



MANITO AHBEE FESTIVAL ANNOUNCES NEW HOME AT RED RIVER EXHIBITION PARK

Treaty No. 1 and Dakota Territory, Homeland of the Red River Métis Nation, Winnipeg MB -

We are excited and proud to announce a new location for the **Manito Ahbee Festival** at the Red River Exhibition Park. This new partnership and event space will allow the festival to expand and create more exciting components for 2022 and beyond.

“We are thrilled to have developed this partnership with the Red River Exhibition Association, who has invited us to host the **17th annual** Manito Ahbee festival at the park going forward,” said **Executive Director Lisa Meeches**. “Having the festival in downtown Winnipeg has been wonderful, but it is time to grow and include some outdoor events, more Indigenous games and activities, and to include camping space and more accessible parking. We are also very happy that the new location allows us to partner with Peguis First Nation in offering some exciting events this year at nearby Assiniboia Downs. It’s shaping up to be a sensational gathering and we look forward to seeing everyone at this year’s festivities.”

“I couldn’t be more pleased to welcome Manito Ahbee to Red River Exhibition Park. The larger spaces at our facility will allow this world-class event to grow even bigger. The Red River Exhibition Association is not only committed to celebrating Indigenous culture but also educating to foster a greater understanding as we journey together towards reconciliation,” said **Garth Rogerson, CEO – Red River Exhibition Association**.

“We are most appreciative of the Red River Ex Association’s work towards reconciliation in bringing Indigenous culture, arts and heritage to unify, educate and inspire all Manitobans at the Manito Ahbee Festival,” added Meeches.

The **Manito Ahbee Festival** will run from May 18-23, 2022. Indigenous peoples from all across Turtle Island travel to Winnipeg to celebrate Indigenous arts, culture, and music at Manito Ahbee.

In addition to the signature PowWow, the Manito Ahbee Festival will be presenting these dynamic aspects throughout the week:

- Manitoba Stage featuring Manitoba artists
- Spirit Visions - a celebration of Indigenous filmmakers
- Getting Jiggy With It - Metis square dancing and jigging competition
- Indigenous marketplace

Manito Ahbee virtual events will continue in 2022, including the Spirit Visions 48 Hour Film Challenge, Starblanket Competition, Ribbon Skirt Competition, and Music Video Competition will continue as part of the 2022 hybrid festival. Watch for more details coming soon!

We are committed to following all public health orders and policies regarding COVID-19. Full guidelines will be shared on our website as they become available.

For more updates and announcements, please follow our Facebook, Twitter, and Instagram channels and our website here: <https://www.manitoahbee.com/>

For further information or to schedule interviews, please contact:

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