

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE  
SEPTEMBER 28, 2020

**31 YEARS**  
OF THEATRE

Contact: Lise Driscoll, Marketing & Communications, SJTC  
506-652-7582 ext. 226 | [lise.driscoll@saintjohntheatrecompany.com](mailto:lise.driscoll@saintjohntheatrecompany.com)

## Beneath Springhill: The Maurice Ruddick Story

A chronicle of the life of an African Canadian who survived the 1958 historic mining disaster in Springhill, Nova Scotia



SAINT JOHN – this October the Saint John Theatre Company (SJTC) will be streaming the production of *Beneath Springhill: The Maurice Ruddick Story* on its virtual studio page from October 10-13

This sixty-minute chamber musical chronicles the life of Maurice Ruddick, an African Canadian who survived the historic mining disaster in Springhill, Nova Scotia in 1958. Ruddick was awarded "Citizen of the Year" for saving the lives of his fellow workers.

This one-man show recalls the events of seven miners trapped two miles beneath a small mining town, the effect it had on their rural Canadian community, and the racial tension that surfaced as a result.

Creator and performer Beau Dixon will play ten characters: Maurice; the six miners whose lives he was credited with saving; a news reporter; Valerie, one of Ruddick's 13 children; and Ruddick's wife, Norma.

*Beneath Springhill: The Maurice Ruddick Story* will be available on demand between October 10-13 on the BMO Virtual Studio page of the SJTC website. The production is free to view, donations welcome.

<https://saintjohntheatrecompany.com/bmo-virtual-studio/>

Support for this project has been provided by Canadian Heritage, the Province of New Brunswick and TD.