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For Immediate Release – September 29, 2022

Rotary Centre for the Arts presents *Mînowin* by the World-class Indigenous Dance Company, Dancers of Damelahamid

(Kelowna, BC) - The Rotary Centre for the Arts (RCA) is thrilled to welcome the Dancers of Damelahamid's *Mînowin*, an innovative dance showcase, to its "RCA Presents" fall performance lineup. Known internationally for their masked dances, this Northwest Coast Indigenous dance company brings customary and contemporary dance together, bridging time and space. *Mînowin* takes place at the Mary Irwin Theatre on Saturday, October 8 at 7:30 PM.

According to Colleen Fitzpatrick, Executive Director of RCA, "This showcase is an exciting addition to the Mary Irwin Theatre's fall lineup. Dancers of Damelahamid are among Canada's most respected and innovative dance companies, and we are thrilled to be presenting them together with Dance West Network."

Integrating narrative, movement, song, performance, and new multimedia design, *Mînowin* connects landscapes and Coastal form line with contemporary perspectives of customary Indigenous dance forms. The Dancers of Damelahamid draw from origin stories and explore ways to translate these perspectives through a contemporary lens.

Through multimedia elements, this production balances the performance space by adding contemporary reflections of Indigenous identity, immersing audiences in a narrative that illustrates moments of connection, understanding, and renewal.

Mînowin premiered at the National Arts Centre, Ottawa, ON, as part of the Mòshkamo Festival in September 2019, followed by a national tour to the Festival of New Dance, DanceWorks, The

Kelowna Visual and Performing Arts Centre Society

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Cultch, First Ontario Performing Arts Centre and Lawrence O'Brien Arts Centre. Mînowin also toured with the prestigious Festival Internacional Cervantino in Guanajuato, Mexico.

The RCA is reflecting on how to acknowledge its presence on unceded Syilx territory as Canada celebrates [National Day for Truth and Reconciliation](#) on September 30th. In order to elevate Indigenous voices, the RCA hosts events and workshops from Indigenous artists in an environment that values and supports Indigenous culture and Indigenous artists.

Mînowin runs at the Mary Irwin Theatre at the Rotary Centre for the Arts on Saturday, October 8 at 7:30 PM. Tickets are now on sale for \$65 and \$55 for Seniors and members of Indigenous communities.

Hi-Res Press Photos Available On Request: Please contact marketingassist@rotarycentreforthearts.com

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About Dancers of Dalihlamid:

Dancers of Damelahamid is an Indigenous dance company founded upon over five decades of extensive work of song and dance revitalization. For countless generations Indigenous dance played an integral part in defining art and culture. In response to the lifting of the Potlatch Ban (1884 – 1951), was the resurfacing of dance and the awakening of an art form that was outlawed for almost 70 years. The Dancers of Damelahamid emerged in the 1960s out of an urgency to ensure that these artistic practices were not lost.

About the Rotary Centre for the Arts

Located in the heart of Kelowna's Cultural District, the [Rotary Centre for the Arts](#) is a multidisciplinary visual and performing arts centre. The RCA continually strives to improve the economic, cultural, and social quality of life in the community by fostering participation in, and appreciation of the arts. The RCA brings together individuals of all ages and backgrounds to share in the excitement of strengthening art and culture in the Okanagan celebrating creative expression through diverse art forms and disciplines. The Rotary Centre for the Arts respectfully acknowledges that it is located on the unceded, traditional territory of the Syilx and Okanagan People.