



## The Results are in!

Congratulations to the following quartets and choruses for their outstanding performances:

### Quartets:

- 1st Place - Glow
- 2nd Place - No Strings Quartet
- 3rd Place - Noise
- Audience Choice - Wish

### Choruses:

- 1st Place - Westcoast Harmony
- 2nd Place - Vocal Motion!
- 3rd Place - Gateway Chorus
- Division A - Vocal Motion!
- Division AA - Westcoast Harmony Chorus
- Most Improved - City of Gardens
- Audience Choice - Desert Sounds Harmony Chorus

## Save the Date



### 2017

- August 2-6 - IES -Maryland
- August 18-20 - RES - Edmonton
- October 9-14 - Vegas Internationals
- October 21 - Hearts of Harmony Chorus Show, Red Deer, AB
- November 4 - Magic City Chorus Show, Saskatoon, SK
- November 18 - Alberta Heartland Chorus Show, Edmonton

### 2018

- May 3 - 6 - Regionals, Surrey
- September 28-29 - Area School with Ryan Heller
- October 15-20 - Internationals in St. Louis, Missouri
- November 2-3 - Area School with Ryan Heller
- November 16-17 - Area School with Ryan Heller

## We Came We Sang We Celebrated

by Kim Martin

Spirits were high at this year's Region 26 contest as choruses and quartets descended upon Surrey in a flurry of costumes and a flutter of false eyelashes. Thursday night our red and white showed our Canadian pride as we celebrated our Region 26 roots as well as recognized the amazing members that represent us and continue to make our region strong and harmonious.



Friday's education class "Finding Your Overtone: Leveraging the Extraordinary in You" with Jan Carley definitely did "kick-start an inspiring journey to create, build and sustain your overtone" as promised.

As anticipated, the quality of our quartets and choruses did not disappoint. The weekend saw 18 quartets and 16 choruses perform on the Chandos Pattison Auditorium stage. As well, a new recognition award, A.C.E. (Achievement, Contribution and Excellence) was presented to a well deserving and highly regarded Corinna Garriock.

As the curtain fell for the last time, the score sheets filed away, and our first webcast went offline, Region 26 proved once again we are a region full of talented and inspiring performers. We also have some amazing volunteers who make the regional contests run so smoothly. Thank you all!



# Tune Up Those Pitch Pipes, Region 26 is Coming to Town!



**Viva Las Vegas!**  
Region 26 will be represented by 2 quartets and 2 choruses at the 2017 SAI competition in Las Vegas, Nevada.

## 2017 International Quartet Competition



Appearing #1 is Region 26 Champions, Glow.  
(L-R) Sandy Marron, Emma Gibson, Nicole Collins, and Kelly Payne.



Appearing #13 is Wildcard Entry No Strings Quartet.  
(L-R) Stephanie Ball, Laura Holmes, Jennifer Auld-Roach, and Karri Quan.

## 2017 International Chorus Competition



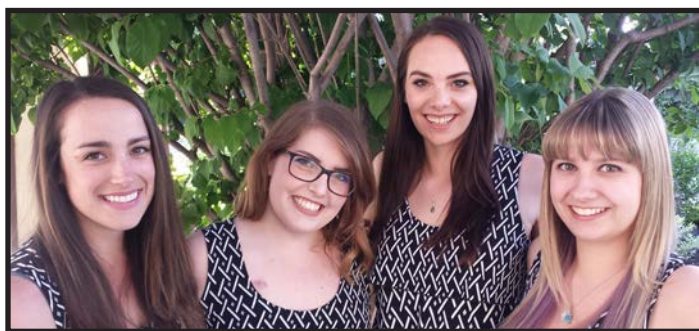
Region Champions - Lions Gate Chorus - Appearing #22



Wildcard Entry - Rhythm of the Rockies Chorus - Appearing #21



**The Future Meets Rising Stars of the Present**  
Appearing #4 in the 2017 Rising Star Quartet Contest in College Park, Maryland on August 5, 2017 is Region 26's very own Pitch Please.



(L-R) Elizabeth Milino, Holly Flegal, Alina Cox, and Robin Kampel.

## 2018



**Meet Me in St. Louis!**  
Two Region 26 choruses have already started gearing up for their trip to St. Louis, Missouri in 2018.

## 2018 International Chorus Competition



Region Champions - Westcoast Harmony Chorus.

## 2018 Harmony Classic Choruses



Wildcard Entry - Vocal Motion! Chorus.

# Lights, Camera, Action! Hearts of Harmony Chorus

by Stephanie Ball

**C**anadian Maple Leaf Region 26 – that’s us! The only region in Sweet Adelines that is ALL Canadian! Isn’t that great? We all have a shared understanding of things like snow pants, Tim Hortons, Peter Mansbridge, Nanaimo bars, toques, KD Lang, poutine, hockey, being prepared for all seasons at all times, and of course – epic road trips!

Yes, we all understand what it’s like to visit family and friends during the holiday season. It almost always involves multi-hour car rides or flights across the country. Canada is massive, and this region of ours is quite large too, so it can often be a challenge, for various reasons, to attend competition each year.

Luckily, Sweet Adelines International makes it possible for choruses and quartets to receive constructive feedback on their performance, even if they can’t attend competition. And that’s exactly what Hearts of Harmony Chorus did in April.

It wasn’t possible to get the Red Deer based chorus to Surrey, B.C. this year, so they did the next best thing and submitted a video for evaluation, which was a totally new experience for them.

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**“It was a useful education experience, and I would do it again,” shares director Sheryl Brook. “I prefer to have us compete in person, but some years that just isn’t going to happen, and this was a suitable substitute in many ways.”**

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The chorus decided that they wanted the whole event to feel as much like a contest performance as possible. They prepared as they normally would with regular rehearsals and coaching sessions, and when it came time to record their set, they decided to perform in a different venue from their regular rehearsal space.

Hearts of Harmony rented a local Red Deer theater and were set up with a good stage and lighting, as well as a suitable sound system complete with a sound technician. “We also hired a local professional videographer, who just happens to be married to one of our newer chorus members,” says Sheryl.

Hearts of Harmony sang their package three times, then sang some regular repertoire for their patient audience, and then ran the package one more time. The last ‘take’ was the one that they decided to send to the judges because everyone seemed more relaxed and focused. “For me, this was very instructive for our next in-person contest. It tells me that my chorus needs to do a lot of singing before we hit the stage,” Sheryl said.

James, their videographer, did such a great job with the video, that the chorus hired him to do their press kit video and new promotion video for their new website ([heartsofharmony.ca](http://heartsofharmony.ca)).

One downside was that the hanging microphones were not positioned ideally and some of their recording sounded out of balance. The chorus sent along a note to the judges in the hopes that they could “listen around it”.

“Our comments from [the judges] were useful and considered,” says Sheryl. “But, I had to laugh just a little when I read the one single small comment about ‘one voice sticking out at times.’ No kidding!!”

**Editor’s Note:** Check out the Hearts of Harmony Chorus Show “Hearts Sing Canada” on October 21, 2017 in Red Deer.



# DIRECTOR'S CORNER

## Message from Lisa Greenough, Director Liaison Region 26:

Director's Forum @ RES 2017 (Edmonton) - One of the benefits of regional education events is that it brings us all together and gives us an opportunity to meet and network a little! This summer we will have an opportunity to do just that at the Regional Education Symposium in Edmonton August 18 -20. The forum is planned to start at 9 am on Sunday, August 20th. We will have an hour together as Directors to talk shop! Please let me know if you have any topic areas you would like addressed in this time, otherwise I plan to allow conversation to occur organically, knowing that some topics may present themselves following the education sessions from the weekend!

## Director Certification Program

### Message from Jill McLeod, DCP Co-Ordinator Region 26:

Hello Region 26 DCP participants! As your new DCP Co-ordinator I just wanted to introduce myself and let you know that we will have some timeslots available at RES in Edmonton in August for DCP testing. If you are ready for your next test please let me know: [jillmcle@telus.net](mailto:jillmcle@telus.net) and I will make sure we have tests and testers available. See you at RES!

### Region 26 Adds Two More Directors to the Director Pool

Congratulations to two of Region 26's newly Certified Directors: Joan Codyre - Westcoast Harmony, and Lynn Pauls - Valley Echoes Chorus.

### Three Region 26 Members Advance to Harmony 500 Directors

Congratulations to Lisa Hunszinger, Alberta Heartland, Cheryl Pearce, Magic City, and Caroline Richards, Vocal Motion! for leading their choruses to a score of 500 or higher in regional competition.

*For more information about the Director Certification Program (DCP) or if you need assistance completing any of the modules please contact Jill McLeod ([jillmcle@telus.net](mailto:jillmcle@telus.net)).*



## An Interview with Director Maja Weibe

by Stephanie Ball

Heavy metal music and barbershop a capella collide in Maja Weibe's anything-but-cookie-cutter life.

Maja has been the director of Chinook Winds Show Chorus since the spring of 2014.

In 2002, she moved from her home in Sweden to marry her now-husband, Adam. He chose to take Maja's surname, which is curious considering the pronunciation issues that Maja runs into on a regular basis. Take a peak at her Facebook feed and you can't miss the irritation (and humour) when she describes that her name is pronounced "VEY-BEH" and not "WEEB".



When Maja met her husband, they bonded over one thing in particular – heavy metal music. She has been a metal fan since she was about 13. "I was sure I was going to move to America and be a roadie for Guns n' Roses." The first conversation that Maja and her husband ever shared was about heavy metal bands. When she moved to Canada to be with the man of her metal dreams, she had no idea what barbershop a capella was, nor the impact it would have on her life down the road. After a few years in Canada, Maja started searching for local singing groups. She came across Chinook Winds Show Chorus and was hooked right away.

Maja is devoted to learning, teaching, and directing barbershop a capella music. "She is giving everything to us," says Chinook Winds Marketing Co-Coordinator Cathy Martin. "She even plans to work with us individually throughout the week when it fits into her working schedule." Cathy, who has been singing with Chinook Winds for 45 years, has watched Maja grow continuously in the chorus.

Since becoming a new member in 2007 Maja has been marketing coordinator, assistant section leader, assistant director and director.

"She definitely is a leader and likes to work hard."

# In the Spotlight

## An Interview with Pitch Please Quartet

by Stephanie Ball



(L-R) Elizabeth Milino, Holly Flegal, Alina Cox, and Robin Kampel.

Our very own Pitch Please Quartet is headed to Baltimore to represent Region 26 at this year's Rising Star contest on August 5! It's hard to believe these young women have only been together for a few months and on top of that, they only discovered barbershop music two years ago!

The members of Pitch Please met each other in 2015 when they joined Vocal Motion Chorus. They credit *Glee* and the *Pitch Perfect* movies for spreading a capella music and getting them involved in a local group. "When [the movies] came out, people were like 'Wow! that's like, really freaking awesome!'" remembers Elizabeth Milino (lead).

The idea of a quartet was sparked early on during a road-trip home from the 2016 regional contest (Saskatoon) where they competed with their chorus. It started off as a fun and casual idea where they'd sing pop songs, but in 2016 they made the decision to compete and officially registered as a quartet.

### How Can I Show My Support?

- Visit their GoFundMe page (<https://www.gofundme.com/pitch-please-quartet>)
- Follow them on Facebook ([www.facebook.com/pitchesquartet/](http://www.facebook.com/pitchesquartet/))
- Join the Pep Rally at IES in Maryland. (Details to be announced.)

Following their debut at this year's regional contest, they were hooked. They admit it was a lot of work and was a tad stressful, but so rewarding once they gave their performance on stage. The quartet's lead, Elizabeth, said they had one

main goal: "Walk out there, sing our songs, nobody faint or throw up, and then walk ourselves off." And now they can't get enough.

Pitch Please has been working hard to improve their craft. To learn as much as they can, they've sought out different coaches including Caroline Richards, Mo Field, Joey Minshall and Laura Holmes.

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**"We didn't know what we were getting ourselves into," jokes their bass, Alina Cox.**

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Pitch Please can't wait to hit the big stage for the Rising Star competition. When you watch their upcoming August performance, you might notice some new faces in Pitch Please. At the competition in April, Carlyn McGeean

(baritone) stepped in to help out because of scheduling issues, and Hannah Gilbert (bass) wanted the opportunity to compete before moving back to the UK. Now, the quartet is moving forward with Elizabeth Milino (lead), Alina Cox (bass), Holly Flegal (baritone) and Robin Kampel (tenor).

For Pitch Please, one of the highlights of competing in Baltimore is that they belong to the only all-Canadian region: Region 26! They are only the third Young Women in Harmony Quartet (YWIH) to represent Region 26 at the Rising Star contest (the first being *Feline*, followed by *Stir It Up*). "We're extremely proud to represent the region," says tenor Robin Kampel. "Everyone has been so supportive."

They may be a young quartet that initially joked about singing Justin Bieber songs, but these women have a real appreciation for the barbershop art form.

"The beauty of barbershop is that you can be in your early twenties, like us, and be singing these songs that are so old and have so much history behind them, but [the songs] are still relevant and relatable to us."



# REGION 26 CELEBRATES 35 YEARS!

Thank you to all those members who worked so diligently and finally succeeded in creating Region 26, the only region in Sweet Adelines International to be completely Canadian! The women in the photo below were there to celebrate from Day 1.

Happy Birthday Region 26!



## A NOTE FROM FRENZY

“Frenzy was SO excited to celebrate with you all at Regional convention, and we’re so honoured by the amazing celebration you put on for us. We’re even more excited to spend the ENTIRE WEEKEND with you in August!! We’ve been travelling quite a bit lately, and are very excited to be “at home” for this school!”



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# FARE THEE WELL QUEEN CORINNA

## You Will Be Missed!

*On Saturday, April 29, 2017 during our regional contest, Corinna Garriock was presented with Region 26's new award, A.C.E. (Achievement, Contribution and Excellence) in recognition of all she has done for our Region and for the members within. It was an emotional moment because with the presentation was the acknowledgement that Corinna was soon to be leaving us for the Maritimes.*

### Dear Region 26 -

I am settling here in my new house in Middle Sackville, Nova Scotia - part of the Halifax Regional Municipality (HRM). HRM apparently does not stand for Her Royal Majesty here. :-) My new house is on a charming little lake where my neighbours fish and kayak and water ski. We spend a fair bit of time watching 'Lake TV' from the kitchen deck, and it's our favourite channel so far. We even have a couple of loons making their lonely calls at dawn and dusk. It's a pretty spectacular location - a dream, really. My parents have relocated from Alberta and are busy moving into the lower level of the house, and I've seen my brother and his family several times a week so far, plus other cousins who live in the area. It's so nice to be close to family for the first time in my adult life. Family is probably the only thing that could lure me away from my barbershop life in Vancouver and Region 26. I will miss all of you - I already do - but I feel comfortable that I've done the right thing moving here while I'm still (in theory) young enough to build a second life.



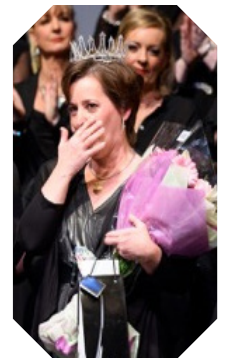
Regional Committee who developed the A.C.E. Award

in Vegas, and hopefully I'll be back in Region 26 for some reason, whether coaching, teaching, judging or just visiting. Please stay in touch and if you ever find yourself in Nova

Scotia, come and visit Hotel Corinna East. My email is [corinna.garriock@gmail.com](mailto:corinna.garriock@gmail.com) and you can always find me on Facebook as well.

Thank you, Region 26, for nearly 30 fantastic years of encouragement, support, opportunity, personal growth and most importantly, friendship. We've come a long way since 1987! I look forward to watching your continued growth and success from my new vantage point on the east coast.

Love to all of you -  
Corinna xo



The *Maple Leaf Express* (MLX) is produced quarterly on the 21st of January, April, July, and October. Submissions deadline is the 1st of January, April, July and October unless otherwise stated.

**Submissions Policy:** All article submissions are accepted at the discretion of the MLX Advisory Staff. Articles and images may be subject to editing and may be held for publication in a future issue of the *Maple Leaf Express*.

Questions or concerns regarding this submission policy can be directed [mapleleafexpress@gmail.com](mailto:mapleleafexpress@gmail.com).





# Project Canada

## Celebrating 150 Years



**Chinook Winds Show Chorus** - Fun Fact: The two members holding the flag are from Russia and Sweden!



**Kelowna White Sails A Cappella Chorus** - The week before, we met at our usual rehearsal time, but not at our rehearsal hall, but rather on the shores of the beautiful Okanagan Lake overlooking the City of Kelowna. We video recorded "Oh Canada" and took pictures of our amazing group of women all decked out in red and white. The video and a picture were sent to several local media and organizations to help celebrate Canada Day.

*Editors Note: Check out their video at: <https://youtu.be/fEc-mw1AKes>*



**Alberta Gold Chorus** - Celebrated their Summer Installation party Canadian style!



### Alberta Heartland Chorus Celebrates Canada 150



Alberta Heartland Chorus was busy celebrating Canada 150 hosting a rehearsal party where all members showed their Canadian spirit by sporting red and white. Fabulous cupcakes were provided by local business Broadway & Grand, and fun was had by all during the annual Kooky Quartet contest.

July 1st saw Alberta Heartland Chorus performing at the Storyland Valley Zoo (Edmonton, AB), performing Canadian themed songs as well as several other joyful tunes.

Happy Birthday Canada!  
from  
Alberta Heartland Chorus

Presented by  
AHC  
Foundation for the Arts  
AlbertaHeartlandChorus.ca



**Desert Sounds Harmony Chorus** - The photo to the left was taken July 1st as we performed at our annual multicultural festival and July 1st celebrations at Riverside Park in Kamloops. We performed the Canadian Medley, our award winning space package and sang Happy Birthday (Joey's too-wop) to Canada. We had a blast and so did the audience.