

PGSO ANNOUNCES COLLABORATION WITH INDIGENOUS STORYTELLER AND ARTIST

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The PGSO has announced an exciting new collaboration as part of their family concert series. *The Hummingbird and the Fire* is a narrated, multimedia family concert that combines music by Gustav Mahler with a Quechua story about a little hummingbird who tries to put out a forest fire, one beak-full of water at a time. The story is a wonderful parable for our time, addressing both the dangers of rapid climate change and the seeming impossibility of making large-scale societal change.

The symphony is proud to work in partnership with Anishinaabe artist and storyteller Darin James Corbiere (Waab Shki Makwa) and English/Portuguese composer Duncan Fox to create a unique local telling of this ancient story. Corbiere, who adapted the story for this production, will host the concert, and is also bringing his own visual art to the performance to add a visual component to the story.

This is significantly more ambitious than the orchestra's usual children's programming. Diane Levesque is the President of The Northern Indigenous Arts Council, who have been working as consultants for the concert. "We are very happy to be involved in this unique local project," she says. "It is great to see the PGSO look for ways to meaningfully incorporate local indigenous artists into their programming."

Two preview presentations will be made in local schools on Earth Day – Apr 22. The public performance will be at the Canfor Theatre at UNBC the following Sunday.

The final performance will be recorded for digital streaming, which will be made freely available for up to one year to District 57 schools, select retirement homes, and to indigenous community organizations.

The project is made possible by funding from the city of Prince George, through a MyPG Community Grant, and the Prince George Community Foundation.

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Canfor Theatre - UNBC

Sunday, April 24, 2:00pm

Tickets: \$25; \$23 senior; \$20 under 30; \$12 under 18. Subject to \$1.50 box office fee, all taxes included.
Available online at www.pgso.com

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For information or requests for interviews, contact: ken@pgso.com