



For immediate release

**DR. REZA MORIDI M.P.P. TO SERVE AS HONORARY PATRON OF TIRGAN 2013**

**First Iranian-Canadian who served at the federal and provincial legislature at Canada and introduced motions to recognize Nowruz as the first day of spring in Ontario, will patron world's largest Iranian festival.**

**Toronto, March 2, 2013** – Tirgan Festival is thrilled to announce that the first elected political and cultural figure of Iranian-Canadian community, Dr. Reza Moridi M.P.P., has accepted the role of Tirgan 2013 festival's Honorary Patron.

"Dr. Moridi is certainly a figure of whom all Iranian-Canadians must be proud. Throughout his term in Office at the Ontario legislature, he has supported many cultural initiatives including Tirgan festival. We had Dr. Moridi as the Honorary Chair of the last festival and we are proud to have him this year as Tirgan's Honorary Patron." Said Behrouz Amouzgar, the festival's Public Relations Director.

The next Tirgan will be held from July 18 to 21, 2013, in Harbourfront Centre of Toronto, a city which exemplifies Tirgan's celebration of diversity. Showcasing a selection of over 90 Iranian cultural performances in music, dance, theatre, cinema, literature, and visual arts, Tirgan 2013 is expected to attract over 150,000 visitors to Toronto's Harbourfront Centre.

**About Reza Moridi:**

An award-winning scientist, engineer, educator, business leader, and community activist, Dr. Reza Moridi successfully bridged academia with business and government. Dr. Moridi has also served as the Parliamentary Assistant to the Minister of Training, Colleges and Universities, the Minister of Research and Innovation, and the Minister of Energy. He has taken actions in the legislature to recognize and promote cultural and professional significance in Ontario, including events such as Nowruz, International Mother Language Day, and Doctor's Day.

**About Tirgan:**

Tirgan Festival, the world's largest festival celebrating Iranian arts and culture, takes place biennially at the Harbourfront Centre of Toronto, Canada. In 2013, Tirgan will offer a selection of over 90 features showcasing renowned performers in an array of artistic disciplines including: music, dance, theatre, cinema, literature and the visual arts in addition to workshops, organized activities, galleries, delicious food, and a traditional bazaar, all of which will capture the heart and imagination of both young and old alike. To find out more about Tirgan, please visit [www.tirgan.ca](http://www.tirgan.ca).

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