



A FESTIVAL FOR ALL NATIONS



ABORIGINAL
PEOPLES CHOICE
MUSIC AWARDS

For Release July 5, 2007

2nd ANNUAL MANITO AHBEE FESTIVAL – A FESTIVAL FOR ALL NATIONS November 1 – 4, 2007

Winnipeg, Manitoba – Manitoba Lotteries Corporation (MLC) will once again offer its support as the Presenting Sponsor for the second annual Manito Ahbee Festival - A Festival for all Nations, which will be held in Winnipeg this fall, from November 1 to 4, 2007.

“MLC is proud to participate as the presenting sponsor of the Manito Ahbee Festival, as it is an important step towards supporting and enhancing relationships with the Aboriginal Community,” said Winston Hodgins, MLC President and CEO. “Manitoba is a vibrant centre for Aboriginal music and this event is an excellent opportunity to celebrate Aboriginal talent and culture.”

The Manito Ahbee Festival consists of five main components:

- International Competition PowWow
- Education Days
- Music Festival
- Indigenous Market Place & Trade Show
- Aboriginal People’s Choice Music Awards (APCMA)

With the success of the inaugural event in 2006, The Festival has made additions and grown in specific capacities:

- Expansion of one day Education Day to two days
- Extension of artist submissions deadline to August 7, 2007
- Expansion of PowWow Dance Area within the MTS Centre
- Opening of upper deck at the MTS Centre to accommodate larger attendance at the APCMA’s
- Implementation of the Star Catcher – Manitoba Aboriginal Talent Search
- Addition of Music Fest Venues
- Inclusion of Native American Artists for the Aboriginal Peoples Choice Music Awards

“Manito Ahbee experienced a considerable amount of traffic from the USA with the traditional dancers and singers for the PowWow in 2006. We are hoping that we will draw as many people from the USA, for the APCMA’s by allowing them to participate in our music awards. This influx of people from the USA, adds to overall economic impact and tourism,” says Executive Producer, Errol Ranville.

With the expansion in these areas Manito Ahbee has become a premier event Provincially, Nationally and Internationally in the arts and entertainment industries.

Lisa Meeches, Chair of the Manitoba Aboriginal Music Host Committee states “We are excited to have the Manitoba Lotteries Corporation as our presenting sponsor for the 2nd year of the festival. We are very excited about this year’s festival and look forward to working with all of our sponsors.”

The Manito Ahbee is also pleased to announce that the Delta Winnipeg, 350 St. Mary Ave., will serve as the host hotel for this year’s event. The location of the Delta is ideal due to its close proximity to the MTS Centre, Winnipeg Convention Centre and other venues that the festival will utilize.

Press Conference will be held Thursday, July 5, 2007, 11:30 a.m. – 1:00 p.m., in the Hudson Room at the McPhillips Street Station.

- 30 -

Media Contact:

Sherry Gott

Sponsor Services Manager/Publicist, email: sherry@manitoahbee.com

Direct Line (204) 989-2001, Toll Free: 1-866-449-0251