



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

SHAWNA DUNBAR 450-226-5756

July '08

ANNUAL WILD ROOTS MUSIC & ARTS FESTIVAL

RETURNS AUGUST 23rd WITH A NEW FORMULA FOR SUCCESS: A FREE EVENT!

Featuring musical performers, covering rock, folk, blues, classical, world and more, theatrical performances, vendors, Artists, Crafts-persons, local non-profit and educational organizations, and children's activities and entertainment.

Wild Roots Productions is gearing up for it's **6th annual Music And Arts Festival** scheduled for Saturday, August 23rd at Ski Morin Heights. Excited and raring to go, with a new formula that promises to make this the best festival yet. Jam-packed with a great array of music, entertainment, food, arts, crafts and activities for young and old. This year's festival will be dedicated to the memory of the young and talented Sean Fox Fraser*, whose recent death has touched us all.

As festival organizer Shawna Dunbar makes clear, this increasingly popular event promises to be better than ever. "No one-day festival anywhere offers so much for so little," Dunbar declares. "In fact, **this year's festival is free!** And when it comes to music, well, we really do have something for everyone—no matter what the age or musical tastes." With a history of being rained out, a new strategy to "beat the weather" is also in the plan for this year's event. "If there is sign of even the smallest drop of rain, the whole festival will take place indoors. If the weather is sunny, we will make use of both the indoor and outdoor stages and space," says Dunbar.

As past attendees know full well, music is only one aspect of this fun-filled family day. A variety of artists and artisans will also be displaying and selling their wares, along with several educational and not-for-profit organizations. Booths and display areas for non-profit and educational organizations and for Visual Artists are **free** and applications and spaces are still available.

"I am especially excited about the "youth" aspect at this year's festival," says Dunbar. "In the past, our Laurentian Youth have not been very well represented but this year's line-up will include the newly formed Taking Our Place In The Arts Group, representation from the Laurentian Youth Network, and several young up-and-coming musicians and performers.

Great music! Great fun! Best of all, the **Wild Roots Music & Arts Festival** unfolds against the lush backdrop of the beautiful Laurentians. "There's just something about the setting that makes people feel good. You can't help but relax. So bring your lawn chairs, sit back, and enjoy the music! But leave your raincoats and umbrellas at home," Dunbar urges. "The Ski Morin Heights lodge is great indoor setting for a festival."

Ski Morin Heights is just 45 minutes from Montreal. Take 15 North to exit 60. Turn left onto Rte 364 West. Turn left at Chemin Bennett. The festival will be held rain or shine: outdoors incase of shine and indoors incase of the later. To learn more, visit www.wildroots.ca or call 450-226-5756.

Admission is Free! Donations will be accepted at the door to help fund The Basler Park Project** and next year's festival.

For interviews, additional information, applications to be a part of our line-up, or to become a part of our team of volunteers please contact:

Shawna Dunbar, Director,
Wild Roots Productions
450-226-5756
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Enclosures:

- Preliminary performers, vendors, artists, organizations, children's are activities, and sponsors
- Detailed driving directions

*Fox Fraser was this year's Wild Roots local headliner. Festival organizers are now working hard to put together a tribute to him in place of his performance. Submissions to take part in his tribute will be accepted until mid August.

**The Basler Park Project is a new Recreational Centre being built in Morin Heights. Wild Roots would like to help fund part of this initiative as it is our hope that Basler Park will be the future venue of many of our local events including the Wild Roots Festival.

6th ANNUAL WILD ROOTS MUSIC & ARTS FESTIVAL

Performers, Preliminary Line-up

- Tribute to Fox Fraser
- Nomadic Massive World Hip-Hop
- Jorge Martinez Latin
- Rob Lutes Blues
- Noah Zacharin Blues, Folk
- Mark Pinkus Classical Piano
- Swift Years Folk Rock, Roots Music
- The Echo Hunters Folk Rock
- Biz Oliver Blues
- The Spitfire Nines Rock, Country
- Sergui Popa Ensemble World
- Mick Farkas Folk-Roots, Children's
- Tony & the Hegemons Rock
- Taking Our Place In The Arts Musical performances, visual presentation, and Visual Arts display
- 3 Blind Mice Theatre
- The Wellits Irish and Bluegrass
- Marc Desrochers Folk

Vendors, Preliminary Line-up

- Artisan Joallier Jewelry, artwork
- Cynthia Ferraro Creations Jewelry, natural soaps
- Beautiful Beads and Gifts Sterling Silver Swarovski Jewelry
- Mary-Ann's Little Treasures Hand made dolls
- Chandерelle Hand carved permanent wax candles
- Broundoor Leather and woodwork
- Lady Rose Designs Medieval jewelry
- Bodhran Babe Creations Celtic jewelry

Artists, Preliminary Line-up

- Linda Naylor Painter
- Katrine Janin Illustrator
- Renée-Claude Bergeron Drawer
- Danielle Aubry Painter
- TOPITA Collective:
 - Erin McCarthy Painter
 - Karly Leonard Painter
 - Shawna Dunbar Painter
 - Christopher Howlet Photographer

Organizations, Preliminary Line-up

- MADD Mothers Against Drunk Driving
- The Laurentian Quilters Guild Making quilts for shelters in the Laurentians
- Laurentian Literacy Group Children's reading tent
- La Conservatoire de Ballet Classique des Laurentides Dance school
- 3 Blind Mice Productions Theatre company
- Laurentian Youth Network Network for 16 to 35 year olds
- CEDEC LLL Community economic development & employability committee
- On The Wings Of Artisans Artisans' collective

- L'Amitient Inc

Woven items made by intellectually handicapped adults.

Children's Area Activities, Preliminary Line-up:

- Face Painting
- Interactive musical performance by Micky Frakas
- Theatrical performances by 3 Blind Mice Production
- Dance performance by La Conservatoire de Ballet Classique des Laurentides
- Arts and crafts activities
- Games
- Wading pools (weather permitting)

2008 Festival Sponsors

The organizers are extremely grateful to the following visionaries, without whose commitment, support and community spirit our festival would not be possible.

- Main Street
- Honda Nord-Sud
- Ski Morin Heights
- MRC des Pays-d'en-Haut
- Club Piscine St Jerome
- Municipality of Morin Heights
- E-Marketing Canada
- CKUT 90.3 FM
- Exclaim! Magazine

Driving Directions to Ski Morin Heights and the Wild Roots Arts & Music Festival

FROM MONTREAL: Take 15 North, exit 60. At the light turn left .Take Rte 364 West .Keep going until you are in Morin Heights. Turn left at the second light (Chemin Bennett)Address: 231 Chemin Bennett

FROM MONT-LAURIER: South on highway 117 which becomes Autoroute des Laurentides (15) at Ste-Agathe. Take exit 60 for Saint-Sauveur, Morin Heights. Turn left at the Stop. You will pass two stops than turn right at the traffic light on the Rte 364 West.Keep going until you are in Morin Heights. Turn left at the second light (Chemin Bennett)Address: 231 Chemin Bennett

FROM QUEBEC CITY: Autoroute 40 WestAt exit 52 take Autoroute 640 West. Continue on Autoroute 640 West To Autoroute 15 North, exit 19. 15 North to exit 60. At the light turn left .Take Rte 364 West .Keep going until you are in Morin Heights. Turn left at the second light (Chemin Bennett)Address: 231 Chemin Bennett

FROM VERMONT: Autoroute 91 to road 55. From 55 to Autoroute 10. Take Autoroute 10 West . From 10 West take Autoroute 15 North, exit 60.At the light turn left .Keep going until you are in Morin Heights. Turn left at the second light (Chemin Bennett)Address: 231 Chemin Bennett

FROM OTTAWA: 417 direction East to exit at Vankleek Hill/ Hawkesbury Take Rte 148 East (direction Lachute). Take Autoroute 50 direction East (Mirabel). From Autoroute 15 North , take exit 60 .Take Rte 364 West .Keep going until you are in Morin Heights.Turn left at the second light (Chemin Bennett)Address: 231 Chemin Bennett