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For immediate release

### **Fredericton conference on music and healing features Raylene Rankin**

FREDERICTON — The Playhouse Theatre in Fredericton will host the Music Care Conference on Monday June 4, bringing together a cross-section of community stakeholders in music and care. The 2012 Music Care Conference kicks off with Maritimer Raylene Rankin Live on Sunday June 3<sup>rd</sup> at 7 p.m. Tickets for this concert are available at [www.theplayhouse.nb.ca](http://www.theplayhouse.nb.ca) and is open to the public.

The one-day conference in Fredericton is sponsored by the Atlantic Institute on Aging and Room 217, a Foundation that provides music care resources for caregivers. The speakers and workshops will enrich and challenge the lives and work of care providers, educators, scholars, musicians, and people interested in music and care from across Atlantic Canada and beyond.

“The goals of the conference are to inspire participants to embrace music in their lives, and to provide some practical applications they can use in regular practice,” said Barb Burnett, Executive Director of the Atlantic Institute on Aging.

Rankin will open the conference with insight into the role of music in her life and the acclaimed East Coast first family of music, the Rankin Family. Raylene will share her personal journey and unique perspective on music and care.

Keynote speakers include Dr. Deforia Lane, who has designed and implemented music therapy programs in centres for abused children, with the terminally ill, and the mentally handicapped. Dr. Amy Clements-Cortes highlights music for dementia care based on her experience in hospitals and nursing homes. Concordia University professor Guylaine Vaillancourt provides insight into using music for healing and comfort at end-of-life. Director of the Laurier Centre for Music in the Community, Dr. Lee Willingham shares his research on the role of music in communities.

Faces of Music Care will include New Brunswick’s award-winning Youth Orchestra (Sistema), vibroacoustic harp therapy practitioner Laurence Marie, Fredericton’s intergenerational Glee Club, a New Brunswick Maliseet grandmother drum circle as well as Acadian band Ménagement à Trois.

The Music Care Conference attracts a diverse crowd, including health care professionals, artists, musicians, teachers, spiritual leaders, caregivers, social workers and more.

Full-day registration, including nutrition breaks and lunch, is \$110 + HST (\$75 + HST for seniors and students). Register today at [www.room217.ca/index.php/music-care-conference](http://www.room217.ca/index.php/music-care-conference) or by phone at 905.852.2499.

For more information about the Music Care Conference, contact Barb Burnett at [bburnett@aginginstitute.ca](mailto:bburnett@aginginstitute.ca) or call 506.444.3337.