

NEWS RELEASE

Guest Artists to Help Schools Celebrate Indigenous Sharing and Culture FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

October 24, 2022 - The Newfoundland and Labrador English School District, in collaborative partnership with the Bruneau Centre for Excellence in Choral Music is honoured to host Indigenous singer and musician, Shannon Thunderbird and friends for a week of unique learning opportunities. Thunderbird has come from Ontario to our province to work with students, teachers, and community members, and will be joined on stage by students and local Indigenous performers in a public concert offering to be held Thursday, October 27, 2022

Shannon Thunderbird and Kate Dickson are both Tsm'syen First Nation Elders from Northern British Columbia who have toured extensively across Canada, giving workshops on Indigenous culture, singing, and drumming. Throughout their visit to the province, they will be speaking to students in schools about residential schools, Tsm'syen First Nation culture, singing, and drumming. They will also be offering a free singing and drumming session to the music community in St. John's, and offering Professional Learning Sessions for Educators.

The week of presentations and workshops will culminate in a public concert titled "Big Drums are Calling: A Fusion of Indigenous and Non-Indigenous Voices Raised in Celebration." The performance will take place on Thursday, October 27 at 7:00 p.m. at Holy Heart Theatre. The concert will feature Shannon Thunderbird, Kate Dickson, Eastern Owl, Deantha Edmunds, Holy Heart Chamber Choir and a chorus of 100 elementary school students from schools across the city.

Tickets to "Big Drums are Calling: A Fusion of Indigenous and Non-Indigenous Voices Raised in Celebration" can be purchased through www.holyhearttheatre.com or through Showpass at the following address: www.showpass.com/big-drums-are-calling

Thunderbird will be available to speak with the media today (Monday, October 24) and Wednesday, (October 26). To make interview arrangements, please contact Holy Heart Choral Director Robert Colbourne at robertcolbourne@nlesd.ca or by cell at (709) 689-3491

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