

media release: March 5, 2014 (not for release until 8pm)

Simple Plan & Colin James to headline Kirkland Lake Homecoming Concerts

Just days after wrapping a wildly successful Winter Carnival, the Kirkland Lake Festivals Committee has unveiled another star-studded Homecoming Week line-up. Simple Plan and Colin James have been announced as this summer's headliners.

The Montreal pop-punk band Simple Plan will perform at the Community Complex on Friday, June 27 with special guests Faber Drive. The back of the floor will be licensed for the all-ages show.

Since the release of their debut album in 2002, Simple Plan has remained one of Canada's most popular and successful bands. The Juno Award-winning band has a worldwide fan base and more than 10 million followers on Facebook.

Simple Plan has racked up 17 radio hits over the past decade including: Jet Lag, Summer Paradise, Welcome To My Life, Your Love Is A Lie, Crazy, When I'm Gone, Perfect and I'm Just A Kid.

The band was recognized with a humanitarian award at the 2012 Juno's for the Simple Plan Foundation, which focuses on global teen problems including suicide, poverty, drug addiction, human trafficking and modern slavery.

Discovered by Nickelback's Chad Kroeger, the British Columbia band Faber Drive has released three albums producing the hits G-Get Up and Dance, Life Is Waiting, Candy Store and Too Little Too Late, featuring Simple Plan's Pierre Bouvier.

The second Homecoming concert will be headlined by the biggest name in Canadian blues, Colin James set for Saturday, June 28 at the complex.

Mentored by guitar hero Stevie Ray Vaughan, Colin James burst onto the music scene in 1988. Since that time, he has released 15 acclaimed albums, won 6 Juno Awards and picked up 17 Maple Blues Awards.

Colin James' hits include: Just Came Back, Five Long Years, Voodoo Thing, Let's Shout, Surely, Better Way To Heaven, his cover of Van Morrison's Into The Mystic, plus his most recent hits Stone Faith and Need You Bad.

This will be Colin James' second appearance in Kirkland Lake. The Vancouver-based star sold out the Northern College Auditorium in less than one day when he opened the 2008 Winter Carnival.

Known as the premier blues band in Canada, The legendary Downchild Blues Band will kick-off the night. Since 1969, Donnie Walsh and his band of award-winning musicians have maintained one of the most loyal followings in Canadian music history.

The Homecoming Week blues night with Colin James and Downchild will be an all-ages concert, but the entire floor of the community complex will be licensed for the show.

Ticket packages and single tickets for both Homecoming concerts will go on sale at the complex and online at klfestivals.com beginning April 4. Simple Plan tickets will be \$60, Colin James \$50 or both shows for \$100 hst included.

Simple Plan and Colin James join the already impressive list of previous Homecoming performers including: Hedley, Marianas Trench, Blue Rodeo, The Sheepdogs, Serena Ryder, Sam Roberts, Down With Webster and Carly Rae Jepsen.

Kirkland Lake's Homecoming Week will also feature Canada Day celebrations at Civic, the extreme park competition, a local food fair and several events for families and children.

Earlier this week, Festivals & Events Ontario awarded the Kirkland Lake Festivals Committee two Top 100 Award rankings. Only three festivals in Northern Ontario received the prestigious awards including both Homecoming Week and Winter Carnival

Online links:

Website: www.klfestivals.com

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/pages/Kirkland-Lake-Festivals-Committee/348057343881>

Simple Plan: <http://www.simpleplan.com/>

Colin James: <http://www.colinjames.com/>

Faber Drive: <http://www.faberdrive.com/>

Downchild: <http://www.downchild.com/>