



six string nation
nation six cordes

The Six String Nation – A Movement to Connect all Canadians – To Be Launched in Ottawa on Canada Day

June 28, 2006... The Six String Nation -- a movement based on a guitar that connects people from all regions of Canada through music and by sharing our stories -- will launch at the Canada Day Celebrations in Ottawa on July 1, 2006.

Traditional, but not necessarily typical, Canadian icons, images and stories are built right into the Six String Nation guitar. The sixty-plus components of the guitar are at the heart of the project; each element is something meaningful and representative of a significant aspect of Canadian history or culture. The stories are accessed by people all over the world through the web site, the public appearances of the guitar, and through the music that Canadian artists will play on the guitar.

The Six String Nation is the brainchild of broadcaster Jowi Taylor in collaboration with master luthier George Rizsanyi, who created the guitar at his workshop in Nova Scotia (near Pinehurst).

"People in diverse communities right across the country have richly fascinating stories to share, and too often we don't hear them. The Six String Nation guitar is a way to put all kinds of stories at the fingertips of musicians and in the ears of listeners," says Jowi Taylor.

Thanks to an invitation from the National Capital Commission (NCC), organizers of the nation's birthday festivities in Canada's Capital Region, the Six String Nation guitar will come to life on Canada Day.

"Our Canada Day festivities traditionally feature Canadian talent and achievement from across the country", said Mark Kristmanson, Director of Capital Events at the NCC. "The Six String Nation story and what the guitar represents is the perfect fit for our national celebration".

In the afternoon of July 1, the Six String Nation guitar will be the focal point of the **Six String Songwriters Circle** taking place in Major's Hill Park in downtown Ottawa. From 3:00 to 4:30pm, the newly-crafted masterpiece will be played by **Stephen Fearing, Colin Linden, Tom Wilson, La Volée d'castors, Mighty Popo** and others. The Six String Songwriters Circle will be emceed by Jowi Taylor and Gabriel Dubé.

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The main event, the Canada Day evening show on Parliament Hill, starting at 7:30pm, will be where the Six String Nation launches to the world.

Jowi Taylor will introduce the Six String Nation and the guitar at its heart. The first mainstage performance of the guitar will be **Stephen Fearing** (Ontario) **playing “The Longest Road.”** The guitar will then be passed from musician-to-musician, as Stephen Fearing hands the guitar to **Jean-François Breau** (New Brunswick) followed by **Aselin Debison** (Nova Scotia), then to **Michel Pagliaro** (Québec), followed by **Kyle Riabko** (Saskatchewan). Ultimately, the guitar will be in the hands of **Colin James** (British Columbia).

The Canada Day launch will be followed by a summer-long festivals tour that will take the Six String Nation from coast to coast across Canada.

The Six String Nation can be found online at: www.SixStringNation.com.

For more information on Canada Day celebrations in Canada’s Capital Region, contact the National Capital Commission at 1-800-465-1867 or visit www.canadacapital.gc.ca/canadaday.

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