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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Victoria Drum Fest Returns with World-Class Lineup - Annual festival inspires next generation of drummers.

(Victoria, British Columbia): The Victoria Drum Fest (VDF), Canada's largest ongoing drum festival, returns on Sunday, May 3, 2026, bringing a lineup of internationally acclaimed drummers to the Songhees Wellness Centre for a day of live performance, education, and community connection.

This year's lineup spans global touring artists and rising talent, including Tosh Peterson (aka Tosh the Drummer), whose credits include Lady Gaga, Fall Out Boy, Bad Bunny, and Machine Gun Kelly; Tommy Clufetos (Black Sabbath, Ozzy Osbourne, Alice Cooper); Craig Blundell (Steve Hackett, Steven Wilson); Brooke Colucci (Rock Angel); and renowned session drummer Steve Ferrone (Tom Petty & the Heartbreakers, Eric Clapton, Duran Duran).

Founded in 2010 to mark the 10th anniversary of Groove Studios, the festival has grown from a 150-person showcase into a nationally recognized event that regularly draws hundreds of attendees. Over the past 16 years, VDF has welcomed leading figures in modern drumming, including Dave Weckl, Peter Erskine, Benny Greb, Senri Kawaguchi, and Bernard Purdie.

As the festival has expanded, its mission has remained focused on accessibility and inspiration—particularly for young and emerging drummers in the local community.

“Victoria Drum Fest has always been about more than performance,” said Murray Creed, founder of Groove Studios and the Victoria Drum festival. “It’s about giving people—especially young players—the chance to experience this level of musicianship up close and realize what’s possible. They’re the future of drumming.”

The festival's reputation is reflected in consistent demand, with a significant portion of tickets selling before the lineup is announced each year. Past highlights include sold-out performances by Weckl and Erskine, a collaboration between Bernard Purdie and the Vic High R&B Band, and a featured duet by Senri Kawaguchi and Sarah Thawer.

As the festival has grown, so has its impact locally. Drum education participation across Victoria has increased, and many performers on today's stage first attended the event as students. Creed continues to prioritize accessibility, keeping ticket prices affordable to ensure families and young musicians can attend.

For tickets and event details, visit the festival's official website at www.victoriadrumfest.ca.

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