



## Former NHLer helps a Musician and his Band land a major gig!

*by Claudia Jones, FNHC Communications*

A Stanley Cup Win for a band in Alberta. The creator of the band called the Troubadours, Kyle Young, never dreamed he would be performing at the NHL Heritage Classic. "I am beyond ecstatic, and maybe a little bit nervous. Overall I am so excited and honoured to have been asked to participate in such an incredibly fun event. The fact that it is both NHL and music, two favorite things together, has me hyper fixated on making this the best performance thus far." Young hails from Bigstone Cree Nation, a young music prodigy grew up in both Edmonton and Bigstone Cree Nation. Young created the Troubadours in June 2022, a band that covers a wide range of genres. He is the lead guitarist, singer and manager. The Troubadours are a 4 piece Indigenous band.

Young performed at the First Nations Health Consortium's 2023 Youth Teepee Summit that was held in August where he met the former NHL defenceman, Andrew Ference. Young said, "I had the opportunity to speak with him about music and hockey which I am passionate about, so he took one of my business cards and a few weeks later I received an email from Vince Granieri, director of events with the NHL. He asked me if I'd be interested in the opportunity to have my band perform in the NHL Heritage Classic Fan Festival for October 27th. I was so shocked, and I honestly at first thought it was a prank but then I read the actual email address and it was legitimate and stamped."



The 2011 Stanley Cup champion, Andrew Ference, was one of several influential speakers at the annual Teepee Summit. Ference played for the Pittsburgh Penguins, Calgary Flames, Boston Bruins including the Edmonton Oilers. In 2011, Ference helped the Bruins to their sixth Stanley Cup championship. He later went on to becoming named the 14th captain in Oilers NHL franchise history. The generosity from a celebrity like Ference does not go unnoticed. Young says, “I was very fortunate to have met the wonderful people in the last year who have put me in places that got me these opportunities.”



With many inspiring people that Young has crossed paths with throughout his music career he says, “I’d like to say I am so grateful for all the help I’ve received along the way from everyone who has impacted myself or my band, but especially my late father, Mr. Brian Young of Bad Timing band, for letting me play gigs in his band since I was 16. He was a bit strict with me, mainly when it came to playing music but all those years of hard work sure paid off. Young started learning music back in the fall of 2008 when he was only 14 years old. He has performed more than 500 shows and plans on performing for years to come.



If you would like to watch the Troubadours perform, they will be hitting the stage on Friday, October 27th at the WestJet NHL Fan Park, Edmonton ICE District, starting at 4:00 pm. The 20th Anniversary Heritage Classic Festival is a FREE 2-day festival that will feature family-friendly hockey interactivities, appearance by Stanley Cup, including live entertainment.

To buy tickets for the 2023 Tim Hortons NHL Heritage Classic between the Calgary Flames and Edmonton Oilers on Sunday, October 29th at 7 p.m. ET/5 p.m. MT, please visit <https://www.nhl.com/events/2023-nhl-heritage-classic>