

NEWS RELEASE

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'Music for the People—A Cultural Experience' Strikes a Chord of Unity

Approximately 800 People Attend the Celebration of Music and Culture

Kamloops, B.C. - The echoes of music and the spirit of unity still resonate in the hearts of those who attended 'Music for the People—A Cultural Experience' on September 17th at the Tk'emlúps te Secwépemc Powwow Arbour. Organizers estimate the event drew a crowd of approximately 800 people, creating an unforgettable experience of harmony and reconciliation.

"We are so humbled and thankful for the many people who came to Music for the People," shared Margit Bandura. "It was beautiful to look out into the crowd and see people of all ages enjoying the music and culture of performers from the Kamloops Symphony, Margit Sky Project, and Sage Hills Singers, Drummers and Dancers. We also loved seeing all of the little kids out dancing and enjoying this sacred and beautiful venue."

The collaborative efforts of all the performers left the audience spellbound, demonstrating the power of music to unite people from different backgrounds.

The Kwséltkten Farmers' & Artisan Market added an extra layer of cultural richness to the evening, with attendees enjoying local artisanal offerings and food. Donations were accepted as well with proceeds to support the Indian Residential School Survivors Society.

George Casimir, general manager for the Community Futures Development Corporation of Central Interior First Nations and a member of Tk'emlúps te Secwépemc, congratulates the organizers and performers, stating, "As expected, it was spectacular and lived up to expectations. I want to thank Margit for her visionary idea and for including Kwséltkten Market to participate."

Reflecting on the memorable celebration, Ryan Deneault, the evening's emcee remarked, "The event was beautiful, and the vision of Margit and Rod Bandura to bring Indigenous and non-Indigenous music, culture and people together certainly was achieved. It was great to see so many families and people of all ages enjoy a wonderful evening at the Tk'emlúps te Secwépemc Arbour."

Organizers further expressed their deep gratitude to the many valued supporters and sponsors who made this event possible.

"We again would like to thank our presenting sponsors, RBC and Kelson Group Property Management," noted Margit. "An event like this takes a lot of time and resources to make it happen, and we are thrilled



with the sponsorship of our presenting partners and all of our sponsors who made this event accessible to all."

Looking ahead, Margit and Rod look to make Music for the People an annual event in Kamloops, continuing to foster cultural understanding and reconciliation through music.

For a glimpse into the event, follow us on our <u>Facebook page</u> or visit our <u>website</u>.

To set up an interview with Margit and Rod, contact:

Aleece Laird, Communications Liaison | aleece@amplifyinc.ca | 250.574.0221

About Music For The People – A Cultural Experience

Music For the People is a unique concert event bringing the voices, music, and artistry of Indigenous and non-Indigenous people together for an unforgettable evening. The concert brings culture, music, artists, and communities together and is suitable for all ages. www.musicforthepeople.ca

About the Indian Residential School Survivors Society (the Society)

The Society works to assist First Nation Peoples in British Columbia to recognize and be holistically empowered from the primary and generational effect of the Residential Schools by supporting research, education, awareness, partnerships, and advocating for justice and healing. The Society assists Survivors with counselling, court support, information, referrals, workshops, and more.