

## **A Spirit Walk Returns to Celebrate 25 Years!**

Pickering, ON, Thursday, July 28, 2022

After a two year hiatus, Pickering Museum Village is gearing up to celebrate the 25<sup>th</sup> year of *A Spirit Walk* this fall. The museum has been staging the original play that tells the story of Pickering's part in the 1837 Upper Canada Rebellion, and in particular, about Peter Matthews – the man who lead this community's contingent of rebels – each September since 1995. *A Spirit Walk* has become Durham Region's longest-running play. Over the years, cast have performed for more than 3,000 audience members that included descendants of the rebels. This year's cast and crew will mount the show on September 15, 16, 17, 22, 23, and 24. Tickets are available now on the [museum website](#).

Back in 1995, no one thought a little play created by Katrina Pyke – and staged by a group of passionate volunteers – would still be resonating with museum visitors 25 years later. But John Edmonds, the play's longest-serving director, is not a bit surprised. "As soon as I got involved in *A Spirit Walk*, I was totally immersed. I couldn't believe the creativity that went into it, from the path it takes through the museum village to the use of the candle-lit luminaries," recalls Edmonds. Edmonds began directing the play in its eighth season. "I knew in my heart that it wasn't going to end anytime soon. I knew by the way it enthralled new cast and crew members. I realize now that part of its magic is about our stories, our people, and the connection to this place where we live – it's all real, and it happened here."

There are seven show times available each night of the production's run this fall. Intimate audience groups are lead through the paths and buildings of the museum site by the character Hannah Matthews, widow of Peter. She weaves the story of optimism as settlers sought refuge from America after the Revolutionary War, the mounting frustrations that lead many to take up arms against the government fifty years later, and the grim price her husband had to pay for his treasonous act. Let *A Spirit Walk* enthrall and immerse you this fall.

For more information on the play and Pickering's connection to the Rebellion, visit the [25<sup>th</sup> Anniversary webpage](#).

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unparalleled quality of life for those who live, work, and play here. Its dynamic City Centre has been designated by the Province of Ontario as both an Urban Growth Centre and Mobility Hub, and continues to evolve as a preferred destination for creative learning, memorable events, and unique experiences at the heart of a vibrant, connected, and engaged community.

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