

INDIGENOUS INNOVATION PROGRAM

Tatawaw: welcome, there is room. The future of theatre in Treaty 6 is equitable, diverse, inclusive, and accessible. Today and every day we consider our responsibility as Treaty people. In mindful consultation with Indigenous leaders and artists, we are building a sustainable Innovation Program that:

- elevates Indigenous voices and stories;
- centers Indigenous practice; and
- develops tools for change to support the decolonization of theatre practice.

“Change happens slowly. The inclusion of Indigenous ways of knowing is a massive step forward for Fringe Theatre. Yet we see this as merely a step, one of many more to come.”

- Josh Languedoc, Director of Indigenous Strategic Planning

This includes ongoing collaborative efforts to:

- hold and nurture space for Elders and Knowledge Keepers to help guide processes;
- identify barriers to access and gaps in organizational knowledge;
- build a long-term strategic plan for Indigenizing in Performing Arts Organizations;
- bring Indigenous-led conversation and models for cross-cultural collaboration into the centre of our performing arts communities, and actively invite all stakeholders to come together to listen and learn;
- elevate Indigenous art and artists in our Festival and Season;
- recognize our Indigenous neighbours, and reflect their stories, art, and contributions to our community;
- create a welcoming and safe space for brave conversation and creative risk;
- continue to host Indigenous led ceremonies during the Edmonton International Fringe Theatre Festival and special events; and
- host ongoing staff training on Indigenous culture and history.

“The original intent of the Treaty is that everyone stands in a circle of mutual understanding. When we’re able to meet in that circle with openness and honesty, we can accomplish great things together.”

- Murray Utas, Artistic Director

When you give to Fringe Theatre's Indigenous Innovation Program, you **directly support Indigenous artists**; create **equitable employment opportunities for Indigenous creative leaders**; support a community-wide movement to **Indigenize performing arts practices**; and invest in the **future of theatre in Treaty 6**.

Give today: fringetheatre.ca/donate

