

Calvin Cairns – *Joyful Fiddler*

Calvin Cairns has toured around the world as a **fiddler** and multi-instrumentalist with Stringband, The Romaniacs, and The Bills. He has performed with Connie Kaldor, Spirit of the West, The Halifax Symphony, Thunder Bay Symphony, and **Stuart Maclean**.

Calvin has extensive experience as a **musical arranger** and **director**, in theatre and **community productions**, principally with The Caravan Farm Theatre (BC), Public Dreams (Vancouver), and Welfare State International (UK)

In 1995 Calvin began teaching fiddle, **creating** his own method and repertoire leading to a program of international folk fiddling. From 1996-2007 Calvin taught group classes in folk fiddling at the Victoria Conservatory. There he taught and directed **The Conservatory Fiddles**, an all ages Fiddle Orchestra, with over fifty members. “The Conservatory Fiddles” performed concerts at various **community functions** and fundraisers in Victoria including their wildly successful **Urban Barndances**. These all-ages family dances were attended by hundreds of toe tapping, foot stomping fiddle music fans discovering their common love of old time music and dance.

Since 2004 Calvin has taught fiddle in remote communities of the Deh Cho in the **Northwest Territories** with the Kole Crook Fiddle Association. The program Calvin and his fellow teachers developed has spread to 13 northern communities and touched hundreds of fiddlers in the NWT.

In 2011, Calvin began teaching in the remote **Chilcotin** region of BC. He continues to perform in the Victoria area and at folk festivals **across Canada**.