*FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: January 23, 2019. For more information: Bill Kimball,* *bill@publicenergy.ca* *705-745-1788*

**THIS FEBRUARY TAKE A CULTURAL TRIP DOWN UNDER AND NEVER LEAVE PETERBOROUGH**

**Experience the full breadth of Australia’s diverse Indigenous dance scene
with these two Public Energy presentations:**

**Djuki Mala on February 5th At Showplace
&**

 **Victoria Hunt with *Copper Promises: Hinemihi Haka* on February 19th at Market Hall**

During the month of February, Peterborough audiences will have the opportunity to warm themselves up by experiencing internationally acclaimed dance presentations from some of Australia’s best Indigenous artists. These artists have been selected for Public Energy’s mainstage season by curator Patti Shaughnessy, who has found dance artists who bring fresh ideas and energy to the stage as well as insightful views to Indigenous Australia and New Zealand. Beyond their Indigenous roots, both shows share international reputations: they have been touring the world since their premieres in Australia - *Copper Promises* since 2012, Djuki Mala since 2014.

First up is Djuki Mala, a high energy company of five dancers, from remote Elcho Island in northeast Arnhem Land, who perform an exuberant fusing of traditional Yolngu culture with pop culture, dance and storytelling. Dressed in traditional costumes and ochre, with Gaga (spears) and Galpou (spear thrower) they create work that is a marvel of timing, comedy and clowning, with a hefty dose of heart and soul. The result is a truly exciting spectacle that appeals to all ages. It happens Tuesday February 5th at 7pm at Showplace Performance Centre.

Second up is an entirely different spectacle, with solo dance artist Victoria Hunt’s powerful show, *Copper Promises: Hidemihi Haka.* The themes are heritage, tradition and reclamation; the subject is Hinemihi, a ceremonial meeting house that once stood in Hunt’s native land, Aotearoa/New Zealand, but has since been taken to Surrey, England. Using sophisticated special effects and evocative sound, with beautifully suggestive dancing and her native Maori language, Hunt and her collaborators have created a world of rupture and foreboding, of resilience and joy. *“A stunning production… It is as if she is channeling the spirits of her ancestors and the very land they come from.” – Julia Cotton, Sydney Morning Herald*

*Copper Promises* happens Tuesday, February 19th at 8pm at Market Hall Performing Arts Centre.

*Public Energy presents a two-part Spotlight on Australian Indigenous Dance*

**DJUKI MALA**

**February 5th at 7pm
followed by Q&A with the artists on stage
Showplace Performance Centre, 290 George St N, Peterborough**

Tickets\*: $22 / $12 for students and underwaged / $7 high school students

**Victoria Hunt with *Copper Promises: Hinemihi Haka***

**February 19, 2019 at 8pm**

**Followed by Q & A with the artist on stage**

**Market Hall Performing Arts Centre, 140 Charlotte St, Peterborough**

Tickets\*: $22 / $12 for students and underwaged / $7 high school students
Available at the Market Hall Box Office and online at markethall.org

\*plus service charge where applicable