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**For Immediate Release**

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**CARRIE UNDERWOOD TO HEADLINE SUNFEST COUNTRY MUSIC FESTIVAL 2016**

**Cowichan B.C.:** Carrie Underwood is confirmed to headline Sunfest Country Music Festival in 2016. The top female country singer from Oklahoma will play to 18,000 expected attendees July 28 to August 1, 2016, in the Cowichan Valley.

In January 2005, Carrie Underwood made her music debut on the fourth season of American Idol. One decade later the once shy singer-songwriter has won hundreds of accolades and has risen to not only the top of the country music world but has transcended into the top Billboard Hot 100. Among her many honors, she's the recipient of seven GRAMMY® Awards, scored 21 #1 singles, 10 Billboard Music Awards, eight American Music Awards, five Country Music Association Awards (three as Female Vocalist of the Year), 11 Academy of Country Music Awards – including being the first woman to win back-to-back ACM Entertainer of the Year Awards – and in April of 2014 was named to the TIME 100: Time magazine's ranking of the 100 most influential people in the world. "I can't believe it's been a decade since I auditioned for American Idol," Carrie admits. "So much has happened since then. In some ways it feels like it was a million years ago; in some ways it feels like it was just yesterday."

Over the past decade, Carrie Underwood has blossomed from a shy young woman with an incredible voice to a seasoned, superstar headliner, selling-out arenas across the U.S. and Canada – and becoming an in-demand ticket in Europe and Australia, as well. Her career spans vast avenues in entertainment, from co-hosting the CMA Awards with Brad Paisley for seven years straight to appearing in major motion pictures and writing scores for television and film, she continues to grow her career, constantly progressing as an artist.

"We couldn't be more excited to have Carrie Underwood headline Sunfest 2016," comments Emmalee Brunt, PR & Marketing Manager for Sunfest Concerts. "We've wanted a female headliner on our bill for many years and cannot wait to host one of the most influential women in music right here on Vancouver Island."

Tickets for Sunfest Country Music Festival 2016 are expected to go on sale Monday, August 17, 2015. Tickets can be purchased at [www.sunfestconcerts.com](http://www.sunfestconcerts.com).

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