

Nutrien™
SASKATOON
COMMUNITY
FOUNDATION

CULTURAL
GALA

Earth Song

Saturday, September 21, 2019

Treaty 6 Territory
Homeland of the Métis



*In support of the Community
Fund for Reconciliation*

SAVE THE DATE

Join us next year as we continue our exploration of the four elements with:

Walk with the Wind

Saturday, September 19, 2020



#SCFGala

FROM THE FOUNDATION



Tiffany M. Paulsen Q.C.
Partner,
Robertson Stromberg
Barristers and Solicitors



Carm Michalenko
Executive Director,
Saskatoon Community
Foundation

Earth Song was presented on Treaty Six Territory and the Traditional Homeland of the Métis.

Thank you to all who attended for continuing with the Saskatoon Community Foundation on our journey of reconciliation. We are grateful that generous, caring citizens of Saskatoon have joined us on this path. In 2017 and 2018, the Nutrien Saskatoon Community Foundation Cultural Gala explored the vital elements of water and fire. In 2019, we celebrated “Earth Song,” honouring Mother Earth. We all share Mother Earth, which gives life to us all.

Through this unforgettable evening, attendees experienced the healing and nurturing power of the feminine, seeing how Mother Earth connects us as we bridge relationships and find new ways of living together.

In 2018, through the Quality of Life Grants Program and the Community Fund for Reconciliation, the Saskatoon Community Foundation planted seeds of change by granting to projects that nourish stronger relationships among Indigenous and non-Indigenous Canadians. We see this work bear fruit through projects like Saskatoon’s Rock Your Roots Walk for Reconciliation, ConnectR, and nehiyawak Language Experience. New partnerships among many organizations are beginning to change Saskatoon’s identity and sense of community.

The evening’s bountiful harvest came to fruition thanks to the hard work of many volunteers, including board, committee members, and the many other contributors of goods services. We could not succeed without your support. Thank you so much for supporting and attending Earth Song!

The Saskatoon Community Foundation hopes that, now that the evening has ended, this song still resounds in your hearts. Take it with you as you perform your role in the community, and encourage others around you to add their voices. Together, we can become connected in a new vision for Saskatoon’s future, finding new ways of living together, acknowledging our past, and sharing our lives in the spirit of reconciliation.

Tiffany M. Paulsen Q.C. & **Carm Michalenko**
Chair & Executive Director,
Saskatoon Community Foundation



The collaboration between artists highlighted the common ground we share

Earth Song

HONOURS RESIDENTIAL SCHOOL & SIXTIES SCOOP SURVIVORS

“Together, Canadians must do more than just talk about reconciliation; we must learn how to practise reconciliation in our everyday lives within ourselves and our families, and in our communities, governments, places of worship, schools, and workplaces. To do so constructively, Canadians must remain committed to the ongoing work of establishing and maintaining respectful relationships”

(from the Truth and Reconciliation Commission’s Report, Principles of Reconciliation)

In this spirit, we are honoured by the presence of Survivors who chose to join us this evening. Their resilience and leadership embodies the Spirit of Fire and inspires us to continue learning and building relationships in the community. We invite all of you to help us honour these Survivors by pursuing your own journeys toward reconciliation.



Louise Halfe shares words of passion that connect us to the earth



Teaching shared by Elder Maria Linklater



Honoured guests

FROM THE GALA CO-CHAIRS

Two years ago, the Nutrien Saskatoon Community Foundation Cultural Gala began building the Community Fund for Reconciliation—and we honoured the element of water through art, song, and dance. We heard directly from Residential School Survivors, beginning a path of Reconciliation through the experience of the gala. Last year, we reignited the fire, and were reminded that Reconciliation requires constant effort, vigilance and action to create change in our communities.

In 2019, we presented Earth Song.

Mother Earth sustains us with water, nourishment, and an ecosystem rich in resources for all creatures to sustain one another. The diversity in nature allows all of us not only to survive, but to thrive.

The diversity in our communities also makes us better, stronger. The diverse audience in attendance has planted seeds for the work of Reconciliation to continue: changing our community through projects that build partnerships among Indigenous and non-Indigenous people. We were honoured by the presence of elders and survivors of residential schools and the sixties scoop, and inspired by the young leaders such as Emcees Neal Kewistep and Stephanie Clovechok.

The evening's performances also reflected the diversity of the community. The artists and producers created unique performances that resonated with the power of Mother Earth, inspired by her capacity to feed our communities—in body, mind and spirit. A centrepiece of the performance was the shawl dance—an Indigenous prayer to the Creator that we were

honoured to share with all those who attended. Beautiful, bright shawls with elaborate beadwork and fringes brought to life the movements of the performers. And as a special feature, we auctioned 6 shawls created exclusively as a celebration of Earth Song.



(L-R) Eugene Arcand, Lisa Mooney, Tracy Muggli, Lorna Arcand

Through Earth Song, we honour the past. We look to the future. We share our commitments to engage in the work of Truth and Reconciliation. Earth Song was not a gala—it was an opportunity to open our hearts, shift our perspectives, and find the roles we can each play. This is the transformative power of community! We are honoured by all of you who have chosen to walk with us, and we invite everyone in Saskatoon to join us on this path.

Tracy Muggli & Lisa Mooney

Gala Co-Chairs

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An aerial photograph of a city, likely New York City, showing various buildings and streets. The image is covered with a semi-transparent green filter. Overlaid on this background is white, bold, sans-serif text arranged in five lines, centered horizontally. The text reads: 'INSPIRING THE WORLD', 'BY ACHIEVING', 'MEANINGFUL CHANGE', 'WITH AND FOR', and 'OUR COMMUNITIES.'

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FROM OUR TITLE SPONSOR



Mark Thompson
Executive Vice President
and Chief Strategy Officer
Nutrien

Our community is built on the things we share – our lands, ambitions, ideas and, above all, our values.

The 2019 Nutrien Saskatoon Community Foundation Cultural Gala recognizes the depth and innovation that cultural diversity contributes to our shared values and celebrates this in bringing together a diverse group of people dedicated to cultivating reconciliation.

Through the generous contributions of donors, community groups, volunteers and performers, we are actively participating in deepening a common interest in strengthening our community and growing a flourishing future.

The support you provide to the Gala and the Community Fund for Reconciliation helps create

deeper cultural awareness about this territory’s Indigenous history and improves relationships with First Nations and Métis people. Your commitment and generosity nurture an environment that is inclusive and reflective of the value that these cultures contribute to our collective future.

As the world’s largest provider of crop inputs and insights, Nutrien understands that healthy growth requires strong roots. Our purpose is “to grow our world from the ground up” and we know Saskatoon Community Foundation is fertile ground for building a strong and healthy, sustainable community.

Thank you for your support and for sharing this evening and event with us.



Growing a Community

Nutrien is committed to strengthening the communities where we work and live through innovation, sustainability and inclusion. We are proud to invest in community partners, like the Saskatoon Community Foundation, who recognize the role that reconciliation plays in cultivating equal access to a healthy future. By coming together in the spirit of shared values we deepen our impact in growing our world from the ground up.



www.nutrien.com



Please join us in 2020 as we complete our exploration of the Four Elements – and celebrate the Saskatoon Community Foundation’s 50th Anniversary.

GROW THE COMMUNITY FUND FOR RECONCILIATION

The Community Fund for Reconciliation

This year Saskatoon Community Foundation made its second round of grants from the Community Fund for Reconciliation, and also heard about the results from the first grants made in 2018. The 2018 grants created new partnerships among groups and organizations in Saskatoon, planting seeds in our fertile community that can bear fruit over time. Traditional knowledge about plants and healing practices was preserved by Gabriel Dumont Institute and Friends of Batoche. Hundreds of school-age children experienced Indigenous culture through the Indigenous Ensemble of Saskatoon. Thousands walked together in the Rock Your Roots Walk for Reconciliation.

In 2019, new ground was broken. Whitecap Dakota First Nation partnered with Nutrien to present the first conference on economic reconciliation. READ Saskatoon partnered with nêhiyawak Language Experience to

provide an immersion in Indigenous language and culture. Canadian Roots Exchange partnered with Saskatoon Open Door Society to create discussion guides for newcomers with limited English, so that they can better understand the history and treaty relationships that define our nation.

This journey has begun thanks to your generosity, and you can help us take our next steps forward by giving. Your gift can support the permanent endowment or be added to the next round of grants for immediate impact. The future is new territory, full of possibility and hope for all who share Saskatoon. With your gift, we can walk together as we seek a more inclusive, connected and reconciled community.

Please give.

Learn more on our website saskatooncommunityfoundation.ca



Proud to support Earth Song: Nutrien Saskatoon Community Foundation Cultural Gala

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Proud to sponsor the "Earth Song"
2019 Nutrien Saskatoon Community
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Let's all be inspired
to get involved.
Together we
can make a
difference.



PLANTING THE SEEDS

Time spent sharing knowledge and providing opportunities for youth changes lives. Earth Song allowed us to give voice to amazing youth talent.

The fiddles of students from St. Michael School wowed the crowd, the urge to tap toes and jig growing with each pass of the bow. The youth and their teacher kept beat with Juno award winner Karrnnel.

Tasty Towne Catering prepared and served a gourmet appetizer to attendees. As part of the Aboriginal Youth Entrepreneurship Program (AYEP), the Kinistin Business Club has shared their talent for tasty food with Gala attendees for the past 3 years!



St. Michael School Fiddlers play alongside their mentor, Saskatoon-born Juno Award winner Karrnnel



Tasty Towne Chefs present the delectable cremini mushroom tartlet appetizer



Precision and passion bring music to life from the fiddle

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The 2019 Nutrien Saskatoon Community Foundation Cultural Gala continued its exploration of the four elements to bring you Earth Song, in which song, dance and poetry were used to explore the significance and meaning of the land to Indigenous and non-Indigenous cultures.

In the true spirit of reconciliation, the evening’s artists explored the synergies that encourage us to live with Mother Earth in a good way. The very classical sounds of opera from Little Opera On the Prairie gained a unique resonance when paired with flamenco dance by Duendecillo, whose unbridled power and passion is meant to connect us with our hearts. We heard haunting and beautiful fiddle sounds and music from Karrnnel, bringing to life the poetry of Louise Halfe/Sky Dancer. As we listened to prairie song bird Andrea Menard, “Mother Song” honoured the feminine power behind the evening’s theme while aerial artist Yuki Block gracefully swayed in the sky.

We heard an original voice from hip hop artist Eekwol, whose music comes from her land and within. Her music offered a unique platform to showcase Indigenous shawl dancers Kimowan Kisik Ahenakew/Raining Sky and Kakishew Watcewkamik Ahenakew/Body of Love, along with traditional dancer Sekwum Achak Ahenakew/Spring Spirit.

We share with you an excerpt of a poem by Louise Halfe:

*My ancestors, nohkom and nimsom
are more than a hundred and fifty years old.
They are as old as Creation itself.
Their sinew holds the ridges of the mountains
their skeletons are the backbones of this country.
Their voices are as old as the Thunder
clapping the earth with the heartbeat of the drum.*

Dawn Wasacase (Morning Light) & Carrie Catherine
Indigenous Producer/Stage Director & Creative Producer



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GROUNDING IN COMMUNITY

Song and dance connect us to teachings about the sacredness of Mother Earth.



Aerialist Yuki Block soars above the crowd on her silks



Flamenco is passion. Duendecillo shared this tradition in song, dance, and strong connection to the ground



Grounded in beats and lyrics, Eekwol builds on hope and promise of a brighter day



There is nothing more uplifting than a beautiful note resonating from your instrument, as Karrnel show us on his fiddle



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 help sow the important seeds
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GROUNDING IN COMMUNITY

Shawls are important symbols in many cultures, significant to both personal and cultural identity. The long tassels of the shawls represent the prairie grasses, and the dancers wear soft-soled shoes to maintain an important connection with Mother Earth and walk softly upon her. The shawl dance inspired the exceedingly talented seamstresses Emelia Villebrun and Candace Gadwa to create wearable works of art that were available for auction.



Indigenous shawldancers Kimowan Kisik Ahenakew/Raining Sky and Kakishew Watcewkamik Ahenakew/Body of Love, along with traditional dancer Sekwum Achak Ahenakew/Spring Spirit dance in honour of Mother Earth



Candace Gadwa osawmikwan kihewiskwew, Shawl Artist



Emelia Marie Villebrun, Shawl Artist



Candace and Emelia were commissioned to create six new shawls inspired by the shawl dance for Earth Song. The shawls feature intricate beadwork and detailed embroidery with symbols representing different Indigenous communities throughout Saskatchewan. Wearable artworks, the shawls can be hung, carried or worn and are a unique opportunity to celebrate the meaning and memory of Earth Song. The commission was sponsored by Commercial Sandblasting and Painting, with each shawl being purchased by guests of the evening.

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GROUNDING IN COMMUNITY



Dr. Ernie Walker connects with other attendees



Heads or Tails is just too much fun!



Curtis Kimpton displays the Head or Tails prize; a custom beaded Navajo necklace donated by Eugene and Lorna Arcand

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Scotiabank is proud to support the **Earth Song: Nutrien Saskatoon Community Foundation Cultural Gala**.

Through our partnerships with local organizations, we continue to build vibrant communities where we live and work.

Thank you for the opportunity to be involved with such a memorable event.

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A dancer performs during the PotashCorp Cultural Gala at TCU Place. PHOTOGRAPHER: KAYLE NEIS

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GROUNDED IN COMMUNITY



Crossmount Cider Company provides tastes of their apple cider



Neal Kewistep and Stephanie Clovechok lead the evening’s event with warmth and smiles



YEP! Steve Shannon keeps the crowd on its toes during the Live Auction



SHARING
SUCCESS

SIGA is proud to sponsor the Saskatoon Community Foundation’s “Earth Song” Nutrien Cultural Gala. We are committed to helping create a future where Indigenous and non-Indigenous communities thrive, side by side.

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PHOTOGRAPHY

Matt Braden Photography

2019 GALA COMMITTEE



Back row (l-r): Eugene Arcand, Heath Mulligan, Curtis Kimpton, Lisa Mooney, Raj Kavia, Jessie Usselman, Crystal MacLeod, Trent Norman

Front row (l-r): Carm Michalenko, Lorna Arcand, Carrie Catherine, Tracy Muggli

Not present: Namarta Kochar, Milton Greyeyes, Lori Coolican, Linda Clouthier, Ken Juba, Jo Custed, Donna Hughes, Dawn Wasacase, Christine Ruys, Anu Kashyup, Aliaya Jiwa

MEDIA



SASKATOON COMMUNITY FOUNDATION BOARD OF DIRECTORS



Back row (l-r): Jay Stark, Curtis Kimpton, Doug Barker, Raj Kavia, Wanda Hunchak, Wayne Brownlee, Carson Heagy, Cara Petrovicz, Shirley Greyeyes

Front row (l-r): Danielle Favreau, Aftab Ahmad, Tracy Muggli, Tiffany Paulsen, Amberlea Chabot

Not present: Darlene Bessey, Bev Lafond

SASKATOON COMMUNITY FOUNDATION STAFF



Back row (l-r): Don Ewles, Jen Pederson, Suzanne Hovde, Jessie Usselman

Front row (l-r): Carm Michalenko, Sameer Chhetry, Krys Hertzke

SAVE THE DATE



In 2020, Saskatoon Community Foundation will celebrate its 50th anniversary. Join us as we celebrate by completing our journey through the four elements with a gala that will have you

Walk with the Wind

Saturday, September 19, 2020

