

MEDIA RELEASE

Controversy, prophecy and the lives of First Nation residents collide in *The Herd* at The Citadel Theatre

March 15, 2022

Edmonton, Alberta – A new play set to open in early April dives into history, spiritually and the socio-economic effects on a First Nation ranch.

A one in a billion event may have occurred when twin white bison are born to a Saskatchewan First Nation on Treaty 4 Territory. The area and its residents suddenly finds itself the epicentre of a flood of tourists and curious onlookers hoping to catch a glimpse of the miraculous buffalo. It could be a genetic modification coincidence or the fulfilment of a prophecy that brings hope for the future, but it's up to one scientist to understand the difference along with a group people with varying interests in the outcome – a blogger looking for a story, an eager European investor and some of the locals trying to make life better for their town. The event creates controversy and hope as the spiritual, commercial and scientific significance intertwine.

The Herd by **Kenneth T. Williams** is presented in association with Tarragon Theatre and National Arts Centre Indigenous Theatre. Williams has written many critically acclaimed plays across Canada, his most notable being *Café Daughter* that was later published as a book in 2013. He is the first Indigenous person to earn an M.F.A. in playwriting from the University of Alberta in 1992.

Directed by **Tara Beagan** who says “*The Herd* tells a story the way my favourite people do: with hilarious self-deprecation, being politicized without lecturing, rich with fierce loyalty to loved ones, and a sense of conviction that can change the world.” Beagan was awarded the 2020 Siminovitch Prize for theatre, playwriting, becoming the first Indigenous laureate. She is currently the Playwright in Residence at Prairie Theatre Exchange.

The Herd is presented in association with Tarragon Theatre and National Arts Centre Indigenous Theatre and plays in the Shctor Theatre April 5 – April 24, 2022. Tickets are available now at 780.425.1820 through our Box Office or online at citadeltheatre.com

Production photos will be available upon request.

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CAST

Shyanne Duquette	Sheila Kennedy
Tai Amy Grauman	Vanessa Brokenhorn
Todd Houseman	Coyote Jackson
Cheyenne Scott	Aislinn Kennedy
Dylan Thomas-Bouchier	Michael "Baby Pete" Brokenhorn

CREATIVE TEAM

Tara Beagan	Director
Andy Moro	Set and Video Designer
Samantha McCue	Costume Designer
Spike Lyne	Lighting Designer
Mishelle Cuttler	Sound Designer
Alison Matthews	Dialect Coach
Shyanne Duquette	Apprentice Director
Hailey Verbonac	Assistant Light and Video Designer
Sang Sang Lee	Stage Manager
Yvette Martens	Assistant Stage Manager
Caitlan Argueta	Production Assistant
Saron Beraki	Production Assistant
Meg Walker	Production Assistant

For more information or to arrange interviews, contact:

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SPONSORS

Season Sponsor: Capital Power

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