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NEWS RELEASE

Jon Cornish selected as celebrity judge for the 2016 Calgary Stampede Parade

CALGARY – The Calgary Stampede is excited to announce that Canadian Football League (CFL) superstar Jon Cornish will be the celebrity judge for the 2016 Calgary Stampede Parade. Cornish will select the entry that, in his opinion, best exemplifies the spirit of the Calgary Stampede. The winning entry will receive the 2016 Celebrities' Choice Award.

"We are thrilled to welcome Stampeder great, Jon Cornish, as our 2016 Calgary Stampede Parade celebrity judge," says Michael Wetherup, chair of the Calgary Stampede Parade committee. "Jon follows in the footsteps of some great Canadians, including Ralph Klein, Ryan Getzlaf, Beckie Scott and one of our 2016 Parade Marshals, Paul Brandt, who have all been judges."

Cornish was drafted in the second round of the 2006 CFL draft and spent nine seasons with the Calgary Stampeders as a running back, retiring in December of 2015. Cornish was a three-time CFL All-Star (2012- 2014), four-time CFL West All-Star (2011-2014), and a two-time Grey Cup Champion (2008, 2014). He was also a three-time winner of the CFL's Most Outstanding Canadian Award (2012-2014) and the 2013 recipient of the CFL's Most Outstanding Player Award. In 2013, he was named the Lou Marsh Award for Top Canadian Athlete.

"It is a tremendous honour to be able to contribute to the Calgary Stampede Parade," said Cornish. "I've lived in Calgary for 10 years and it one of those things you always wish you could do, and when you get the opportunity you are truly grateful."

The Calgary Stampede Parade is organized by a team of passionate volunteers who make up the Calgary Stampede Parade Committee. The Calgary Stampede is July 8-17, 2016. The Calgary Stampede Parade begins at 9 a.m. on Friday, July 8.

About the Calgary Stampede:

The Calgary Stampede celebrates the people, the animals, the land, the traditions and the values that make up the unique spirit of the west. The Calgary Stampede contributes to the quality of life in Calgary and southern Alberta through our world-renowned Stampede, year-round facilities, western events and several youth and agriculture programs. Exemplifying the theme We're Greatest Together; we are a volunteer-supported, not-for-profit community organization that preserves and promotes western heritage and values. All revenue is reinvested into Calgary Stampede programs and facilities.

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