



10440 - 108 Avenue  
Edmonton, Alberta, T5H 3Z9  
p. 780.424.2787 | f. 780.425.7620  
[edmontonarts.ca](http://edmontonarts.ca)

## Media Release

for immediate release

### Public Art Lights Up Commonwealth Community Recreation Centre

*Edmonton* – *Soleil de Nuit*, one of the newest additions to Edmonton’s Public Art Collection is now fully functional and illuminating the Commonwealth Community Recreation Centre. A team specializing in neon light installation has been in Edmonton for the past two weeks affixing the artwork to its sites on the east and west sides of the facility.

Commissioned through Edmonton’s Percent for Art Policy, *Soleil de Nuit* marks a further milestone for Edmonton’s Public Art Collection. **Edmonton Arts Council personnel will conduct an informal tour of the artwork at 7:30 pm on Tuesday, June 11. Media are asked to meet at the Clarke Field end of Commonwealth Community Recreation Centre.** The tour will include background and technical information about the work as well as an opportunity for photographs. **Please RSVP to Eva Marie Clarke to indicate your participation by 4:00 pm.**

*Soleil de Nuit* is a site-specific artwork composed of two elements - neon lettering spelling “soleil de nuit” and rotating reflective, faceted spheres mounted on masts. The scope of the work makes it one of the largest to date in Edmonton’s Public Art Collection. The neon is 50 meters long by approximately three meters tall; the spheres are approximately two meters in diameter and mounted on four-meter tall masts. The technological infrastructure behind the installation is intricate, incorporating transformers, motors, and floodlights.

French artist Laurent Grasso conceptualized the work specifically for Edmonton’s northern location and climate. He is well known internationally for his award-winning art, which is inspired by the science of electro-magnetic energy, radio waves and natural phenomena. Symbolically, *Soleil de Nuit* playfully comments on the manufacture of false suns and artificial climates. A northern city, Edmonton relies on both for its continual ability to thrive in the face of long winters and dark nights.

Visit the City of Edmonton Public Art Collection online gallery ([www.edmontonpublicart.ca](http://www.edmontonpublicart.ca)) for more images. To find out more about Edmonton’s Percent for Art Policy, visit [http://publicart.edmontonarts.ca/public\\_art\\_-\\_percent\\_for\\_art\\_policy/](http://publicart.edmontonarts.ca/public_art_-_percent_for_art_policy/)

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#### Contact

Eva Marie Clarke  
Communications Officer  
Edmonton Arts Council  
Ph: 780.24.2787 ext. 235  
Email: [emclarke@edmontonarts.ca](mailto:emclarke@edmontonarts.ca)