

## STEPHEN LECCE, MPP King-Vaughan

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On behalf of the Government of Ontario, it is a pleasure for me to warmly welcome the incredibly talented cast and crew of the Shen Yun Performing Arts to our province. I also sincerely thank the Falun Dafa Association of Canada for serving as Shen Yun's Canadian presenter, thereby allowing nine Canadian host cities to enjoy an inspiring, educational, and magnificent presentation of music and dance.

A Shen Yun performance is more than an evening of high-quality entertainment. Shen Yun also serves as a vital link to the pre-communist past for individuals of Chinese descent who wish to reconnect with their cultural roots, and as a compelling celebration of China's rich cultural heritage for anyone who is looking to obtain a better understanding of 5,000 years of Chinese history, knowledge and philosophies.

Based in New York, Shen Yun Performing Arts was established by Falun Gong practitioners who fled communism in the pursuit of freedom, democracy human rights and the rule of law. I applaud all of you for continuing to stand up in defense of religious freedom and human dignity for all, and for speaking truth to power.

Please accept my best wishes for many wonderful performances and continued success.

Sincerely yours,

Stephen Lecce Member of Provincial Parliament (MPP) King-Vaughan (Ontario, Canada)