

# Lifestyle

## Cec cooks up a storm

### MRS GROUSE



Cec Purves is a self-proclaimed big project addict. "And once you've tasted my convention center stew," says the Edmonton mayor, "there is absolutely no comparison to Ed Ewasiuk's small-time potatoes." Purves, 40ish, was always "into" big monuments to civic glory. When he was working as alderman a few years back, he was the sous-chef on the Edmonton entry into the culinary Olympics, perfecting such specialties as Coliseum a la mode, Commonwealth Games au gratin, and roast council circus.

Three years ago, he became mayor... and his appetite has been growing ever since.

"The neat thing is," he says, "that you can take one basic pro-business recipe and turn it into any project you want."

Cec loves to experiment. Some of his favorites include Task Force soup, plebiscite salad, and fried commissioners. He says he *still* can't find the right ingredients for a good old-fashioned MacKinnon freeway pie.

"The bad thing about my stew," says Cec, "is that there are no preservatives in it, so you must continually watch it so it doesn't go all gooey and slide off the plate."

Purves admits his stew is so chunky the voters may find it a bit hard to swallow. But he says, "If you find your credibility is being stretched a little thin, you can always supplement it with a little greenback salad."

#### CEC'S CONVENTION CENTER STEW

- 12 aldermen
- 4 cost-overruns
- 2 plebiscites
- 1 gross civic pride
- 1 50-lb sack voter uproar (well-seasoned)
- 6 false starts



One of Cec's assistants shows how to toss a greenback salad, but Cec is obviously going to need more salad than this to make his stew palatable.

4 tons pro-business sentiment  
\$36 million, or was it \$46 million, or was it \$82 million, or was it....?

Mix the above ingredients in a \$20 million hole in the ground, shake well, stir, simmer for 19 years and then look for more money. When the project looks suitably overbaked, fill in the hole, look for a recipe that costs more, and start over.

Cec says it serves 500,000, but we're not so sure.

### DAVE SWILLINGATE



It's like the old line, "An audience in stitches saves the critic nine." Hours of thinking that is.

Which brings us to the current production of *The Hollow Playwright*, now on at the Citadel main stage. The audience reaction to this astounding play ranged from ambivalent to confusion, but notwithstanding a certain understandable puzzlement, inevitable and unavoidable in any avant-garde performance of this sort, one could only conclude that the play deserved better.

What could have caused this reaction?

Obviously some sort of misconception must have existed in the minds of the audience to cause them to construe this play as something other than the dazzling play I saw. Of course one must perhaps retain some reservations about a conclusion as disconcerting as this one, especially considering the subjectivity of the reviewer, which can be influenced by as little thing as a spat with one's wife, or the weather, or a glass of wine, or a tab of LSD in the coffee.

But as I was saying, these INFLUENCES.... I'm sure you know what I mean. It's so easy to lose these chains of thought when one gets tangled in them.

But how could anyone tell? I mean if these twits can't even figure a piece of the old turkey like *The Hollow Playwright*, they sure as hell couldn't tell I'm stoned. I'm a craftier little bugger than a lot of people suspect.

So we just play it cool. Like real cooooooooooooooooooooooool. Like REAL COOL! Like thes basic bastinados what puts on all thees preeeeeeetentius turkeys on the stage an COOKs the peple fr money money money money. And nver blink or smile while their putting it over. ARTISTS!

And all the abslute?????? intuitions, perceptions, fluid grace, gritty determination, passion and emotional range, staright off the notpad without a speling error and stream o conshusmelt. Well I cn still right evn if this funy iffice.

A are new office. D i tell you hmmmmmm#??&



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