

## GOOD NEWS!! – Canada Cultural Spaces Fund Assists In Upgrades to the BMO Studio Theatre performance space.

February 17<sup>th</sup>, 2014 - Saint John Theatre Company is pleased to announce it is the recipient of funding from the Government of Canada to perform upgrades to the BMO Studio Theatre space at 112 Princess Street. Member of Parliament Rodney Weston (Saint John) announced \$30,190 for fiscal year 2013-2014 for the theatre company on behalf of Canadian Heritage and Official Languages Minister Shelly Glover.



*“The BMO Studio Theatre was originally designed as a rehearsal hall, but as time went on we realized the value of this space as a performance venue in itself. The proper infrastructure to outfit the space is vital to the growth of the BMO Studio Theatre as a high end performance and rental venue.” – Stephen Tobias, Executive Director, Saint John Theatre Company.*

The Government funding, in addition to funding from a generous donation from Wawanesa Insurance and various individual donors, will assist in the installation of sound, lighting and projection equipment as well as a screen and 100 chairs; items that the facility had to either go without or rent in the past. These upgrades will be used to improve the venue for in house Studio Series, guest artist Presentation Series, and the wildly popular summer Fundy Fringe Festival productions that are performed in the space.

*“The BMO Studio Theatre is a significant multi-purpose performing arts venue for residents of and visitors to Saint John. Through the improvements announced today, we can expect this venue to be an even busier hub for cultural activity.” Rodney Weston, Member of Parliament (Saint John).*