



Live Theatre Returns to Drayton Festival Theatre

Canadian Comedy Starring Neil Aitchison Launches 2022 Season

Wednesday, May 25, 2022

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE – Audiences will be doubled over in laughter as *Sorry, I'm Canadian 2* launches the much-anticipated 2022 Season at the **Drayton Festival Theatre** after a two-year hiatus at the historic summer venue. This Drayton Entertainment original production will amuse and delight theatregoers from **June 1 to June 18**.

Designed as a showcase for the homespun charm of the irrepressible **Neil Aitchison** as his lovable Mountie alter-ego, the production features a winning combination of side-splitting humour, razor-sharp political satire, and memorable musical selections that celebrate all things Canadian. *Sorry, I'm Canadian 2* is a brand-new show similar to other productions in the popular 'Canadian' series – crowd-pleasing favourites like *Canada 151: Better Late Than Sorry*, *Canadian Legends*, the original *Sorry ... I'm Canadian* production, and more.

"We are delighted to finally be opening the Drayton Festival Theatre with a show that will have people tapping their toes and laughing out loud," says **Alex Mustakas**, Artistic Director of Drayton Entertainment, who also directs the production. "We're having a blast in rehearsal and we already know this show is going to be incredibly funny with amazing music – audiences are in for a real treat."

The Mountie in question, of course, refers to Aitchison who takes to the stage as RCMP Constable Archibald F. Inkster. Through Constable Inkster's hilarious musings, no political party, pop star, or public figure is left unscathed.

"We basically spend two hours poking fun at everything uniquely Canadian, and audiences can't get enough! But they ultimately leave the theatre completely uplifted, taking great pride in the tremendous accomplishments we have achieved as a nation," explains Mustakas.

Part of that pride is derived from Canada's rich musical heritage, which is displayed in full force. A talented five-piece band including **Al Braatz**, **Earl Filsinger**, **Duff MacDonald**, **Alex Panneton**, and **Leo Stock** will wow theatregoers with their versatility as they present lively and heartfelt renditions of memorable music from the *Great Canadian Songbook*. Multiple genres are covered, from pop and country to bluegrass and jazz including hits like "Alberta Bound," "Fox

On The Run," "Black Fly," "Song of the Mira," "I'se the B'ye," "Sonny's Dream," "Farewell to Nova Scotia," and many, many more.

In addition to singing and playing fiddle, 17-year-old Stock, who is from Stratford, is also featured as a step dancer in the production. In 2021, he was the Open Stepdance Winner and The Gilles Roy Trophy recipient at the Ontario Open Fiddle and Step Dance Contest.

As previously mentioned, Mustakas directs the production. He is joined by Music Director **Nicole Guse**, Costume Designer **Nicole Del Cul**, and Lighting Designer **Jeff JohnstonCollins**. **Amber Archbell** is the Stage Manager with **Kirstyn Keeble** as the Assistant Stage Manager.

Sorry...I'm Canadian 2 is proudly sponsored by **Edge Mutual Insurance**. Media Sponsors are **CityNews 570, 96.7 CHYM , 106.7 Country, The Waterloo Region Record, 107.1 Juice FM, and Guelph Today**. The Design Sponsor is **Conway Furniture**.

Sorry...Im Canadian 2 is on stage from **June 1 to June 18** at the Drayton Festival Theatre. In order to accommodate patrons of all comfort levels, performances are offered at various capacity limits and with differing vaccination requirements; some performances are full capacity with no vaccination requirement, some performances are limited capacity with no vaccination requirement, and some performances are limited capacity with vaccinations required. Patrons should choose the performance that best suits their comfort level.

Regular performance tickets are \$53 for adults, \$32 for youth under 20 years of age and \$43 for groups of 20 or more and select Discount Dates. HST is applicable to all ticket prices. Tickets may be purchased by calling the Box Office at **519-638-5555** or toll free at **1-855-drayton (372-9866)**, or online instantly at www.draytonentertainment.com.

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