

For Immediate Release – September 28, 2007

**CELEBRATING 25 YEARS: THE FIRST CANADIAN EXPEDITION TO EVEREST**

Mount Everest has captivated the human spirit for centuries. This majestic pyramid of rock and ice has come to symbolize our drive for adventure and our need to push our limits to the extreme.

25 years ago on October 5th 1982, news that Laurie Skreslet had stood on the top of Everest swept across Canada — the first ascent of the world's highest peak by a Canadian mountain climber. Two days later, Pat Morrow followed Skreslet's still clear footprints up the final ridge to the summit. Against extreme odds, the Canadian Mount Everest Expedition placed two team members and four Sherpas on the summit of Everest.

On exhibit at the Whyte Museum of the Canadian Rockies is a selection of photographs taken by Pat Morrow during the expedition. On October 5<sup>th</sup>, 2007 the Whyte Museum will host a panel discussion and exhibition opening.

Speaking on his Everest success, Morrow said: "The 25th anniversary of Everest '82 at the Whyte will help put our accomplishment in perspective, since two of the panelists have been on the mountain recently. Fellow panelist Wally Berg led a highly successful expedition last year during the same post-monsoon (autumn) period that our team climbed in. These days, 99% of Everest expeditions happen in the pre-monsoon (springtime) season, since the weather and snow conditions are better then."

**Panel Discussion: Canadians on Everest: Celebrating 25 years of Adventure**  
**Friday, October 5th, 7 pm, limited seating**

Included with Museum admission (toonie night). Free for members.

Join members of Canada's 1982 team and more recent local Everest climbers as they share stories and compare their experiences from the top of the world and answer the questions: What has changed on Everest in the past 25 years? Have guided ascents changed the nature of the challenge? A presentation by Pat Morrow on high altitude photography will start the discussion.

Moderator: Peter Spear

Panel: Laurie Skreslet, Wally Berg, Andrew Brash, Lloyd Gallagher, Bruce Patterson

**Opening Reception**

**Friday, October 5<sup>th</sup> at 9 pm**

*Everest 1982: The First Canadian Expedition*

October 5, 2007 – March 31, 2008

For more information, please contact:

Katie Daniel, Marketing & Communications Specialist

Phone: 403-762-2291 ext. 316

Fax: 403-762-8919

Email: [kdaniel@whyte.org](mailto:kdaniel@whyte.org)