

THE TILLER'S FOLLY

Stirring Up Ghosts

TEACHER'S STUDY GUIDE—LINKED TO IRP'S

ABOUT THE PERFORMANCE

Stirring up Ghosts contains songs of triumph and mystery, tales of intrigue, adventure, true life heroes and villains of Western Canada's flamboyant history. The performance fosters awareness of heritage, culture and history through song. The Tiller's Folly have researched, written, and produced a collection of historically-based songs each of which tells a particular story from our colorful past.



THEMES:

- *Explorers*
- *Flight*
- *Gold Rush*
- *Heritage*
- *Heroes*
- *History*
- *Immigrants*
- *Music*
- *Pioneers*
- *Railway*
- *Storytelling*
- *Villains*
- *Voyageurs*

PROGRAM

Some of the songs you'll hear include:



VOYAGEUR

Following the inland river and lake systems from Quebec to British Columbia, the voyageurs built trading posts, explored the waterways and created the first maps of those regions.



TWENTY-THREE CAMELS

During the Cariboo Goldrush of the mid-1800s, a Victoria merchant launched a most amazing scheme. Frank Laumeister imported twenty-three Bactrian Camels for use as beasts of burden on the Cariboo Road.



OVER NORTHERN SKIES

This song celebrates 100 years of flight in Canada which began in 1909, in Bras D'Or, Nova Scotia a team including Alexander Graham Bell launched the first manned flight in Canada.

The full lyrics to songs used in the show are available at <http://www.kbamonline.com/artists/tillersfolly.htm>.

GRADE 4-12 PRE-SHOW ACTIVITY (45 min)

Social Studies -IRP link- Identity, Society & Culture, History, Technology

Divide students into groups of 3 or 4 (depending number of students) and assign them each a song from the **attached worksheet** provided for you to photocopy. Have the students work cooperatively to create some kind of presentation of the material, ie: a narration with actors, a rap, a drama. In other words, each group will creatively inform and teach the others one of Tiller's Folley's songs. This is an excellent way to prepare students to connect to, engage with and recall the information *during* the show.

****FOR K-3** Show the photos on the song worksheet and briefly discuss/question their historical relevance.

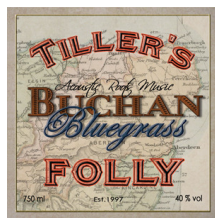
* the full lyrics to songs used in the show are available at <http://www.kbamonline.com/artists/tillersfolly.htm>.

K-12 POST-SHOW ACTIVITY

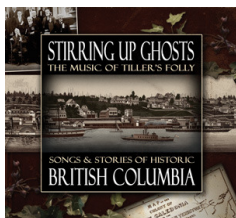
Historical Charades (20-25 min) - Have students write down on small pieces of paper the historical names of the people heard in the songs, such as *Simon Fraser, the Jamieson brothers*, etc. Then play charades to have fun while reviewing some history.

****For grades 10-12** don't have them write down the names as their "recall" abilities will be more challenged.

DISCOGRAPHY



Buchan
Bluegrass



Stirring Up
Ghosts



Ghosts of the
Mighty Fraser



A Ripple in Time



A Fine Kettle of
Fish

www.tillersfolly.com

HOSTING THE PERFORMANCE

The Tiller's Folly will arrive at your school approximately thirty minutes prior to show time. They will set up on your stage if it is suitable — i.e. lit from the front and with

a solid colour backdrop. Otherwise, they will set up at one end of the gym on the floor. They will require a changing room and access to electrical outlets. Fresh

drinking water is always appreciated. Please have a staff member introduce the show, and say a few words after.

