



The Asham Stompers are so excited to have been selected to perform and are working extremely hard on their routines to ensure that they are the best they can be so as to bring pride to the Metis Nation

Asham Stompers have a mission which is to help recapture and preserve the history of the Metis peoples through the traditional dancing of the Red River Jig combined with square dance routines aptly named the Red River Dance.

The Red River Jig was developed in the late 1700's and early 1800's on the banks of the Red and Assiniboine rivers now called the Forks in the City of Winnipeg.

It was developed to attract the fur traders into the colony to trade furs. It is a very fast vigorous dance and it was not unusual to wear out a pair of moccasins in one evening. The fur traders loved the dance and came back year after year to experience the festivities that eventually turned into a 10 day event.

Although the Metis themselves were a large part of the fur trade and played a big part in the formation of Manitoba they loved these interactions to help them learn and grow.

As the number of settlers increased however the Metis found themselves unable to adjust to the settled life of farming and moved westward to smaller communities in an attempt to recreate their traditional lifestyles.

The Red River Jig survived though in these small communities and the Asham Stompers want to thank their ancestors for carrying on the tradition. "The Best Dance in the World" says their leader and President Arnold Asham. "It is the only dance where people stop, put their drinks down, stand, clap, smile and laugh". They dance to standing ovations all across the country. It is considered "The Metis National Dance". The Stompers perform to LIVE TRADITIONAL Metis fiddle music and will be performing at the following Pavilions during Games Time

February 13 th , 2010	9:00 PM	Power Smart Village BC Hydro 333 Dunsmuir	Vancouver Olympics
February 14 th , 2010	3:00 and 5:00PM	CentrePlace Manitoba Vancouver (Downtown) Live Site Georgia St, and Cambie	Vancouver Olympics
February 15, 2010	11:00 AM	Aboriginal Artisan Village and Business Showcase	Vancouver Olympics
February 15, 2010	2:00 PM	2010 Four Host First Nations Pavilion	Vancouver Olympics
February 15, 2010	3:00 PM	CentrePlace Manitoba Vancouver (Downtown) Live Site Georgia St, and Cambie	Vancouver Olympics

Press Release (For More inf. call Arnold @1(800) 267-5730 www.ashamstompers.com)