

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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Museum of Vancouver and H.R. MacMillan Space Centre celebrate the start of summer by bringing a new dynamic event to Vanier Park

Perspectives on the Solstice is a 19+ event that celebrates the Summer Solstice in all its forms.

VANCOUVER, BC – On Friday June 21, 2019 the Museum of Vancouver and H.R. MacMillan Space Centre invite the public to a 19+ summer kick-off party in celebration of the Summer Solstice. In honour of the longest day of the year, these two organizations will open the doors of their unique building for an engaging partnership event filled with activities, lectures, traditional storytelling, Star Theatre shows, exhibitions, drinks, games, music, food and so much more.

First Nations knowledge holders **Woody Morrison** and **Latash Nahanee** will perform Solstice themed storytelling. Participants will learn how the Haida and Squamish approach and celebrate Solstice on this day, one that is now recognized as National Indigenous Peoples Day.

"The solstices and equinox are important events on the Squamish calendar," says Latash Nahanee of the Squamish Nation, "It is through such events that it is possible to be prepared for harvesting the bounty made available from the Creator."

Knowledge holders will be joined by **Dr. Cecil Konijnendijk**, Professor at the UBC Faculty of Forestry and **Keely Langford**, Park Interpreter at Metro Vancouver Parks to animate biological interpretations of Solstice and seasonal change in our city.

Attendees are encouraged to grab a drink, wander through MOV feature exhibitions, drift into the Space Centre where they can learn more about why our planet has seasons, how seasons affect other planets in the solar system, and how we will search for life on other worlds in the galaxy.

The H.R. MacMillan Space Centre has even created a **feature Planetarium Show-Solstices in the Solar System**, where **HRMSC Astronomer Kat Kelly** will take audience members on a visual journey through the solar system exploring the cosmic perspective on solstices and seasons, and how this may help us in our search for life in the universe.

Demonstrations on how we find exoplanets, and how their orbits, seasons, and solstices might make them suitable for life will be taking place in the **GroundStation Canada Theatre**. The **Cosmic** Courtyard will also be animated with art stations and interactive displays.

"Solstice is one of those astronomical terms that actually has meaning to everyone on planet Earth, because the Sun is so significant to every living thing on this planet, it's no wonder that the longest day of the year has been a day of celebration for all cultures across the world, because it's so social," says Michael Unger, Programming Coordinator at the H.R. MacMillan Space Centre. This event will not only bring together our two organizations that have different

perspectives, but even more perspectives from the community to have a true celebration that brings us all together."

Tickets to the event includes admission to all this plus access to the special Solstice Planetarium show and all MOV exhibitions, and that's not all! This 19+ event features music, a cash bar, and delicious on-site food trucks Roasted Revolution, Taste of Heaven, and East Van's very own Cannoli King. Be sure not miss out on this memorable premiere event celebrating the start of Summer!

About Museum of Vancouver (museumofvancouver.ca)

The Museum of Vancouver connects Vancouverites to each other and connects Vancouver to the world. The museum's programs, exhibitions, and collections bring people together and inspire conversation about the future. The museum, an enthusiastic civic advocate, is an independent non-profit organization dedicated to inspiring a socially connected, civically engaged city.

About H.R. MacMillan Space Centre (spacecentre.ca)

The H.R. MacMillan Space Centre is a non-profit community resource that brings the wonders of space to Earth, while providing a personal sense of ongoing discovery. Through innovative programming, exhibits and activities, our goal is to inspire sustained interest in the fields of Earth science, space science and astronomy.

Listing Information

Perspectives on the Solstice

Date: Friday, June 21, 6:30pm - midnight

Venue: Museum of Vancouver + H.R. Macmillan Space Centre
1100 Chestnut Street, Vancouver, BC

Tickets: \$25 early bird tickets until June 7th, regular \$30.

Website: summer-celebration.eventbrite.ca

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