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MANITO AHBEE ANNOUNCES FESTIVAL DATES & HOSTING ABORIGINAL DAY AT RED RIVER EX

***ABORIGINAL PEOPLES CHOICE MUSIC AWARDS:
ARTISTS SUBMISSIONS TO JUNE 30***

Winnipeg MB (June 3, 2009) -- Manito Ahbee: A Festival for All Nations takes place **November 4 to 8, 2009**. Participants from Winnipeg and Manitoba, from across Canada and North America, and from around the world, are invited to come together and share in music, arts and culture in the heart of Turtle Island. www.manitoahbee.com

ABORIGINAL DAY AT RED RIVER EX

To kick off 2009 celebrations, Manito Ahbee is hosting an all-day event on National Aboriginal Day on June 21 at Red River Exhibition Park. A competition pow wow happens from 1:00pm until 6:00pm, with MC Colin Mousseau and special guest MC the Honourable Eric Robinson. In the evening, a Main Stage music showcase takes place from 7:00pm to 11:00pm, hosted by Melissa Spence from NCI Radio, and featuring performances by:

- George Leach
- Kimberley Dawn
- Don Amero
- Jerry Sereda
- DJ St. Germain
- Asham Stompers

ARTISTS INVITED TO SUBMIT FOR APCMA'S

The Aboriginal Peoples Choice Music Awards (APCMA's) take place November 5 and 6, recognizing and celebrating the best in Aboriginal music from North America and beyond. Artists are invited to submit before **June 30, 2009**.

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Four new categories at the 2009 APCMA's include Aboriginal Radio Single of the Year, Best Pop CD, Best Peyote CD, and Best International Artist.

Winners are chosen by music fans and industry stakeholders through an online voting system. All submissions in 17 Artist categories and nine Industry categories are uploaded online for registered members to browse and consider, before voting for their choice. Membership for Aboriginal Peoples Choice Music Awards is free, with an easy sign-up process on the website. www.aboriginalpeopleschoice.com

ABOUT MANITO AHBEE

Now in its fourth year, the Manito Ahbee Festival celebrates and showcases Aboriginal music, art and culture. Manito Ahbee – which means 'where the Creator sits' – honours a sacred site in Manitoba's Whiteshell Provincial Park where Aboriginal people have gathered for hundreds of years to share teachings and wisdom. There are several petroforms at this site including one shaped like a turtle that represents Turtle Island, which is another name for North America. Manito Ahbee was recognized in 2008 with Travel Manitoba's Tourism Award in the category of Aboriginal Tourism. The Board of Governors, staff and organizers of Manito Ahbee express deep gratitude for all participants, supporters and communities who have come together to make the festival what it is today.

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