



Message from His Worship Mayor Stephen Mandel



On behalf of City Council and the people of Edmonton, Alberta's Capital City, it gives me great pleasure to congratulate the Ankur Multicultural Society for Performing Arts on its first anniversary.

Watching this project blossom has been an amazing and delightful experience. 'Ankur' is a Sanskrit word that means 'germination' – a fitting name for a society devoted to sowing the seeds of culture. I was honoured to inaugurate Ankur's first performances in April 2006, and since then many of its seeds have borne fruit. Ankur has hosted four multicultural nights that involved dance and music with ethnic roots reaching around the world.

This sort of arts programming works like wheat on the wind; one good gust and it spreads everywhere. More and more cultural and ethnic groups are hearing about Ankur and signing up to perform on a global stage that a proud group of Edmontonians has created from a simple truth: that all cultures deserve to be celebrated, and ours is the city to host them.

On this, the anniversary of Ankur's official status as a non-profit society, we are fortunate to enjoy performances from India, Ukraine and the Philippines that will enrich the Ankur tapestry, showing the deep diversity that Edmonton is all about.

Thanks for helping lead the way.

Yours truly,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads 'Stephen Mandel'. The signature is written in a cursive, slightly slanted style.

Stephen Mandel
Mayor