

## Indigenous and non-Indigenous Performers to Share Kamloops Stage

### Concert Experience of Harmony and Reconciliation

**KAMLOOPS, B.C.:** Margit and Rod, two of the founding members of the Margit Sky Project, have always believed that music soothes the soul. At a press event hosted on July 7 at the Tk'emlúps te Secwépemc Powwow Arbour, the duo shared with local media and community members details about a concert experience event called 'For The People' that they are organizing for mid-August. Their vision is for the voices of Indigenous and non-Indigenous people to come together to share culture, music, and story to soothe the soul and bring harmony and reconciliation to community.

"This will be a concert experience like no other," said Margit, who sings and plays rhythm guitar with the Margit Sky Project. "It is an opportunity to hear original music written and performed by Rod and myself, but with a twist, as we've invited several members of the Kamloops Symphony and performers from Sagehill Drummers and Dancers to join us. They've graciously accepted the invitation to perform, and together we know the evening will be absolutely unforgettable."

Rod, whose First Nations' name is *Little Sky* – the 'Sky' in the Margit Sky Project – is no stranger to performing, having toured extensively and opened for the likes of Burton Cummings, Trooper, Barney Bentall, and even actor Kevin Costner and his band Modern West. But this concert is different and has the lead guitarist and vocalist anticipating the August 14<sup>th</sup> event probably more than he has anticipated a gig in his life.

"I've played so many great shows in my life, but this one, it's different," remarked Rod. "We are intentionally bringing Indigenous and non-Indigenous sisters and brothers together to perform as one. We hope our audience will also be reflective of what we are sharing on stage, where our Indigenous and non-Indigenous communities of neighbours, friends, and family come out to enjoy the harmony of the music and to experience our unique cultures. We are already counting the days until showtime!"

The community of Kamloops has already shown tremendous support for the concert with Kelson Group as the Presenting Sponsor, and the City of Kamloops, Tourism Kamloops, Broadcast Centre, and Community Futures Development Corporation of Central Interior First Nations as supporters. The Kamloops Symphony's Executive Director, Daniel Mills, is also excited about the show.

"We are so pleased to have several members from our symphony orchestra perform as a part of the concert experience," noted Mills. "As a symphony, much of the music we play is rooted in a more traditional artform based on colonial artwork. For members of our symphony to join in this collaboration with the Margit Sky Project and Sagehill Drummers and Dancers really exemplifies how alive the spirit of truth and reconciliation is in our community."

The 'For the People' concert experience will play one night only at the Sagebrush Theatre. The show is suitable for all ages and tickets are \$49.00 (including taxes and fees) and available through Kamloops LIVE! Box Office. Part proceeds from the event will go to support the work of the Indian Residential School Survivors Society (IRSSS).

"We are appreciative to be the non-profit recipient of the event," noted NAME NAME, TITLE with the IRSSS. "One of our Society's goals is to continually expand our support to partner organizations and maximize access

to culturally sensitive, emotional, mental, physical, and spiritual care. Monies donated to the IRSSS from the 'For the People' concert experience will greatly help us continue to maximize access to care."

Margit and Rod are busy putting the finishing touches on the show.

"We look forward to seeing how the community Kamloops, and also those in the surrounding region, support the show," said Margit. "In the future, we would love to expand the reach of 'For The People' so that many more people from across our province are forever touched by the voices, music, and artistry of Indigenous and non-Indigenous people."

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

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High resolution press event photos also available.

**About IRSSS**

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.

**About 'For The People'**

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](http://www.musicforthepeople.ca)