

Activist, Actor and Singer Tom Jackson Gears Up for Annual National Tour This November

32 Year Tradition Continues with The Huron Carole – Path to a Miracle



[Watch “I Heard The Bells On Christmas Day” via YouTube Here](#)

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TORONTO — November 12, 2019 — The Christmas holidays are said to officially open after one of Canada’s most beloved and iconic philanthropic personalities takes the stage. Tom Jackson is set to tour his new seasonal show The Huron Carole – Path to a Miracle, with 17 dates starting November 21.

Season 32 brings music styling and players with top-in-class credentials, each crossing multi-genres. Producers, instrumentalists, and performers with multi-award status across Canada and the US join Tom onstage. John MacArthur Ellis, Darryl Havers, Kirby Barber, Chris “the wrist” Nordquist and long-time musical director/producer Tom McKillip complete what is now next-gen style in support of local community organizations. Tom and ensemble will perform a signature Christmas music variety show replete with storytelling.

Tom affirms, “The Huron Carole is, and always has been, a vehicle that delivers hope, peace and joy, fueled by the spirit of giving.”

For Tom, the act of giving comes naturally and spreads easily with his indefatigable energy to be on the look-out for those in need. He volunteers regularly with Calgary’s DOAP Team (Downtown Outreach Addiction Partnership) that provides outreach to street impacted men and women caught in a cycle of addiction. Sometimes known as a Minstrel with a Mission, Tom can be seen at various locations in Canada volunteering as an ambassador for the Canadian Red

Cross. Add a few new relationships forged in 2019 with agencies such as the Wee Che He Wayo Gamik Family Treatment Centre in Muskrat Dam, the Ka-Na-Chi-Hih Specialized Solvent Abuse Treatment Centre in Thunder Bay, the Magic of Christmas and Making Treaty 7 Cultural Society in Calgary and it's easy to see how combined monetary and in-kind value for the aforementioned, food banks, family agencies and disaster relief continues to build above the \$230 million dollar mark.

"Miracles are not manufactured by the Creator. They are manifestations of the love the Creator bestowed on humans. Christmas is afoot. The time for creating miracles is upon us."

New this year is a 6-part video series entitled "6 Weeks to Christmas". Weekly releases will happen on Tom's YouTube Channel with supported viewing on Front Porch Music and other digital platforms from November 13 to December 18. This intimate performance by Tom sharing stories and singing poignant Christmas music, is punctuated with a message to viewers that they are needed, and to seek out people in their community that need help. Tom elaborates, "The reward in the inherent need to help is sometimes lost to fatigue. The great reward comes when you share, even when the load is heavy. The more you share the lighter the load."

Tom's galvanizer is to effect change aided by exceptional donors and sponsors. It's no surprise that Canada Life returns as The Huron Carole's National Sponsor, a partner for 23 years. Fluor Canada Ltd. is the tour's Transportation Sponsor. Backed by goodwill from community beneficiaries, artists, volunteers, professional fund development and event managers, the success bell tolls heartily.

The Huron Carole 2019 Tour Dates (with local beneficiary)

November 21	Edmonton, AB – Doubletree Hilton (Edmonton's Food Bank)
November 23	Fort MacLeod, AB – Empress Theatre
November 24	Cranbrook, AB – Key City Theatre
November 26	Victoria, BC – Glad Tidings Church (The Mustard Seed)
November 27	Calgary, AB – National Music Centre (Hull Child & Family Services)
November 29	Lloydminster, AB/SK - Vic Juba Theatre (The Salvation Army/Olive Tree)
December 1	Calgary, AB – The Grand Theatre (Making Treaty 7)
December 3	Calgary, AB - Bella Concert Hall, Mount Royal University (Alpha House)
December 5	Calgary, AB – Flores & Pine (The Magic of Christmas)
December 8	Whitehorse, YK – Yukon Arts Centre
December 10	Medicine Hat, AB - Esplanade Arts & Heritage Centre (Medicine Hat Food Bank)
December 11	Swift Current, SK – Lyric Theatre (Swift Current Salvation Army Food Bank)
December 12	Regina, SK – Casino Regina
December 13	Brandon, MB - WMCA (The Counseling Centre)
December 14	Winnipeg, MB – My Church (Winnipeg Harvest)

December 15 Thunder Bay, ON – Thunder Bay Community Auditorium
(Ka-Na-Chi-Hih Specialized Solvent Abuse Treatment Centre
and Wee Che He Wayo Gamik Family Treatment Centre)

December 17 Ottawa, ON – Dominion Chalmers United Church
(Tewegan Housing for Aboriginal Youth)

ABOUT TOM JACKSON

“I am of the opinion that art is the single most powerful vehicle for change in the history of the human race.”

There are entertainment legends, and then there is Tom Jackson, a triple-threat actor, musician, and activist whose achievements in each discipline are downright head-spinning. His career is unparalleled, not to mention wildly acclaimed, abundantly decorated, and almost ridiculously interesting. Heck, he could be a pub night trivia category all by himself.

It's impossible to regard Tom's music separately from the other aspects of his remarkable career which include (but are not limited to) countless marquee TV roles on hit shows like *North of 60*, *Shining Time Station*, *Star Trek: The Next Generation*, and *Law & Order*. Guest roles in Season 4 of *Outlander* and Season 3 of *Cardinal* aired in early 2019 and Season 3 of *Red Earth Uncovered* is due in 2020. There are also movies, most notably the dark comedy thriller *Cold Pursuit* opposite Liam Neeson released worldwide in February. Other onetime film compatriots include Eric Bana, Olivia Wilde, Kris Kristofferson, and Sissy Spacek (in 2012's *Deadfall*), Bruce Greenwood (2005's *Mee-Shee: The Water Giant*), and Bryan Brown (1999's *Grizzly Falls*).

2018 marked the release of *The Essential Tom Jackson*, a dazzling two-disc, 21-track retrospective spotlighting his inimitable talent as a folk-pop singer/songwriter of the highest order and an artist intrinsically linked to the world around him, both the real and the ethereal.

Tom is understandably proud of all that. Yet it is his extensive charitable work — in particular, helping the long-running Huron Carole Christmas concert tours - that is arguably his crowning achievement. With \$230 million in combined cash/in-kind value for food banks and disaster relief raised to date, it's no wonder Tom, currently an Ambassador for the Red Cross, has been inducted as an Officer of the Order of Canada in 2000, and received the 2007 Juno Humanitarian Award, and the Governor General's Performing Arts Award for Lifetime Artistic Achievement in 2014.

Multiple additional honours, including the 2007 Gemini Humanitarian Award, have been bestowed on him over the years. But those above-mentioned three, perhaps more than any others, have cemented his status as one of Canada's most influential, distinguished, and revered sons.

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ON THE HURON CAROLE:

The very first show Tom Jackson did of this kind was in 1987 in Toronto. Having booked a larger venue which fell through, he pivoted the performance to The Silver Dollar Saloon. It didn't make any money, but it raised awareness and a lot of spirits. When he met his wife Alison, the pair took the show to Winnipeg, thus laying foundation for three decades of 15+ shows annually in communities across the country.

In 2016, Tom Jackson and The Huron Carole's team were evacuated off the highway in the midst of a massive blizzard outside of Virden, Manitoba. Being 70km away from Brandon where they were set to perform that night, the entire cast and crew soon found themselves in a makeshift emergency shelter processed by The Red Cross, of which Tom is already an active ambassador for and supports tirelessly in his spare time.

The show went on, but in the pop-up shelter quickly assembled by relief volunteers. Having managed to bring a handful of instruments from the tour bus, soon the recreation centre was transformed into a Christmas community all its own, with hundreds of evacuees and local responders entertained by holiday songs and stories.

Subsequent seasons have had less dramatic road stories, but each conceived from the well of Tom's extensive anecdotes and experiences having traveled every corner of the country. This year's show continues Tom Jackson's ongoing success in sharing inspirational messages and music of the season with equally inspirational benefits to local communities.

"Path to a Miracle is our theme this year as we pay attention to the light inside all of us...the path we create, and the path we leave behind."

For more information, please contact:

Eric Alper
Eric Alper Public Relations
647-971-3742
eric@thatericalper.com