

# Collaborative project brings artists together

BY JENNIFER MCFEE  
SPECIAL TO CANSTAR

## ST. BONIFACE

The arts community has banded together to create a colourful collaboration that showcases local talent and highlights the need for an inclusive environment.

The National Arts Centre was seeking a way to bring Canadian artists together, as the COVID-19 pandemic has created countless hurdles for the performing arts sector.

The Ottawa-based organization came up with *Grand Acts of Theatre: Marking This Moment*, which inspired 11 theatre companies across the country to perform new large-scale works outdoors in front of live audiences. Films of the performances will be shared later on the National Arts Centre website.

Geneviève Pelletier, artistic and general director of Théâtre Cercle Molière, received a call in early July asking her to make a submission.

"They gave us two weeks to submit a project, so I had to think about who I was going to work with to make a grand act of theatre," she said.

Having worked with Synonym Art Consultation in the past, she approached co-founders Chloe Chafe and Andrew Eastman to brainstorm about the project.

"We turned it around in two weeks and the project was accepted," Pelletier said.

"We ended up moving forward with it six weeks later."

Together, they developed the idea for *Intramural.e*, which involved transforming an outdoor space at 340 Provencher Blvd. into an eye-catching mural designed by Swampy Cree/Ojibwe artist Peatr Thomas from the Pimicikamak Cree Nation.

The street art display then served as a temporary performance venue for competitive dance styles including powwow, jig, hip-hop and queer ballroom.

"The National Arts Centre gave us carte blanche to explore the social and political aspect of what's happening during pandemic times. It was really important to bring forth communities that have not been given the same light as other communities and other performances," Pelletier said.

"We wanted to shine a light on these folks that are doing great work and at the same time aren't given as much attention as others. These contributing artists deserve a



Supplied photo

Local dancers performed atop a mural designed by Peatr Thomas as part of Théâtre Cercle Molière's *Intramural.e*.

place in the sun."

On behalf of Synonym Art Consultation, Eastman stressed the importance of also involving the local community with the *Intramural.e* project.

"We feel that this project combines the best of visual art, performance, music, lighting design and community involvement in order to reimagine how theatre can exist in a rapidly changing world," he said.

"And even after all the performers and painters and organizers exit stage left, the

colourful stage remains."

The painting and filmed performance took place on Sat., Sept. 12 and Sun., Sept. 13, complete with a barbecue for all who attended.

For more information about the *Grand Acts of Theatre* projects, and for a chance to view the films at a later date, visit the National Arts Centre website at [www.nac-can.ca/GrandActsofTheatre](http://www.nac-can.ca/GrandActsofTheatre)

## RON PAUL GARDEN CENTRE

LANDSCAPING, PLANTS, TREES, SHRUBS & SOIL

PROUD SUPPLIER OF **barkman**

Soil \$23.00/yd

### DISCOUNT ON LARGE ORDERS

1.5" Red Shale .....	\$66.00/yd
1/4 Down .....	\$40.00/yd
3/4 Down .....	\$40.00/yd
3/4 Clean .....	\$40.00/yd
River Rock .....	\$46.00/yd
Lakestone.....	\$83.00/yd
1/4" Black Granite Down .....	\$90.00/yd
3/4" Black Granite .....	\$90.00/yd
1 1/2" Black Granite.....	\$90.00/yd
Mixed Granite .....	\$90.00/yd
Red River Rock.....	\$67.00/yd
Black, Brown, Red or Gold Mulch	\$42.00/yd
Natural Mulch .....	\$20.00/yd

\$50 Delivery Charge South of Portage Ave.

\$70 Delivery charge North of Portage Ave.

[www.rpgc.ca](http://www.rpgc.ca)

2641 St. Mary's Rd

204-257-2893



Image taken prior to COVID-19 event.



**EVERY QUOTE  
WE GIVE \$5**

As your local insurance experts, we're committed to community connection. This is why for every new insurance quote between Sept. 21 and Nov. 15, we will, on your behalf, donate \$5 to the Western Financial Group Communities Foundation.

Ask your insurance expert for more details or visit [westernfinancialgroup.ca/gives](http://westernfinancialgroup.ca/gives)

**Western  
FINANCIAL GROUP**  
Canada's Insurance Broker

**Wyatt Dowling**  
INSURANCE BROKERS  
a division of Western Financial Group

**Scleroderma**  
Looking Forward with Hope

**SCLERODERMA MANITOBA  
VIRTUAL EDUCATION  
CONFERENCE AND AGM**  
OCTOBER 3, 2020 10 AM

Don't miss out! Register (for free):  
[sclerodermamanitoba.com](http://sclerodermamanitoba.com)  
**204-417-6017**

**CANSTAR  
COMMUNITY NEWS** **Lance**

Like us on facebook  
[Facebook.com/TheLanceWPG](https://Facebook.com/TheLanceWPG)  
Follow us on Twitter: @LanceWPG