

PIMOOTAYOWIN: A FESTIVAL OF NEW WORK Fifth annual festival brings six new Indigenous works to the Tom Hendry Warehouse

September 22-27

WINNIPEG, September 15, 2025 - Royal MTC is proud to present the fifth annual Pimootayowin: A Festival of New Work for Culture Days. This free festival showcases the artistry of the 2024/25 cohort of the Pimootayowin Creators Circle - Andrea Friesen, Kirby Fults, Dannielle Morrisseau, Donnie Osler, Julia Ross and Martha Troian - with a nightly script-reading series. The festival runs from September 22 to 27 in the Tom Hendry Warehouse lobby.

Pimootayowin is an Anishinaabemowin word meaning journey, a word chosen by Program Director and Governor General Award-winning playwright Ian Ross, who explains, "The creation of new art is often described as a journey, so too, our lives. In any journey, we often don't know what lies ahead but we can emerge enriched by them." The Pimootayowin Creators Circle met once a week from October to May to develop, support and nurture Indigenous voices, culminating in this festival.

Several works developed in the Creators Circle have found life on other stages, notably Rosanna Deerchild's *The Secret to Good Tea*, which was presented on the MTC Mainstage and at the National Arts Centre, and David McLeod's *ELEVATE: Manaaji'idiwin*, which anchored the 24/25 Mainstage season. Audiences can also look forward to Rhona Apetagon's ghost story, *In the Shadow Beyond the Pines*, at the Tom Hendry Warehouse in March 2026.

2025 Festival Schedule

Monday, September 22 – 7 pm The Creatives by Martha Troian

Tuesday, September 23 – 7 pm The Bottom Line by Dannielle Morrisseau

Wednesday, September 24 – 7 pm Redwood Woman by Andrea Friesen Thursday, September 25 – 7 pm The Ojib-Way to Paradise by Julia Ross

Friday, September 26 - 7 pm Dreaming of Him by Kirby Fults

Saturday, September 27 – 2:30 pm The Harvest by Donnie Osler

Play Descriptions are available on the Festivals & Events section of our website.

This is a free, non-ticketed event. Doors open 30 minutes before the readings begin. All are welcome.

Royal MTC is grateful for the generous support of our Pimootayowin Creators Circle sponsor, TD Ready Commitment.

About Royal Manitoba Theatre Centre

The Royal Manitoba Theatre Centre produces 10 plays on two stages, a regional tour, a wide range of youth programming and two festivals: Pimootayowin: A Festival of New Work and North America's second-largest Fringe, the Winnipeg Fringe Theatre Festival. Under the leadership of Artistic Director Kelly Thornton and Executive Director Evan Klassen, Royal MTC remains Manitoba's flagship theatre

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For more information, please contact:

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