



FOR RELEASE

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Yukon arts and culture showcased at Pan Am and Parapan Am Games

WHITEHORSE—Yukon talent will be featured in arts and cultural events at the Pan Am and Parapan Am Games this summer in Toronto. The Government of Yukon is providing \$40,000 to support Yukon performances at the games.

"The Yukon government is proud to support local performing artists and their participation in the games," Minister of Tourism and Culture Elaine Taylor said. "These events increase awareness of Yukon and the North as a vibrant and attractive travel destination. As well, they provide Yukon performers with opportunities to build audiences outside the territory and to grow their talent."

Performances at a Yukon day of arts and culture and other events will give Toronto audiences a taste of the North.

"We are extremely honoured and proud to represent our Yukon Indigenous nations at the opening ceremonies in the Aboriginal Pavilion at the 2015 Pan Am Games," dance group leader Marilyn Jensen said. "The Dakhká Khwaán Dancers are truly humbled to share our culture and to showcase some of the beauty and light that exists in our illustrious Yukon."

Bands Speed Control and New North Collective will perform at one of the free daily PANAMANIA Live music events. The recently formed pan-territorial group New North Collective features Yukon performers Diyet, Bob Hamilton, Robert Van Lieshout and Graeme Peters. The group will make its national première at the event.

"Speed Control and New North Collective are thrilled to be representing Yukon and the North on stage at the games," Magnum Opus Management owner Debbie Peters said. "Our artists will première new work on a national stage that blends the traditional with the contemporary, spoken word with rock and traditional languages in new songs; it doesn't get more exciting than that."

The 17th Pan Am Games take place in Toronto from July 10 to 26, followed by the fifth Parapan Am Games from August 7 to 15. Athletes from 41 nations will take part.

Learn more: Pan Am and Parapan Am Games

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