, 2016) – Goh Ballet has accepted a prestigious invitation to participate and represent our country as the sole Canadian dance organization at the 16th annual *Meet In Beijing Arts Festival*. Earlier this year, it was announced that Canada is the official featured country and Goh Ballet, along with several Canadian arts and cultural groups, will be travelling to Beijing this spring to showcase their work. This opportunity has created a cultural exchange between Canada and China that will benefit our city's cultural image and it will demonstrate the caliber of Vancouver's art scene. With the support of Vancouver's Mayor Gregor Robertson, the Director of Goh Ballet and Prima Ballerina Ms. Chan Hon Goh is proud to officially announce Goh Ballet's participation in this year's *Meet In Beijing Arts Festival*.

"I'm thrilled to see the Goh Ballet showcasing their work internationally at the *Meet in Beijing Arts Festival*," said Mayor Gregor Robertson. "The Goh Ballet's reputation as a major centre for performing arts is a great sense of pride for Vancouver and continues to play a major role in the artistic development of our community."

Meet In Beijing, inaugurated in 2000, is an international arts festival held yearly and aims at promoting cultural exchanges by presenting Chinese culture while introducing international arts. It is a large-scale international festival hosted by China's Ministry of Culture, Beijing Municipality Government and the State Administration of Radio, Film and Television.

"I am honoured and delighted to have this extraordinary occasion to be able to bring to Beijing the young dancers that I have been mentoring," said Chan Hon Goh, Director, Goh Ballet Academy. "I am a native of Beijing, but I grew up in Vancouver. Not only is this a remarkable cultural exchange between Canadian artists and the international community, but this will enable us to showcase our calibre of work and provide young local dancers with a once in a lifetime experience to perform on the world stage."

Co-organized by the China Arts and Entertainment Group (CAEG) and the Canadian Fund for International Understanding through Culture, Goh Ballet has been asked to perform a ten-minute piece at the National Centre for the Performing Arts in China for the festival's opening night gala. This piece will feature and debut original choreography by Adonis Daukaev who will also perform alongside five of Goh Ballet's dancers. As One of China's most influential international art festivals, the annual *Meet in Beijing Arts Festival* has become a brand, attracting millions of visitors each year and the varied performances brought by guest countries have been particular favorites.

Goh Ballet is thankful for the support that they have received from Can4Culture, who has been bestowed the trust and endorsement from the Canadian Department of Foreign Affairs, Trade and Development and the Chinese Ministry of Culture, to be involved in this project's preparatory work and in the negotiations with relevant Chinese authorities.