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Cottagers and Indians

A tale for our times – and a food fight for the ages!



SAINT JOHN – the Saint John Theatre is excited to welcome our friends from Tarragon Theatre with their touching story of reconciliation. *Cottagers and Indians* will run at the BMO Studio Theatre from April 7-11.

The heart-warming and humorous story, written by Drew Hayden Taylor, was inspired by real events around the area of Pigeon Lake, Ontario. This conflict was coined the “Wild Rice Wars” by local media.

For years waterfront residents in the area have been at odds with local First Nations over the increase in wild rice beds on the lake. A Curve Lake First Nation man has been seeding and harvesting manoomin or wild rice from Pigeon Lake over the past few decades but lake residents say the rice and his harvesting methods are interfering with their enjoyment of their waterfront properties.

In the play, as in real life, conflict ensues bringing up questions of ownership, equity, tradition, health, colonization, and reconciliation. The conflict over wild ricing on Pigeon Lake is drawing attention to Indigenous rights and traditional foods. The story is told with warmth and humour, and encompasses issues of community, respect and ownership.

Cottagers and Indians will run at the BMO Studio Theatre, 112 Princess Street April 7-11. Tickets are \$35 and \$22 for students. To order visit: www.saintjohntheatrecompany.com or call 506-652-7582 ext. 236.

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