



## LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY OF ALBERTA

**MEDIA RELEASE**

**February 20, 2018**

### **LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY HOSTS FIRST LUNAR NEW YEAR CEREMONY**

**Edmonton** – Honourable Robert E. Wanner, Speaker of the Legislative Assembly of Alberta, will host the first Lunar New Year ceremony in the Alberta Legislature Building on Friday, February 23, 2018, at 5 p.m.

“The Lunar New Year, or Spring Festival, is the most significant of all the traditional Chinese holidays,” said Speaker Wanner. “On behalf of all Members of the Legislative Assembly of Alberta I would like to greet Albertans of Chinese, Korean, Vietnamese and other east Asian heritages that are celebrating the occasion a Happy New Year. May the Year of the Dog be filled with prosperity and good tidings for you and all of your loved ones.”

The event will be held in the Legislature Rotunda and will include remarks by leaders and guests from the Chinese community. A traditional lion dance performance will also be featured.

The Lunar New Year, traditionally recognized as Chinese New Year or Spring Festival, is a major holiday not just in China but in many of its neighbouring countries. It is also celebrated in a significant way by the Chinese diaspora in major cities across the globe. The dates for Lunar New Year change according to the Chinese calendar, which is lunisolar and uses both the moon phase and the solar year. Festivities take about 15 days and conclude with Yuan Xiao, the Lantern Festival on the 15th day, when the moon is full.

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Media inquiries and more information contact:

Jeanette Dotimas, Communications Services  
Legislative Assembly of Alberta  
Telephone: 780.862.6362  
Jeanette.Dotimas@assembly.ab.ca

Alex McCuaig, Chief of Staff to the Speaker  
Legislative Assembly of Alberta  
Telephone: 780.427.2464  
Alex.McCuaig@assembly.ab.ca