

Can't get tickets to the Tragically Hip? Try out the Practically Hip and help out Fort Mac

For disappointed Tragically Hip fans, there may be some reprieve as Canada's number-one Hip tribute band, ?Practically Hip?, takes centre stage at the second annual ?Under the Maples? concert, presented by the Belfountain Community Organization (BCO) on Saturday, June 25.

With the recent announcement of lead singer/lyricist Gord Downie's terminal brain cancer, tickets for The Tragically Hip summer tour have reached the stratosphere in terms of both availability and price for their fans of thirty plus years.

The most sought after tribute band and devoted fans of the iconic Canadian rock band, ?Practically Hip? plays no less than 100 gigs across Ontario and stateside each year, plus the band members have personally attended 75 live Hip concerts.

?Only the Hip do it better?, says lead singer and Downie clone Dean Hughes, who emulates the note perfect rendition, rants and unadulterated energy as Downie during each performance.

?As the Hip digs deep to do their summer tour?, says Trent Richer, band manager and bass player, ?our thoughts are with Gord and his family, the band and their fans who love them. We have always been huge fans of The Tragically Hip and will continue to honour and respect their music legacy.?

Warming the stage for ?Practically Hip? is locally acclaimed rhythm and blues band, ?Bad Weather.? The self-styled R&B dance band is best known for its top 40s hits from the 50s through 70s.

Caledon-based frontman, Andy Pollock on the keyboards, will be joined by Tom Brereton on guitar, John Cox playing bass, and Dickson Zee on the drums.

Pub-style fare with an exotic flare created by award-winning Chef Thorntin MacDonald, owner of both the Belfountain Inn and Erin's Bistro Riviere, will bring a new brand of casual dining to the park-like setting at ?Under the Maples?, with a wine and beer tent for concert visitors.

This year's concert is held in support of the Canadian Red Cross Fort McMurray Relief Fund.

Gates open at 4 p.m. with performances to 9 p.m. Tickets can be purchased online at www.ticketpro.ca at \$20 pp. plus handling fee, or \$20 each at select locations onsite or at the gate. Guests are encouraged to arrive early, and bring a chair or blanket as there is no reserved seating.

For information or tickets visit www.belfountain.ca or call [519-993-1715](tel:519-993-1715).