

FEBRUARY NEWSLETTER



As we say goodbye to February, crocus flowers are popping up and the music world is in full swing. This year is looking to be a fantastic year for new artists, new festivals, and opportunities to support the growth of our country community.

Make sure your email is correct in your profile, to receive our email updates. We thank you for your ongoing submissions to the newsletter.

TO OUR MEMBERS,

We have an Annual General Meeting coming up this April 16th, 2023. We are going to attempt an in person hybrid Zoom meeting to include as many of our members. With the AGM comes seats on the board of directors. Will George and Luna Hoyek will be leaving the board, which will open up four seats. If you love country music and want to do rewarding work in our BC Country community, send in your letter of interest including why you would be a great fit for the board of directors. Areas of need are Funding, Networking Events, Secretary, Treasurer, Partnerships Outreach, Showcases, and Admin Support.

If you think you don't have time to be on the board, there are plenty of opportunities to help out. I would love to hear from anyone who is interested. It takes a village to keep our community growing. It is great for us to have the opportunity to meet in person and see everyone. There will be further communications via email in regards to the AGM details. Thank you to those who applied for the Review 5 Artist Mentorship with Dale Peters and Laurie Brown. We will announce the chosen five entries once the board reviews entries.

Cassandra Smith
President



MEMBERS NEWS

Congratulations Teigen Gayes

SiriusXM's Top Of The Country 2023 Finalists Announced

The 2023 semi-finalists for the SiriusXM Top of the Country are:

- Teigen Gayes (Kelowna, B.C.)
- Mark Ledlin (Vancouver, B.C.)
- Hailey Benedict (St. Albert, Alberta)
- Noah Derksen (Winnipeg, Manitoba)
- Amanda Jordan (Smith Falls, Ontario)
- The Prairie States (Edmonton, Alberta)
- Dayna Reid (Elmvale, Ontario)
- Lydia Sutherland (Montréal, Québec)



Congratulations to Justine Lynn & Dawson Gray



These two BC artists, Justine Lynn and Dawson Gray who are joining the roster of Dean Brody, Meghan Patrick, Tyler Joe Miller, and Dane Bateman on March 25, 2023. Brought o you by The Festival Company, it is a new festival is being held at the Tradex with tickets available [HERE](#)

MEMBER NEWS



JULIE KENNEDY

Julie of Twin Kennedy could use some BC country love and prayers - she has been diagnosed with breast cancer and is currently undergoing chemotherapy treatment. You can follow her journey on TK's social media pages @twinkennedy. If you are able to donate, a GoFundMe has been set up in her name:

[GO FUND ME](#)

This is part of a series of books that are in the works as well as a lesson series' of videos and backing tracks coming in the future..

This is the 2nd book Troy has written and he is planning to continue to write more in other genres of music such as Country and Rock to give his students, and the general guitar playing community, an insight of the art of guitar playing, improvisation and music theory. Troy owns his own music school, Cadence School Of Music, which is coming up on its 10 year Anniversary April 13th.

Troy attended Kwantlen University for 3 years full time in the study of Classical guitar. He has been teaching for over 20 years. His other loves include writing songs and performing live.

Contact Troy through his website at www.troytomamusic.com for further information or to purchase the book.

TROY TOMA



MEMBER NEWS



DANA SCHINDEL - NEW MEMBER!

Debut Release!

Song: Keep Moving Forward

Songwriter: Dana Schindel

Producers: Kaj Falch-Nielsen & Dana Schindel

Release Date: January 12, 2023 (01.12.23!)

"I love the storytelling of country music. I love the heart of country music. How we write about life, the good times, the bad times, and everything in between. I've been songwriting for as long as I can remember and it's so special to be a new member of BCCMA and share my first-ever song release!

For more information: www.danaschindel.ca

ANTONIO LAROSA

Canada's Antonio Larosa is getting set to release his incredible new countrified track "Better Off In The Dark" on March 3rd - a raucous journey into a fiery relationship.

Mixed by Jeff Dalziel (The Washboard Union) and produced by Nygel Asselin (Halfmoon Run) and mastered by Randy Merrill at Sterling Sound - "Better Off In The Dark" exposes truths about being in a toxic relationship that is only being held together by sexual desire and attraction. The attraction is so powerful

that it is overriding any logical reason to not be with the person. The sound of Antonio Larosa's music has been described as a nostalgic yet fresh take on modern country-rock music. With vocal styles compared to Elvis Presley and electric blues guitar inspired by Eric Clapton, Larosa writes music from the heart to the heart of his listeners. www.antonioarosamusic.com



MEMBER NEWS



INTRODUCING CRUZ VALLIS

Cruz is a Canadian singer/songwriter who tries his best to put the small town, 3 AM kitchen party feel into all his music. Cruz grew up singing and performing in school shows and choirs. Eventually he decided it was his passion and made the decision to pursue country music. Hard working from a young age, Cruz is no stranger to the blue-collar side of a country boy and the small-town night feeling of coming home after a long day, kicking your boots off, and playing some tunes. Cruz is aiming for an upbeat alternative country style but, not afraid to get a little rowdy now and then. His first single "Waiting Room" was his debut release into the country music scene and brings a honky tonk, two step feel with contradicting lyrics of being lost and waiting for something better to come. His clear-cut

voice will bring out the music lover in all who'll spare a minute to listen.

Cruz is just grateful to be bringing music to people who also share a passion for it. Music is the biggest gatherer of individuals, no matter their background or heritage. Music has no boundaries and that is what he hopes to express. Cruz is available for solo opportunities from the lower mainland to the interior and would love to provide support for established BCCMA members.

www.cruzvallis.com

MOONSHINE MOLLYS

Lazie Indie Magazine's February cover feature is with Vancouver Island female country duo, Moonshine Mollys. The duo of Breanna Nixon and Cassandra Smith, has a 9 page spread in the magazine. With two singles released last year and new music on the horizon, you are going to want to have a look at what these ladies are up to.

<http://moonshinemollys.ca>

[READ HERE](#)



INDUSTRY NEWS

★ **FIREBALL** **THE BENNETT** **FRIDAYS** ★
APRIL CRAFT - KITCHEN LINEUP

APPALOOSA
APRIL 7

WHISKEY DOWN
APRIL 14

JOE FERNANDES BAND
APRIL 21

DAVE HARTNEY BAND
APRIL 28

★ **ALL COUNTRY ALL NIGHT** ★
ADVANCE TICKETS \$10 @ EVENTBRITE (PLUS SERVICE CHARGE) OR \$15 AT THE DOOR
BCCMA MEMBERS: \$10
187-176 STREET, SURREY - 778-294-1080 DOORS: 8:30PM SHOW: 9:00PM

FIREBALL FRIDAYS

Friday nights will be Country Night

The Bennett (187 176th Street, Surrey, BC) presents FIREBALL FRIDAYS beginning Friday, April 7. Advance Tickets are \$10.00 (plus Service Charges) at Eventbrite.ca.

Tickets at the door are \$15.00 and \$10.00 for BCCMA members (proof of membership required). Doors 8:30PM. Show 9:00 PM.



Rob Warwick

Rock.It Boy Entertainment
Rock.It Boy Entertainment of America
Ph: 604-720-2256 | rob@rockitboy.com
www.rockitboy.com

April 7 – APPALOOSA

APPALOOSA is Jake Stolz on lead guitar and vocals, Chris Frie on bass guitar and vocals and Chris Murray Driver on drums, featuring the very talented Courtney Hunt. Right from its inception, Appaloosa has been in great demand bringing their high-energy show to clubs and concert stages. With a Country music songbook covering Alan Jackson and Alabama, Big & Rich and Brooks and Dunn, through George Strait, George Canyon and Johnny Cash to Tim McGraw, Toby Keith and Waylon Jennings it is a guaranteed good time. For more about APPALOOSA visit: appaloosaband.com

INDUSTRY NEWS

April 14 – WHISKEY DOWN

WHISKEY DOWN delivers a blend of new country hits along with mainstream rock and pop covers. The band consists of former members of long-time corporate cover band Urban Myth, as which they performed hundreds of shows including the Toronto Convention Centre for the Public Service Alliance of Canada (2018). They have also shared the stage with such notables as Honeymoon Suite, The Odds and 54-40. It is certain to be a great night with Vancouver's Country/Rock/Pop Party Band.

For more about WHISKEY DOWN visit: <http://whiskeydown.ca>

April 21 – JOE FERNANDES BAND

Pull out those cowboy hats, dust off those boots and get ready to do a little two-steppin' with the JOE FERNANDES BAND. Individually, this four-piece has decades of experience and the awards to prove it. Collectively, this versatile, energetic crew has been delivering the goods for more than a decade. You may know them from their four-year stint as house band at Roosters Country Cabaret Sunday Nights. If you are ready to party, you need look no further than the JOE FERNANDES BAND.

For more about the JOE FERNANDES BAND visit:

<http://noteable.net/entertainment/music/joeFernandesBand>

April 28 – DAVE HARTNEY

Dave Hartney is a regular entertainer on the rodeo circuit. He opened 2017's Sunfest Country Music Festival and returned to Sunfest in 2019 and 2022. Prior to the pandemic Dave performed at some of Canada's largest country festivals, opening for headliners like Brett Young, Dustin Lynch, Dallas Smith, and Dierks Bentley. He was proud to be part of the Gone Country Cancer Fundraiser Festival (2019) which raised almost a million dollars to fight cancer. Dave crossed the country on his second national radio tour in 2019 supporting the release of his 2nd single "Everything Girl", which was his first charting single at country radio. With the release of last year's summer anthem "Jeep Thrills", he is excited about what comes next.

For more about DAVE HARTNEY visit: <http://davehartney.com>

IMPORTANT DATES

Artist of the Month

Ongoing deadline; To be released the first Friday of every month. [Read More](#)

ATTENTION - MARCH FEATURE TO BE RELEASED MARCH 10th

Member of the Week

Update your profile on the website and let us know who you are [HERE](#)

NEWSLETTER CALL FOR SUBMISSIONS:

The BCCMA invites any members in good standing to submit industry relevant information for consideration and inclusion in The BCCMA NEWSLETTER. Please submit by the first Friday of each month, so we can be update on our information. As such, any news or statements presented in this part of the newsletter are not necessarily representative of and/or endorsed by the BCMA. Please send your news items for inclusion to bccma@bccountry.com and note BCCMA NEWSLETTER in the subject line

Please keep submissions to 150-200 words (third person voice), include one high resolution photo (square images preferred) and a link to extended content

MARCH 10th DEADLINE FOR SUBMISSIONS

Introducing:

The BCCMA Volunteer Hub on Facebook

A facebook group to bring our community of volunteers together. This will be a place to see opportunities, as well as give feedback. We are a community in support of country music which is purely all volunteer. Come connect with us and say hello! Also welcom Monica Bodger who will be working with us. More to come, but for now head on over to [FACEBOOK GROUP](#)! You can also submit your interest as a volunteer [HERE](#)

BCCMA

— BRITISH COLUMBIA —
COUNTRY MUSIC ASSOCIATION

RESOURCES

WOMEN IN MUSIC

+ CANADA

LEARN MORE

Women in Music believes that the conversation around equality is an inclusive one, where all voices are welcome. Collectively, we are working to make the music industry a more diverse, equitable and inclusive community for all.

Driving the music economy by providing opportunities to further the careers of BC's music creatives & professionals.

FOR MORE ON [PROGRAMS](#)



British Columbia's creative industries are story tellers. We support them to reach their economic, social, environmental and creative potential - both at home and globally. [MORE](#)

SOCAN serves and champions more than 175,000 music creators, publishers and visual artists, advocates for them, and protects their rights. We license the world's music and collect and distribute royalties in Canada and around the world. [MORE](#)

SOCAN



The BCAC nurtures and supports arts and cultural activity in communities across British Columbia. From community arts in rural and urban centres, to individual artists, professional performing arts companies, Indigenous artists and cultural organizations, art galleries, local museums and music festivals... [MORE](#)