

FROM: CHILLIWACK ARTS & CULTURAL CENTRE SOCIETY  
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High-Resolution photo: [Indri and Meinu.jpg](#)

Description: Tears of Joy Theatre brings another captivating story to delight children. The Toad and the Prince is a “Beauty and the Beast” story set in China.

Photo Credit: N/A

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## Tears of Joy Theatre brings another charming story to delight children with *The Toad Prince*.

CHILLIWACK, BC – Using stunning puppet theatre to engage and delight audiences, Tears of Joy Theatre returns to The Centre on October 15 with *The Toad Prince*, a “Beauty and the Beast” story set in China that even includes a smoke-breathing dragon! This charming theatre company produces, develops, and presents theatre in a way that celebrates the diversity of world cultures, and to teach and enrich children’s lives. *The Toad Prince* brings to life this story about discovering the importance behind showing kindness to those around you in a show sure to enthrall all ages.

*The Toad Prince* tells the story of Indri, the son of a water sprite who was born with the head and hands of a toad. Indri, who has grown bitter and sad due to his appearance, starts on a quest to become beautiful, for which he must find virtue and sit with it for nine days. Along the way, he meets Mingli, whom he believes will lead him to become virtuous, but while it does not give him the results he hopes for, it does start him on an adventure where he learns how important caring for another more than himself is. While it is not his relationship with Mingli, nor his relationship with a dragon that he summons that shows him the true meaning of being benevolent, it is his relationship with Mingli's daughter Meinu that teaches him the most important lesson to becoming beautiful, because beauty is not strictly about appearances.

Imaginative, charming, and inspiring, **Tears of Joy Theatre's** strong belief in community comes through in how they bring live theatre experiences to individuals and communities with limited access to live performance and arts education. They believe in creating community through their work with artists, students, and audiences.

*The Toad Prince* uses a very traditional form of rod puppets. The puppeteers are beneath the puppets, hidden behind the set. This is a particularly strenuous form of puppetry, as the puppeteer's arms are extended upwards, slowing the flow of blood and oxygen to the very parts of the body that are exerting the most energy. The puppeteers perform for up to forty-five minutes, and each puppet weighs around ten pounds.

Sure to charm audience members of all ages, *The Toad Prince* is a show that can be enjoyed by the entire family.

*The Toad Prince* is coming to the Chilliwack Cultural Centre on **October 15** at **2:00pm**. Tickets are \$12 and can be purchased at the Centre Box Office, online at [www.chilliwackculturalcentre.ca](http://www.chilliwackculturalcentre.ca), or by calling 604-391-SHOW(7469).

*The Toad Prince* is sponsored by: Emil Anderson Construction, Canada Safeway, Nestle Waters Canada, Decades Coffee Club, Star FM, the Chilliwack Progress, The Royal Hotel, the City of Chilliwack, and the Department of Canadian Heritage.

— 30 —

***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 O'Connor Group Art Gallery. Since opening in 2010, over 315,000 tickets have been sold through the Centre Box Office, with a value exceeding \$4,900,000. The Centre is overseen by The Chilliwack Arts & Cultural Centre Society on behalf of the City.

*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, crafts and performance studios
- Storage and Archival Resource Room

**Chilliwack Arts & Cultural Centre Society Board of Directors**

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City of Chilliwack  
Chilliwack Arts & Cultural Centre Society  
Chilliwack Academy of Music  
Chilliwack Lions Club  
Chilliwack Players Guild  
Chilliwack School of Performing Arts  
Chilliwack Visual Artists Association

**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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