



# Ogden Legion Pipe Band

**We want YOU to come and play with US!!**

*Southern Alberta's Premier*

*Youth Pipe Band*

## Introducing the OLPB:

The Ogden Legion Pipe Band (OLPB) is a high-caliber, award-winning youth pipe band based out of Calgary, Alberta. The band was formed in 1972 and is sponsored by the Royal Canadian Legion, Ogden Branch #154.

Over the years, the band has developed many skilled pipers and drummers who have continued to enjoy their music and play in other pipe bands in the Calgary area and abroad.

The OLPB has won many awards and honours in both Canada and Scotland. We are very proud to be the Grade IV provincial champions for the past seven consecutive years!!!



OLPB at the World Pipe Band Championships - August 13, 2011

## Frequently Asked Questions:

### Can anyone join the OLPB? I'm not Scottish!!

Yes, if you are between the ages of 8 and 18 and are interested in playing in a highland pipe band, you are welcome to join. You don't have to be of Scottish descent, you just have to want to engage in a fun, rewarding musical experience where you will learn a really cool instrument that you will likely enjoy playing for the rest of your life!!

### Do I need any previous musical experience?

No, you do not need to know how to play the bagpipes or drums before you join the band. Our highly experienced instructors will introduce you to your instrument and help you fine-tune your skills during your time with the band. Certainly if you already have achieved a level of skill on a highland band instrument, we would love to have you join our band as well!!

### What instrument should I play?

There are 4 fantastic instruments to choose from: Great Highland Bagpipes, Side Snare Drum, Tenor Drum, Bass Drum.

### Do I need to buy my instrument?

You will initially need to purchase your practice instrument (i.e., practice chanter or drum pad). If you are a drummer, once you are ready to move onto the drums, the band will provide you with your instrument. If you are a piper, the band has a limited number of entry level bagpipes that can be used for the first couple of months when you first move from the practice chanter to the bagpipes. Eventually you will want to purchase your own set of highland bagpipes.

### How long before I actually play in the band?

When you are first learning your instrument you will spend your time practicing rudimentary skills and learning songs on a practice chanter (for pipers) or a drum pad (for drummers). Once you have achieved the necessary level of competence,

you will then transition onto the highland pipe band instruments. Every person is different, but typically it takes anywhere from 12 – 18 months to move from the drum pad onto the side drum or from the practice chanter onto the bagpipes. Tenor drummers and bass drummers tend to move more quickly onto their instruments, but still need to achieve a particular level of competency before they are playing in the band.

### Will I get to travel the world?

Actually....yes! The band travels to various highland games in Western Canada and is committed to travelling to the World Pipe Band Championships in Glasgow, Scotland, or another international competition, every two to three years. We participated at the World Championships in 2006, 2008, and again in August 2011, at which we placed 5<sup>th</sup> in Grade 4B!! When we are over in Scotland, we also make sure to tour around and participate in a few extra highland games as well – in August 2011, the band placed 1<sup>st</sup> at both the North Berwick and Bridge of Allan Highland Games!



OLPB after having placed 1<sup>st</sup> at both the North Berwick and Bridge of Allan Highland Games in Scotland – August 2011

**Practice Times:** Tuesday evenings, early October until the end of June:

6:30-7:30 p.m. for practice chanter and drum pad

7:00-9:30 p.m. for performance and competition band

**Location:** The Royal Canadian Legion Ogden Branch - 2625 – 78 Avenue SE, Calgary, AB

**Fees:** Instructional fees are \$50/month for the first member, and \$30/month for each additional family member. There are additional fundraising and uniform deposit commitments required.

**About our instructors:** Many of our piping and drumming instructors are current or past members of the Alberta Caledonia Pipe Band or other high-caliber, award-winning pipe bands with years of teaching experience and an incredible passion for their music.

Pat Napper (piping) and Kathy MacPherson (drumming) have been instructors with the OLPB for many years and have been the band directors for the past 5 years. Both are highly accomplished musicians who have played with some of the world's top-rated pipe bands including Simon Fraser University Pipe Band and Alberta Caledonia Pipe Band. Both are committed to teaching young musicians to appreciate not only the musicality of their instruments, but how to work as a team to create the best sound and ensure a positive pipe band experience for everyone.

**In-person Registration for the 2011-2012 season will be held at the Ogden Legion, as follows:**

**Returning members:** Tuesday, September 20 from 7:00 – 9:00 p.m.

**New members:** Tuesday, September 27 from 7:00 – 9:00 p.m.

The registration form and payment may also be mailed to the address below:

OLPB Registrar, 3434 – 31 Street SW Calgary, AB T3E 2P2

Email: [msnclr@gmail.com](mailto:msnclr@gmail.com) for additional information

Lessons begin Tuesday, October 4, 2011 for all members.

**For more information, visit our website:**

[www.olpb.ab.ca](http://www.olpb.ab.ca)