



After forty-three seasons as Principal viola of the CPO, **John Thompson** retired in 2014, having enjoyed a fulfilling career in the musical life of Calgary. In addition to his orchestral responsibilities, he was a featured soloist with the orchestra on many occasions, participated in numerous chamber music ensembles, both locally and internationally, while actively pursuing educational activities with students and youth orchestras.

In addition to his musical responsibilities in the CPO, he was Chair of the Orchestra Committee for several years, the CPO's representative to the Organisation of Canadian Symphony Musicians for many years and fulfilled the roll of Treasurer on its Executive Board for five years.

As an instructor at the Mount Royal University Conservatory, he taught viola, coordinated the Academy program's Chamber Music and conducted various ensembles, including the Calgary Youth Orchestra and the Conservatory Strings. Many of his students may be found in ensembles across North America.

Throughout his career, teaching has been a constant and important part of his musical life, teaching at summer schools and festivals, the University of Calgary and enjoying many international tours with the Calgary Youth Orchestra.

He has adjudicated across the country at local, provincial and national levels and is frequently asked to sit as a jury member for competitions.

John is proud to have been recognized for his services to music in Alberta with an Alberta Achievement Award from the Province and a Distinguished Faculty Award from Mount Royal College.

Though he would like to spend more time traveling and bird watching, he still enjoys playing with various ensembles and adjudicating when asked.