



Prince Albert Grand Council

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE March 12, 2013

NORTHERN SUPERSTARS - 2013 POINTS ATHABASCA NORTHERN SPIRITS SHOWCASE

PRINCE ALBERT- SK, On Saturday, February 16, forty-one youth from Twenty-two northern communities performed at the Northern Spirits Showcase in front of a proud audience of over 400 family, friends, supporters, and music enthusiasts. Northern Spirits is music, arts and personal development program for northern youth. In November, over eighty northern youth ages 11 to 18 participated in the Northern Spirits Workshop which involved three days of sessions including live band, introduction to broadcasting and MBC studio tour, set design, recording and instrument clinics at Big Drum Media for returning youth, self-confidence sessions and activities, a presentation from SaskCulture and Creative Kids, producer, stage manager/stage hands, and emcee information, as well as a special guest performance and presentation from Greg Edmunds. It also included two "Open Stage/Mini-Concert" events – a chance for the northern youth to demonstrate their talents.

At the conclusion of the workshop, the organizers made the difficult decisions choosing the youth to produce and perform their own Northern Spirits Showcase. These youth did an outstanding job.

The forty-one youth participants for the 2013 Points Athabasca Northern Spirits Showcase were:

Producer –

Summer Clarke (P.A.-Southend)

Co-Producer –

Cierra Charles (P.A.-Montreal Lake)

Co-Emcees –

Jamin Mike (Beardys & Okemasis)

Pacey Gazandlare (Wollaston Lake)

Stage Manager –

Erik Clipping (Wollaston Lake)

Stage Hands -

Jonah Natomagan (Pinehouse Lake)

Travis Beatty (Timber Bay) and **Musician**

Power Point Presentation –

Courtney Mercredi (La Loche)

Singers/Performers –

Margaret Bird (hand drummer – Air Ronge)

Marcia Bird (hand drummer – Air Ronge)

Aerial Charles (hand drummer – Air Ronge)

Aleisha Charles (hand drummer – Air Ronge)

Carrie Buffin (Beauval)

Jordanna Toutsaint (Black Lake)

Micah Ballantyne (Creighton)

Terri Ann Randhile (P.A./Fond du Lac)

Skyler Gardiner (Ile-a-la-Crosse)

Mercedes Lafleur (Ile-a-la-Crosse)

Summer Michel (Pelican Narrows)



NORTHERN SPIRITS II

David Sewap (Pelican Narrows)
Dray Tinker (Pinehouse)
Wilfred McKenzie (Stanley Mission)
Madison McLeod (Stanley Mission)
Tori Dumais-Cook (Southend)
Sharlene Archie (Turnor Lake)
Janine Naskathey (Uranium City)
Chasity Sanderson (Weyakwin)

Musicians –

Ashton Campbell (Beauval)
Drew Thommes (Cumberland House)
Dene Adam (Fond du Lac)
Ryan Desjarlais (Ile-a-la-Crosse)
Andrew Daigneault (Ile-a-la-Crosse)
Brady Desjarlais (Ile-a-la-Crosse)
Josh Corrigan (Ile-a-la-Crosse)
Nick Gardiner (Ile-a-la-Crosse)
Andrea Ratt (La Ronge)
Gerald Billette (Michel Village)

Set Designers –

Beatrice Iron (Canoe Lake)
Alyx Mercredi (Fond du Lac)
Ellen Ross (La Ronge)

The youth were mentored by Voices of the North in all aspects of producing and performing the showcase, but the final show was all theirs and they did an outstanding job.

The Northern Spirits Program is made possible by the following four partners: Northern Sport, Culture and Recreation District (NSCRD); Musqua Entertainment (Voices of the North); Missinipi Broadcasting Corporation (MBC); and Prince Albert Grand Council (PAGC) as well as Meadow Lake Tribal Council who is also part of the Northern Spirits Committee. Thank you to the sponsors of Northern Spirits: Title sponsor Points Athabasca (\$40,000), and SaskCulture (\$40,000); IPOD Sponsors: Pronto – reduced flight costs for the workshop and showcase, and Cameco (\$10,000); CD Sponsors: Areva (\$5000), Northern Lights School Division #113 (\$5000), and Transwest Air – half price flights for the workshop; Record Sponsors: P.A. Northern Bus Lines (use of two vans for the workshop), and finally to the northern communities who supported their youth to participate in Northern Spirits. Congratulations to the 2013 Points Athabasca Northern Spirits youth!

For more information, contact:

*Northern Sport, Culture and Recreation District
425-3127*