



Werklund Centre Inspires Cultural Connection with Free Events for National Day for Truth and Reconciliation

For Immediate Release – September 9, 2025 – CALGARY – In recognition of National Day for Truth and Reconciliation, Werklund Centre invites people of all ages to participate in free art gallery tours, an Indigenous-curated market, an immersive performance art experience, and the Elders Story Project – a blending of ceremony and powerful storytelling – on **Tuesday, September 30** in various venues at **Werklund Centre**. Learn more at werklundcentre.ca/ndtr.

The day begins with an [Indigenous Makers Market](#) in the Jack Singer Concert Hall Lobby, curated by Authentically Indigenous, an Alberta-based organization that aims to amplify local Indigenous creativity, arts, and culture by curating markets, cultural events, and workshops. Accompanying the market is a Pow Wow Showcase taking place at noon for the lunch hour crowd.

Werklund Centre has partnered with IndigeSTEAM to showcase [22 individual artists in the +15 Galleries](#). The exhibition, *Etuaptmumk: The Art of Two-Eyed Seeing in STEAM*, celebrates the ingenuity of Indigenous youth as they navigate and embrace the wisdom of walking in two worlds. Tours run every hour at 12pm, 1pm, and 2pm with pre-registration required.

Produced by Ghost River Theatre, [Echoes of the Land](#) is an immersive sound experience featuring the talents of drummer and vocalist Cedric Lightning, traditional drummer and knowledge keeper Skip Wolfleg, spoken word poet Alanna Bluebird, and multi-disciplinary musicians Kris Demeanor, Kenna Burima, and Tauran.

In a powerful end to the day, Werklund Centre presents the [Elders Story Project](#). For 2025, the Elders of the Elders Knowledge Circle Society have chosen to expand the format to include the audience in a sacred Blackfoot naming ceremony honouring a special guest, a tea dance, and a round dance that the entire audience can participate in.

“Werklund Centre’s commitment to reconciliation means we have both the responsibility and the privilege to hold space for truth-telling, culture- and knowledge-sharing, and hosting Indigenous-led events,” says Alex Sarian, President and CEO. “This is our third year hosting a full day of free events and activities on National Day for Truth and Reconciliation, and the power of these events to inspire, educate, and elicit change is truly incredible.”

Indigenous Makers Market & Pow Wow Showcase

Jack Singer Concert Hall Lobby

11 am - 5 pm; Pow Wow Showcase at noon

Werklund Centre Gallery Talks & Tours

Meet at Centre Court

hourly starting at 12, 1 & 2 pm

(Pre-registration required)

Echoes of the Land

Engineered Air Theatre

5:30 - 6:30 pm

(Free, tickets required)

Elders Story Project

Jack Singer Concert Hall

7:30 - 9:30 pm

(Free, tickets required)

To learn more about National Day for Truth and Reconciliation events at Werklund Centre, please visit werklundcentre.ca/ndtr.

Special thanks to the Elders Story Project Circle of Supporters: Alberta Law Foundation, Calgary Counselling Centre, Calgary Public Library, Elders Knowledge Circle Society, EY, TC Energy, and the University of Calgary.

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Werklund Centre (formerly Arts Commons) is the steward of Western Canada's largest arts centre, and the artistic and civic cornerstone of Calgary's downtown core. For 40 years, it has been a key contributor to the social, economic, cultural, and intellectual life and well-being of Calgarians—a commitment that is being renewed through the Werklund Centre Transformation project, the largest cultural infrastructure project in Canadian history. It is home to five resident companies, including Alberta Theatre Projects, Calgary Philharmonic Orchestra, Downstage, Theatre Calgary, and One Yellow Rabbit. It houses six gallery spaces, five theatres, and the Jack Singer Concert Hall.