

For Immediate Release
September 10, 2018

Making Treaty 7 Cultural Society presents Kaahsinnoniks (our ancestors)
These Are Their Truths

The Making Treaty 7 Cultural Society (MT7) tells the story of the historic events at Blackfoot Crossing in 1877, with the hope to inspire new relationships across cultures and generations, long into the future.

What makes Making Treaty 7 performances different, and important, is that they are grounded in and come from local First Nations' oral tradition. *These are their stories* – their truths - as shared by Elders and Knowledge Keepers with artists who have then interpreted and developed a theatrical performance.

Led by Artistic Director Justin Many Fingers from the Kainai Blackfoot Reserve in southern Alberta, this directorial debut about local First Nations participation in the making of the treaty is a radical departure from the presentation format of previous Making Treaty 7 shows.

“What’s different about the show this year is that its more theatrical. And its fun. You really get to see the characters interact with each other and see the relationships of characters,” says Many Fingers. “In the past, the show was more presentational, explaining what happened.”

“This year, Kaahsinnoniks will be more playful, and will be looking at the philosophies within the culture itself that normally don’t show up in our theatre productions,” he goes on to explain. “It also looks at current events happening today, the whole truth and reconciliation which Canada is going through. This show gives you the context to comprehend what we’re still going through today, given the context of what happened then.”

With a primarily local Indigenous cast and stories provided through years of deep consultation and engagement with local Elders, Kaahsinnoniks stands as a national example of how Indigenous story-telling can both honour the cultures and entertain.

Making Treaty 7 – Kaahsinnoniks plays at the Southern Alberta Jubilee Auditorium October 3 and 4th. Tickets are available through [Ticketmaster](#)

Additional Quotes About the Making Treaty 7 Cultural Society presentations:

“... an uplifting example of how reconciliation can express itself through the arts.”
-Marie Wilson, Commissioner of the Truth and Reconciliation Commission of Canada

"Brilliant, Brilliant, Brilliant!" - Alberta Human Rights Commission

“Your work is important to support reconciliation efforts between Indigenous and non-Indigenous people.” - Richard Feehan, Alberta Minister of Indigenous Relations

Media Inquiries: Please contact media@makingtreaty7.com
or phone MT7 office at 587-899-1877 for interviews

Video/Photo Access: Kaahsinnoniks is in rehearsal the week of Sept 12-14. Film/video/photo journalists are invited to attend rehearsal on Friday afternoon (Sept 14) – please contact the office so we can coordinate access.

Photos: High rez photos are available for download [here](#)

Backgrounder on the Making Treaty 7 development process is available [here](#)

Backgrounder on a new way of writing plays when you're from an oral culture [is here](#)

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About Making Treaty 7: The Making Treaty 7 Cultural Society presents entertainment pieces and a learning experiences for all Canadians. Inspirational, educational, and entertaining, the Making Treaty 7 performances tell a fundamental story of Alberta's past, and hopes to inspire new relationships across cultures and generations, long into the future. The Society invites all ages and backgrounds to consider an enlightened, sustainable future for everyone, together. Follow us on Facebook/Twitter [@makingtreaty7](#) & Instagram