



**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

***DARK DRAMA SHINES LIGHT ON MODERN ISSUES***

*Theatre; Just Because production brings theatre to Fort McMurray in new ways*

*(Fort McMurray, AB - February 9, 2021)* — Those who deny history are doomed to repeat it in Sofi Oksanen’s breathtaking drama ***Purge***, produced by Theatre; Just Because in partnership with Keyano Theatre, playing at Keyano Theatre & Arts Centre July 15-17, 2021.

***Purge*** is a riveting and suspenseful tale of two women dogged by their own shameful pasts. Set in both the years following WW2 and the early 1990s, the play centres on issues still very relevant to our society today.

When Alide Truu, an older woman living alone in the Estonian countryside, finds a dishevelled girl huddled in her front yard, she suppresses her misgivings and offers her shelter. Zara is a young sex-trafficking victim on the run from her captors, but a photo she carries with her soon makes it clear that her arrival at Aliide’s home is no coincidence. Survivors both, Aliide and Zara engage in a complex arithmetic of suspicion and revelation to distil each other’s motives; gradually, their stories emerge, the culmination of a tragic family drama of rivalry, lust, and loss that played out during the worst years of Estonia’s Soviet occupation.

Directed by Hanna Fridhed, ***Purge*** is a thought-provoking drama unlike any that Fort McMurray has seen in years.

“***Purge*** is a story with many layers and beautifully multi-faceted and well-developed characters. At its core, it is intensely human.” says Director Hanna Fridhed. “Creating live theatre right now comes with a number of challenges, but it also invites artists to take their craft to a new level. It forces you to think outside of the box. It’s an opportunity for innovation, collaboration, and creativity both on and off the stage.”

In the midst of the COVID-19 pandemic, ***Purge*** will be produced and performed with cutting-edge safety precautions, including the integration of cameras and live-streaming to the rehearsal process. ***Purge*** will be professionally filmed and broadcast to audiences.

Theatre; Just Because is also optimistic about the possibility of live performances with social distancing measures in place.

***Purge*** is made possible by the generous support of community sponsors. Thank you to Production Sponsors Flett Manning Moore Law and HVAC Solutions; Stage Sponsors AKRON Engineering, Wood Buffalo Paving, CEDA, Canadian Tire, Paul Davis; Media Sponsor Harvard Broadcasting; and Headshot Sponsor Jenna Buffett Photography.



Auditions and performances of Purge are as follows:

**Auditions:** April 22-24, 2021

**Performances:** July 15-16, 2021

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**About Theatre; Just Because:**

We believe theatre is an impactful expression of the human experience used to meaningfully challenge artists and engage communities, and work to empower artists to take ownership of their work through community-based and professionally-driven theatre productions and workshops. You can read more about Theatre; Just Because on our [website!](#)

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