

## MEDIA RELEASE

# Stratford Blues & Ribfest turns back clock 50 years to summer of love

This year's events pays homage to iconic Woodstock rock concert and the Stratford natives Richard Manuel & John Till who were on stage

Bringing the crossroads of blues music, food, culture and community together in Stratford, Ontario!

The 2019 Stratford Blues & Ribfest will be held June 21 - 23 along the banks of the scenic Avon River as well as in and around the Veteran's Drive Band Shell in picturesque Stratford.

This year marks the 10th anniversary of the Stratford Blues & Ribfest and also the 50th anniversary of the 1969 Woodstock Music and Arts Fair.

These two festivals align - two of Stratford natives played on the stage at Woodstock. Richard

Manuel was a pianist and lead singer for *The Band* and John Till was a guitarist who performed with Janis Joplin.

In keeping with that theme, *Inspired by Janis* will play June 21 at the 2019 Stratford Blues & Ribfest.

*The Last Waltz: A Musical Celebration of The Band Live* will play June 22 and they are looking forward to playing in Richard Manuel's hometown.

*The Woodstock Experience* will be the closing act on Sunday, June 23.

Stratford resident and Juno nominated artist *Dayna Manning with Full Band* will also play the Blues and Ribfest June 23.

There are a number of supporting acts each day. This is a free admission, all-ages, three-day event of great music, ribs and festivities! Donations are, of course, welcomed and very appreciated.

For more information visit [stratfordbluesandribfest.ca](http://stratfordbluesandribfest.ca)

The Stratford Blues & Ribfest has partnered with the Stratford Perth Museum which is presenting its own tribute to Manuel, Till and other Stratford artists.

The museum exhibit, *The Road to Woodstock ... and Beyond* opens June 21 at the Museum and runs until Labour Day weekend. For information about the exhibit, visit [stratfordperthmuseum.ca](http://stratfordperthmuseum.ca)

