

FROM: CHILLIWACK ARTS &
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High Resolution photo: [Raven Stories jpeg](#)
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AN ADVENTURE PACKED WITH FOLKLORE AND FUN!

CHILLIWACK, BC –To give the kids a fantastic cultural experience blending the theatrics and fun of the performing arts and the traditional wisdom and stories of the indigenous peoples of the Pacific Northwest, make sure to bring them along to ***Raven Stories!*** Coming to the Cultural Centre on **October 19, 2014**, ***Raven Stories*** tells three stories based around that trickster of First Nations folklore; Raven. Using incredibly evocative puppetry that reflects the unmistakable style of traditional First Nations wood carvings and artwork, ***Raven Stories*** will take you and the kids on a mystical and entertaining journey to a world steeped in mischief, soulfulness and joy.

An important character in the folklore of the indigenous peoples of the Pacific Northwest, Raven has taken many roles including magician, transformer, trickster and spiritual guide. Like his cousin Coyote, Raven has been known to use his wits and cunning to shape events and get what he wants, but he also is central in the stories of how the world came to be. *Raven Stories* focuses on three such tales, “Raven Steals the Sun, Moon and Stars”, “How Raven Killed a Whale”, and “How Raven Gave Water to the World”. Combining the wisdom of indigenous folklore with the fun and frolics of a kids puppet show, *Raven Stories* presents these traditional narratives in an engaging, entertaining and exciting way that gives kids the chance to have a valuable cultural experience and a great time all at once!

Brought to Chilliwack by Portland, Oregon’s *Tears of Joy Theatre*; a group that has been described as one of the best puppet theatre groups in the United States, *Raven Stories* includes some other characters from First Nations folklore that audiences may be familiar with. Raven jokes and laughs with his friend Petrol in one tale, tricks his way into the hut of the Chief to give a gift to humanity in another, and even transforms himself into a screaming baby, to hilarious and raucous results! Written by storyteller and poet Ed Edmo of the Shoshone-Bannock tribes in south-east Idaho, *Raven Stories* is entertaining and illuminating, and offers the perfect mixture of laughter and learning. The kids are guaranteed to have a great time following Raven on his adventures, and experiencing the indigenous cultures of the Pacific Northwest in a brand new and exciting way!

So come along for a brilliantly fun ride with Tears of Joy Theatre and Raven on October 19, 2014. This is an afternoon show beginning at 2:00PM. Charming, quirky, and filled with traditional knowledge, *Raven Stories* will be the show that the kids never forget!

Raven Stories is generously sponsored by Emil Anderson, Gidney Signs, Save on Foods, KPMG, The Chilliwack Times, The Drive, The City of Chilliwack, the Department of Canadian Heritage, and The Hampton Inn.

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Additional Information

Tears of Joy Theatre Website
<http://www.tojt.org/assembliesraven-stories/>

For additional information and to arrange interviews, contact:

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Chilliwack Cultural Centre

Owned by the City of Chilliwack, the Cultural Centre houses two unique performance venues, an art gallery, music instruction studios, arts and crafts studios, meeting rooms, offices, and is home to the Chilliwack Academy of Music and the Chilliwack Art Gallery. Since opening in 2010, over 188,000 tickets have been sold through the Centre Box Office, with a value exceeding \$2,600,000. The Centre is overseen by The Chilliwack Arts & Cultural Centre Society on behalf of the City, and boasts The Chilliwack Academy of Music, The Chilliwack Visual Artists Association and The Chilliwack Players Guild as partners.

Chilliwack Cultural Centre highlights:

- 597 seat performance theatre
- 168 seat recital hall / rehearsal space / dance studio / meeting space
- Chilliwack Art gallery (22-foot high display area)
- 21 music instructional rooms
- Arts and crafts studios
- Storage and Archival Resource Room

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The Chilliwack Arts & Cultural Centre Society is registered under the British Columbia Society Act as a not-for-profit society (society number S-54973), and is a registered Canadian charitable organization under the Canadian Charities Directorate. (charity number 805742897 RR0001)

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