

MEDIA RELEASE

An Indigenous take on a musical favourite, *Bear Grease* comes to The Citadel Theatre

September 25, 2024

Edmonton, Alberta – Living up to its promise of theatre for the theatrically adventurous, the first show of the 2024/25 Highwire Series is set to hand-jive onto the Maclab Theatre stage for a 10-day run this October.

It's Sandy and Danny like you've never seen them before, *Bear Grease* takes the 1978 musical, *Grease*, on an Indigenous joyride, with fashion that slays, humour that tickles your funny bone, and music that makes you groove! It's a rez makeover for the beloved characters, keeping the authenticity alive while adding a burst of cultural flair. Buckle up for an electrifying experience that celebrates Indigenous cultures and dances its way into your heart—it's a one-of-a-kind adventure you don't want to miss.

Bear Grease is a LightningCloud production from married co-writers and creators of the show, **Henry "Cloud" Andrade** and **Crystle Lightning**. The duo states that after watching the movie *Grease* and infusing their own lyrics into the songs, the idea for this fun, energetic celebration of culture was born. *Bear Grease* is a showcase of Indigenous peoples from all over North America, bringing elements such as clothing, dance and new lyrics from the experiences of the cast.

While not an exact replica of *Grease*, this production features characters and music you know and love plus new songs and twists to the original. The show was a hit during its premiere at the Edmonton Fringe Festival in 2021, playing to sold out venues, and has been touring Canada and the United States for the past few years.

Bear Grease plays October 17 – 27, 2024. Tickets are available online at citadeltheatre.com or by calling Box Office at 780.425.1820.

An Accessible Performance of *Bear Grease* takes place on October 26, 2024, at 1:30pm which consists of both a Relaxed and Captioned Performance. To learn more about the Accessible Performances which are being offered for every show in the 2024/25 Season, visit <https://citadeltheatre.com/accessibility/>

Pay What You Choose in-person night, presented by Alberta Blue Cross takes place on Sunday, October 20, 2024. More information can be found at citadeltheatre.com

Production photos will be available by Monday, October 21, 2024.

CAST

Raven Bright	Roger
Kean Buffalo	Butter
Justin Giehm	Sonny Boy
Skylene Gladue (Nipîy Iskwew)	Jan
Melody McArthur	Sandy
Rodney Mcleod	Canuckie
Bryce Morin	Danny
Tammy Rae	Rezzo
Teneil Whiskeyjack	Marty
Tesla Wolfe	Frenchie

CREATIVE TEAM

Writer & Co-Creator	Crystle Lightning
Writer & Co-Creator	Henry “Cloud” Andrade
Director, Choreographer	Crystle Lightning
Musical Director, Stage Manager	Henry “Cloud” Andrade
Musical Score	Jinting Zhao, Nato Downs, Ari Rhodes
Lighting Designer	Jeremy Echols
Projection Designer	Dustin “Birdie” Vince
Additional Choreography	Mhairi Berg, Teneil Whiskeyjack, Raven Bright, Justin Giehm

For more information and to arrange an interview, contact:

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SPONSORS

Season Sponsor: Capital Power

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