

For Immediate Release
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New Artistic Director and ambitious new productions to inspire positive change mark Making Treaty 7 Cultural Society's 2018 Season

The Making Treaty 7 Cultural Society (MT7) is buzzing with change and new beginnings, building on the enormous success of their first three years and a national tour of this theatrical exploration of the historic events at Blackfoot Crossing in 1877.

New Artistic Director

Mii-Sum-In-Iskum (Long Time Buffalo Rock) is a Queer, Indigenous, disabled, and MAD artist from the Kainai Blackfoot Reserve in Southern Alberta. His Canadian name is Justin Many Fingers. MT7's new Artistic Director has a bold mission to work with existing arts organizations in Mohhkintstis (Calgary) to become the national centre for Indigenous arts.

"I'm committed to creating original works, presenting productions as well as creating a path for Indigenous theatre, dance and music. I see the unique visual artists from this territory and want to work closely with them to offer the opportunities they deserve."

The 2018 Season

The 2018 season kicks off with a **Visual Art Exhibit** from September 17-29 on the first floor of the society's new home, cSPACE in the old King Edward Building. Admission is free and features a variety of Indigenous artists' works.

MT7's 2018 theatrical production is grounded in the Blackfoot word **KAAHSINNONIKS** which roughly translates to ancestor. Building on past Making Treaty 7 productions which saw sold-out crowds and a national, in 2018 we take a fresh look at the history and legacy of the events at Blackfoot Crossing in 1877. Making Treaty 7 is a unique intertwined work of dance, theatre, music and poetry built on guidance and stories from Treaty 7 Elders, and through them our Kaahsinnoniks. The performance takes its audience on a journey through history to better understand the true spirit and intent of the treaty, while investigating the consequences and the

implications Alberta faces today. **Making Treaty 7 – Kaahsinnoniks** plays at the Southern Alberta Jubilee Auditorium October 3 and 4th.

The world premiere of **KIITISTSINNONIKS (our mothers)** is October 24, 25, 26 at the Martha Cohen Theatre at Arts Commons. From a gathering of Elders, these never-before heard stories of hope, resilience and ancestry are the guiding force of Kiitistsinnoniks. Written, directed and designed by an all-female crew, MT7's newest production is in solidarity of our Missing and Murdered Indigenous Women.

“Women have always been the backbone of our culture and we ask ourselves, what happens to a culture when the women disappear?” asks Many Fingers.

Media Inquiries: Please contact media@makingtreaty7.com
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To purchase tickets to the performance, or to learn more about Making Treaty 7 please visit:
www.makingtreaty7.com

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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 making_treaty_7.