

NETWORK AND THE SOUND OF MUSIC POSTPONED UNTIL 2021/22 SEASON

WINNIPEG, June 9, 2020 – In response to the COVID-19 crisis and with great regret, Royal MTC announces that *Network* and *The Sound of Music* will be postponed until the 2021/22 season. Both plays were being co-produced with the Citadel Theatre in Edmonton, who announced today that they will not resume major live performances before 2021.

Statement from Royal MTC **Artistic Director Kelly Thornton:** "I'm heartbroken that we can't deliver the full lineup that I envisioned and presented as my first as Artistic Director. Unfortunately, without our co-producing partners and with the continued uncertainty surrounding COVID, we have no alternative. As these shows required inter-provincial travel, and with the increased risks to performers involved in staging a musical, it's no longer viable to present them. I remain committed to both of these productions and I look forward to bringing them to our stage safely in the fall of 2021."

Statement from Royal MTC **Executive Director Camilla Holland:** "With the decision of our co-producers today, and as Manitoba slowly opens up following Public Health directives, we continue to assess our fall programming and plans. We don't have all the answers today, but we felt it was prudent and important to announce the postponement of these productions.

While these decisions are very difficult, the health of our artists, audiences, volunteers and staff remain at the centre of our decision-making process. At this time, we're asking our subscribers to be patient and hold onto their tickets until we can finalize new plans for our 2020/21 season. We assure ticketholders that they will have a range of options once we finalize our plans."

Royal MTC will make a further announcement on Friday, June 26, with more details concerning the 2020/21 season. Subscribers to the 2020/21 season will be contacted by staff today and again on June 26.

For more information, visit royalmtc.ca

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