Dreamspeakers

International Indigenous Film Festival 2022

May 27th - June 4th 2022

Metro Cinema Edmonton & Online
In-person screenings hosted at the beautiful, historic Metro Cinema at the Garneau Theatre

8712 - 109 Street
Edmonton, AB

Home of metrocinema.org
Contents

✧ Welcome Messages
✧ Festival Schedule
✧ Films Descriptions
✧ Local Indigenous Creatives
MESSAGE FROM THE PREMIER OF ALBERTA

On behalf of the Government of Alberta, it is my pleasure to send greetings to everyone attending the Dreamspeakers International Indigenous Film Festival, both in-person at the historic Ga.Meau Theatre and online.

This annual event is a unique and exciting opportunity to experience the perspectives of Indigenous artists from around the world. Our province is proud to be home to the oldest festival of its kind in Canada, through which audiences can gather to learn, be entertained, and perhaps simply to listen.

My congratulations to the 36 filmmakers whose work is being featured this year, and I thank them for sharing their talent and their stories with all of us. I can only imagine the commitment required to create one of these projects, and wish each of them all the best for continued success.

Thank you to the Dreamspeakers Festival Society and all those whose hard work made this festival possible. I appreciate the society’s support for Indigenous artists and commitment to public education about Indigenous culture, art and heritage.

Best wishes for an inspiring festival!

Hon. Jason Kenney, Premier of Alberta
Production was well under way early in 2020 for both the Dreamspeakers International Indigenous Film Festival and the Rubaboo Indigenous Arts Festival when the province went into lock down due to the burgeoning Corona Virus Pandemic. Initially, we postponed the Festivals from Spring until the Fall, but as we learned more, we made the difficult choice to cancel all in-person programming for the year and pivot to online alternatives. This involved the development of the Dreamspeakers Digital Series, a program of original productions featuring local Indigenous artists. We also made the call to honour the films selected for the 2020 Dreamspeakers Festival in 2021 rather than do another call for submissions.

Welcome Messages

Message from His Worship Mayor Amarjeet Sohi

On behalf of City Council and the people of Edmonton, welcome to the Dreamspeakers International Indigenous Film Festival!

Since 1995, this annual event has showcased the incredible diversity and strength of the world’s Indigenous nations. The fact that this festival is taking place after two extremely challenging years is a testament to the resilience of this community.

By listening to the stories and experiences of indigenous peoples, Edmontonians can discover our deep connections to the land and each other. We also have the unique opportunity to build understanding in order to make progress on the path towards reconciliation.

I thank the Dreamspeakers Festival Society and the Garneau Theatre for bringing these valuable contributions from Indigenous communities across the globe to our city. My thanks as well to the many artists, donors and sponsors who have made this festival possible.

Please enjoy the screenings!

A. Sohi

Amarjeet Sohi
MAYOR, CITY OF EDMONTON
Production was well under way early in 2020 for both the Dreamspeakers International Indigenous Film Festival and the Rubaboo Indigenous Arts Festival when the province went into lock down due to the burgeoning Corona Virus Pandemic. Initially, we postponed the Festivals from Spring until the Fall, but as we learned more, we made the difficult choice to cancel all in-person programming for the year and pivot to online alternatives. This involved the development of the Dreamspeakers Digital Series, a program of original productions featuring local Indigenous artists. We also made the call to honour the films selected for the 2020 Dreamspeakers Festival in 2021 rather than do another call for submissions.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Event</th>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Recreation</td>
<td>12:00 PM</td>
<td>Dodginghorse, Precious Leader Woman, The Roots of Lacrosse</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Recreation II</td>
<td>2:00 PM</td>
<td>Big Crow</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Reconnection</td>
<td>3:30 PM</td>
<td>Meat, I am the Warrior, The O Show, Circle of Eagles</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Reconciliation</td>
<td>5:00 PM</td>
<td>Opening Reception, VIPs and Pass Holders, Music, Refreshments, Prizes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Roadways</td>
<td>6:30 PM</td>
<td>Apache Leap</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Re-matriate</td>
<td>9:00 PM</td>
<td>In Our Own Hands, Abducted</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Production was well under way early in 2020 for both the Dreamspeakers International Indigenous Film Festival and the Rubaboo Indigenous Arts Festival when the province went into lock down due to the burgeoning Corona Virus Pandemic. Initially, we postponed the Festivals from Spring until the Fall, but as we learned more, we made the difficult choice to cancel all in-person programming for the year and pivot to online alternatives. This involved the development of the Dreamspeakers Digital Series, a program of original productions featuring local Indigenous artists. We also made the call to honour the films selected for the 2020 Dreamspeakers Festival in 2021 rather than do another call for submissions.

| Relationships | 1:30 PM | Hop Along Hang On |
|              |        | Strong Hearts: An Indigenous Love |
|              |        | Letter To My Sons |
|              |        | Ma’s House |
|              |        | Diiyeghan naii Taii Tr’eedaa (We Will Walk the Trail of our Ancestors) |
|              |        | Seven Ridges |

| Resilience   | 4:00 PM | Ayoungman |
|              |        | BRING HER HOME |

| Remix        | 7:00 PM | My First Native American Boyfriend |
|             |         | Cinema Red: Full Native Horror |
|             |         | Black Sea Golden Ladder - The Visual Album |

| Revision     | 9:00 PM | Dear Friend |
|             |         | Chocolate |
|             |         | Parallel Minds |
Production was well under way early in 2020 for both the Dreamspeakers International Indigenous Film Festival and the Rubaboo Indigenous Arts Festival when the province went into lock down due to the burgeoning Corona Virus Pandemic. Initially, we postponed the Festivals from Spring until the Fall, but as we learned more, we made the difficult choice to cancel all in-person programming for the year and pivot to online alternatives. This involved the development of the Dreamspeakers Digital Series, a program of original productions featuring local Indigenous artists. We also made the call to honour the films selected for the 2020 Dreamspeakers Festival in 2021 rather than do another call for submissions.

### Festival Schedule

**Sunday May 29th**

**In-person at the Garneau Theatre**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Genre</th>
<th>Title</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>12:00 PM</td>
<td>Romance</td>
<td>A Winter Love</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2:00 PM</td>
<td>Reciprocity</td>
<td>Indigenous Peoples Experience - Premonition</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Wâhkôhtowin</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Johnny Crow</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>RKLSS</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>This Ink Runs Deep</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>My Indian Name</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4:00 PM</td>
<td>Resilience II</td>
<td>Healing Nation</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6:00 PM</td>
<td>Revival</td>
<td>However Wide the Sky: Places of Power</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7:30 PM</td>
<td>Revenge</td>
<td>8:37 REBIRTH</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9:30 PM</td>
<td>Reckoning</td>
<td>Portraits from a Fire</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Festival Schedule

May 30 - June 4th

Dreamspeakers Online
All films available to screen with the purchase of a Festival Pass

June 1st
4:00 - 8:00 pm
Shooters Production Studio Open House and Meet and Greet
9719 47 Ave NW

June 2nd
7:00 - 11:00 pm
Industry Networking Event
Whiskeyjack Art House

June 4th
6:00 pm - 11:00 pm
Arts in the Alley
food, music, artist booths, awards, prizes
at our home
the Mihcêtohtâwin Building
11051 97 Street
Film Descriptions

Friday May 27th
12:30 pm

Recreation

A selection of films celebrating Indigenous athletes and sports from the historical roots of the Creators Game to the power of sport to transform and heal

Dodginghorse

Former professional hockey player and world champion rodeo cowboy Brent Dodginghorse is on a mission—to make Canadian hockey more inclusive for all cultures, Indigenous, Chinese, South Asian, African Canadians and immigrants from all parts of the world.

Run Time: 0:21:44    Category: CAN DOC ST    Director(s): Holly Fortier, Larry Day

Precious Leader Woman

HAILING from the remote village of Alert Bay, B.C., Spencer O’Brien is a world-renowned snowboarder. In 2014, she was expected to win gold at the Sochi Olympics, but when she placed 12th, fans were shocked. What few people knew is that Spencer was suffering from Rheumatoid Arthritis, hiding a debilitating pain that impacted her ability to compete. After the defeat, she retreated to her hometown in the traditional territory of Kwakwaka’wakw to recover. There, with the guidance of her family and close-knit community, she reconnected with her Indigenous culture, helping her regain the strength to reenter the sport and defy all odds. PRECIOUS LEADER WOMAN invites us into Spencer’s world and gives us an intimate look at the determination and grit required to chase big dreams, revealing that our roots are often our biggest strength.

Run Time: 00:45:56    Category: CAN DOC FT    Director(s): Cassie De Colling
Film Descriptions

The Roots of Lacrosse
Many lacrosse players and coaches often don’t know that the origins of the game of lacrosse has it’s roots in North American Indigenous nations. This short documentary provides a brief history of the sacred and cultural aspects of this sport, originally played for the Creator, as well as for the health and welfare of the people. The movie also defines the three types of North American, Indigenous lacrosse: Iroquois, Great Lakes, and Southeastern.

Run Time: 0:23:34  Category: IN DOC ST  Director(s): Shelby Tsiowertiohsta Adams Joanne Storkan

2:00 pm

Recreation II

BIG CROW
“Big Crow” is a story about the power of hope in the most destitute place in America - South Dakota’s Pine Ridge Indian Reservation. By age fourteen, SuAnne Big Crow had become one of the state’s best basketball players. By age seventeen, her wisdom, leadership, and determination had made her a household name across the Great Plains. Thirty years after her tragic death, SuAnne’s spirit has proven legendary; everyone you meet on “the Rez” has a story about how SuAnne’s pride in her people continues to galvanize the Lakota in their fight to reclaim their language and save their culture. Through never-before-seen VHS coverage of her games and home videos and extensive interviews, we examine who SuAnne was on and off the court. “Big Crow” chronicles how this young Lakota leader crossed racial divides to propel her culture into a better tomorrow.

Run Time: 1:08:42  Category: IN DOC FT  Director(s): Kris Kaczor
Film Descriptions

3:30 pm

Reconnection

A selection of films celebrating Indigenous stories, identities, and complexities. Each story demonstrates the importance of connection and reconnection to community and triumphs both individual and systemic, over the effects of colonization.

Meat

When an Indigenous woman is evicted from her home, she must do anything she can to feed her young son.

Run Time: 0:15:20  Category: IN ST  Director(s): Asher Rosen

I am the Warrior

A Residential School Story. A mother and daughter Fox have a poor relationship. The daughter wants to right the wrongs the residential schools have committed to make her mother this way. She becomes the Warrior in her thoughts to save the young version of her mother, only to find her mother is the true Warrior after surviving Residential School.

Run Time: 0:07:52  Category: CAN AN ST  Director(s): Tara Audibert

The O Show

This documentary provides an intimate look into the life of an Afro-Indigenous, Two-Spirited leader and DJ as she works in Vancouver, BC and beyond. From her activism with the Black Lives Matter marches, her engagement within the LGBTQ+ community, to her leadership with the Squamish Nation Chief and Council as an elected member, Orene Askew embodies a unique perspective from the many communities she represents. As DJ O Show, she uses her musical talents to give voice to important issues facing our society while simultaneously inspiring the next generation to live their truth.

Run Time: 0:20:00  Category: CAN DOC ST  Director(s): Sharad Khare
Circle of Eagles
Indigenous Brothers, Elders and Parole Officers share powerful stories of hope and healing from the legacy of Canadian residential schools, foster care, and systemic racism. The film centers around a unique halfway home that imparts Indigenous culture and ceremony to recover from trauma on the road from prison to community.

Run Time: 0:54:27    Category: CAN DOC FT    Director(s): Merv Thomas

6:30 pm

Roadways
There are many paths to travel, even when it seems like there is only one. Navigating two worlds is not easy

Apache Leap
Apache artist Keane is forced into a desperate mission to get a job before the deadline passes and his dreams evaporate, all while navigating family stresses, enemies from his past, and an unpredictable old car. Produced on location in the San Carlos Apache Reservation and the neighboring city of Globe, Arizona, this independent feature explores the extraordinary beauty and the unique challenges of these two communities, and the scorching ribbon of highway that connects them.

Run Time: 1:24:10    Category: IN FT    Director(s): Christian Rozier
Film Descriptions

9:00 pm

🌟 Re-Matriate

These films draw us into the narrative of Indigenous women who have gone missing and communities willing to do whatever it takes to bring them home.

In Our Own Hands

A group of women plan rescue efforts when one of their own goes missing from their reservation.

Run Time: 0:11:00    Category: IN ST    Director(s): Jennifer Varenchik

Abducted

At the heart of our story is 17-year-old Derrick, a young man whose character arc begins with a boy who is fully dependent on his grandmother and his sister. Derrick’s sister, Lakota, is living an at-risk lifestyle dealing drugs for an all-woman gang. When she suddenly disappears, Derrick sets out to find her. Along the way, he faces racism, police brutality and his own lack of confidence. With guidance from his spirit animal, he is able to continue his journey with renewed strength and resolve, eventually facing his sister’s abductor in a thrilling fight to the death.

Run Time: 1:41:09    Category: CAN FT    Director(s): Daniel Foreman
Film Descriptions

Saturday May 28th
1:30 pm

Relationships

All My Relations is not a metaphor. As Indigenous people, we are related to all the living spirits in the universe. We carry the responsibility to maintain good relations with all our kin, past, present, and future.

Hop Along Hang On

How do you take back a story you didn’t know was yours? How do you move forward while embracing and understanding your past? Follow Rose the rabbit as she seeks her way back home. A poetic story of reclamation, recovery and reconciliation by spoken word artist Cobra Collins. "Hop Along Hang On" blends the genres of spoken word poetry, music and animation to explore and acknowledge the deeper history and long-term effects of the removal of culture within Indigenous peoples of Canada. Through the narrator’s personal lens "Hop Along, Hang On" offers a glimpse into the difficulties and trauma surrounding the Sixties scoop and subsequent ongoing hardships faced by Indigenous people who have found themselves on the outside of their culture. Let Rose tell you how she found her way home, in hopes that we can all build a better tomorrow, together.

Run Time: 0:04:17   Category: AN CAN   Director(s): Cobra Collins
Production was well under way early in 2020 for both the Dreamspeakers International Indigenous Film Festival and the Rubaboo Indigenous Arts Festival when the province went into lock down due to the burgeoning Corona Virus Pandemic. Initially, we postponed the Festivals from Spring until the Fall, but as we learned more, we made the difficult choice to cancel all in-person programming for the year and pivot to online alternatives. This involved the development of the Dreamspeakers Digital Series, a program of original productions featuring local Indigenous artists. We also made the call to honour the films selected for the 2020 Dreamspeakers Festival in 2021 rather than do another call for submissions.

**Strong Hearts: An Indigenous Love Letter To My Sons**

‘Strong Hearts’, a short film by actor, writer and director Gary “Litefoot” Davis, overflows with a father’s wisdom and indigenous world view, poetically expressed as a love letter to his three sons. Through its raw and vulnerable narration, a message of strength, beauty and power is conveyed to the young men, imploring them to live a life of purpose. Shot on location at actual sites of decisive Indigenous victories over the U.S. military, historical happenings become teaching moments and majestic natural landscapes provide an epic visual backdrop for delivering a message meant to give the boys the impetus to reclaim their Native American narrative.

Run Time: 0:11:36  Category: IN DOC ST  Director(s): Gary “Litefoot” Davis

**Ma’s House**

‘Ma’s House was once the heart of a community. As Ma’s grandson, artist and photographer Jeremy Dennis is on a quest to restore the family home to its central role as a community gathering place for a new generation of diverse artists. Through personal mementos, intimate narratives, and a touch of celebrity gossip, Dennis and his family reveal generations of history and hope contained within the walls of their home. This film is part of a series and multimedia platform, made in partnership with Indigenous storytellers and their communities worldwide, invites learning from time-honored and current Indigenous ways of being. Facing a climate crisis, the Reciprocity Project embraces Indigenous value systems that have bolstered communities since the beginning of time. To heal, we must recognize that we are in relationship with Earth, a place that was in balance for millennia. More information at www.reciprocity.org.

Run Time: 0:07:43  Category: IN DOC ST  Director(s): Jeremy Dennis
Diiyeghan naii Taii Tr’eedaa (We Will Walk the Trail of our Ancestors)
A grandfather teaches his granddaughter, a young Gwich’in mother named Alisha, how reciprocity is embedded in all aspects of life. The northern lights warm the caribou; the caribou helps feed and sustain the community; the community honors the connections. Each element in nature is purposeful and related. In turn, these connections bring new meaning to Alisha and her wishes for her children and for all living beings. This film is part of a series and multimedia platform, made in partnership with Indigenous storytellers and their communities worldwide, invites learning from time-honored and current Indigenous ways of being. Facing a climate crisis, the Reciprocity Project embraces Indigenous value systems that have bolstered communities since the beginning of time. To heal, we must recognize that we are in relationship with Earth, a place that was in balance for millennia. More information at www.reciprocity.org.

Run Time: 0:05:58    Category: IN ST    Director(s): Princess Daazhraii Johnson

Seven Ridges
In a desert by the sea, a culture survives modernity. A grandmother and her granddaughter intertwine in estrangement over memory. The myth sheds controversy; time falls in dreams of sand, old songs and rock music.

Run Time: 1:15:01    Category: IN FT    Director(s): Antonio Coello
Film Descriptions

Saturday May 28th
4:00 pm

**Resilience**

The capacity to recover quickly from difficulties... at a high price. These films explore recovery from devastating losses and celebrate our unconquered will to thrive.

**Ayoungman**

Ayoungman tells the tragic story of the racially motivated murder of a much loved 24-year-old hockey star and champion pow wow dancer from the Siksika Nation, the inspiring generosity of spirit in his mother’s response, and the actions of two communities to bring their people together.

Run Time: 0:37:39  Category: CAN DOC ST  Director(s): Holly Fortier, Larry Day

**BRING HER HOME**

Bring Her Home follows three Indigenous women – an artist, an activist, and a politician – as they fight to vindicate and honor their missing and murdered relatives who have fallen victims to a growing epidemic across Indian country. Despite the lasting effects from historical trauma, each woman must search for healing while navigating racist systems that brought about this very crisis.

Run Time: 0:56:40  Category: IN DOC FT  Director(s): Leya Hale
Saturday May 28th
7:00 pm

**Remix**

Indigenous cultures build on the past, they are not stuck in it. These films connect past and future worlds, lifespans, and genre to create artistic expressions of identity grounded in the now.

**My First Native American Boyfriend**

Johnny is Emily’s first Native American boyfriend, and now that they’ve been dating for a few months, she’s going to take this golden opportunity to apologize for every microaggression she has ever made against Native Americans.

Run Time: 0:04:45  Category: IN ST  Director(s): Joey Clift

**Cinema Red: Full Native Horror**

The second chapter in the Cinema Red trilogy explores indigenous horror cinema from the perspective of five indigenous filmmakers working in horror and how Native American experiences and traditional stories contribute to the creative method of writing and directing scary Native themed movies.

Run Time: 0:33:54  Category: IN DOC ST  Director(s): Mike J. Marin

**Black Sea Golden Ladder - The Visual Album**

A film that takes inspiration from the ten tracks on Black Sea Golden Ladder. An exploration of the human experience that spans from childhood to death through the lens of seven Māori directors.

Run Time: 0:53:21  Category: IN FT  Director(s): Nicole Horan, Xavier Horan, Dahnu Graham, Marara Katipa, Hayden Aull, Thomas Rose, Huhana Ruri-Panapa
Film Descriptions

Saturday May 28th

**Revision**

9:00 pm

Perspectives, new ways of seeing, new ways of being, informed by the past, looking to the future

Dear Friend

Dear Friend is a visual letter penned by Indigenous youth and made out to a “cruel friend.” The young authors of this letter pour their heart into expressing the torment, confusion and empathy they feel towards their mental health.

Run Time: 0:05:35  Category: CAN DOC ST  Director(s): Trevor Solway

Chocolate

This short 8mm film was shot in sequence in one take by an all women crew. This film was produced through the WNDX Film Festival's One Take Super 8. Filmed in one day, the film maker created a space that was deeply intentional and fluid. Expressing her feelings on her place in society as a queer Indigenous woman.

Run Time: 0:03:50  Category: CA ST  Director(s): Charlene Moore

Parallel Minds

In the near future, technology firm Red-Eye is on the verge of developing a revolutionary contact lens that records human sight to replicate memories. The device uses an artificially engineered intelligence known as U.R.M. When the company’s lead researcher is strangely murdered at the time of the technology’s release, Thomas Elliot (Greg Bryk), an old-fashioned police detective investigates with intrepid researcher Margo Elson (Tommie Amber Pirie) who are drawn into the mystery.

Run Time: 1:24:00  Category: CAN FT  Director(s): Benjamin Ross Hayden
Romance

Decolonial love or a second chance at romance, but at what cost. Sometimes love is... messy

A Winter Love

Blue, a 35 year old, Navajo, singer-songwriter has lost her creative spark to a series of bad relationships and to the harsh Minneapolis winter. But when she meets a younger guy, Eddie, a 25 year-old, Lakota, law school dropout, she feels like she’s regained her edge only to find it slip away from her again when she discovers Eddie’s love was never his to give in the first place. A WINTER LOVE is modern day, inter-tribal, love story that shows true love is found in the season you love yourself.

Run Time: 1:32:31   Category: IN FT   Director(s): Rhiana Yazzie
Reciprocity

Balance, honour, acknowledgement. We must demonstrate our gratitude for all that has been given to maintain it for the next 7 generations.

Premonition: On the Eve of Signing Treaty 6

Premonition acknowledges the major shifts that happened when European traders and settlers began to come into the territory. The birth of the Metis Nation, a unique and storied people who stem from the First Nations’ and Fur Traders’ early interactions, are shown to integrate beliefs from both the Church and traditional Indigenous teachings. We also grow to understand the circumstances that lead up to the numbered treaties and the experience on the plains as disease and famine became more and more defining of the indigenous experience at the time. The Premonition feature sees the Treaty era through the hopeful but cautious eyes of First Nation leaders, beginning a new era of interconnectedness and dual responsibility through treaty. This piece is originally 7680 pixels x 4320 pixels, projection mapped onto a 42 feet x 12.8 feet (12.82 m x 3.90 m) corner wall. The content plays above the Post-Contact First Nations section of the Indigenous Peoples Experience in Fort Edmonton Park. The exhibition wall shows how the promise of early contact descended into a series of shocks to the First Nations way of life and culture. By the time we get to the signing of Treaty 6, we realize the dire situation of the First Nations. Yet underlying it all is a culture fighting to maintain its strength and connection to the land. The storm post-treaty is coming, yet there is hope and resiliency just beyond.

Run Time: 0:05:35 Category: CAN ST Director(s): Barry Billinsky
Wâhkôhtowin | All My Relations

The power of stories, told over many nights, over many years, through all the languages across the world, are encapsulated in an intimate story between a grandmother and her children’s children on a clear winter night in the tipi. The grandmother speaks of the spirit of story, the spirit that exists in everything, and that we are star people - our spirits descended from the stars, and one day they will return. That the interchange between worlds happens at the apex of the tipi, and that we are never alone; our ancestors are always with us. A story of creation and connection to the world around us. Stories travel down from the stars, as a new child does, and then return to the stars as the old person telling the story lights sacred medicine. Through the story of creation (Wacask) and birth of a single baby (us) simultaneously, we understand not the physical creation of the Earth, but the creation of an Indigenous worldview through the stories which hold it. This animated film is a cinematic linear output of a piece that was originally created for an immersive space within the Indigenous Peoples Experience in Fort Edmonton Park, Canada. The original film was custom designed to play across seventeen twenty foot high screens and on three traditionally crafted, human sized teepees.

Run Time: 0:03:29     Category: CAN ST     Director(s): Barry Bilinsky
Film Descriptions

Johnny Crow
A poetic and transformative journey of a young man’s physical, mental, and spiritual struggle to return to his son through the criminal justice system and the layers of colonization it represents. Created by animating spray-painted murals frame-by-frame, Cree artist Jesse Gouchey painted each frame on large outdoor surfaces over a period of seven years in numerous locations across Alberta and BC. Johnny Crow’s struggle speaks to the resilience of modern day warriors surviving and resisting bureaucratic battles of written laws vs oral traditions, and is contrasted by a haunting poem written and performed by spoken word artist Mitcholos Touchie. Turtle Island agreements were to share, and nobody was conquered. Today’s resistance seeks to expose and correct treaty trickery, the dishonourable paper wars that are won and lost with the flick of a stock market digit. Music by Bull Horn Singers, Billy Wadsworth, Celina Kalluk, Daniel Neary, Pura Fé, Cary L. Morin, and Antonia Crescioni.

Run Time: 0:07:15  Category: AN CAN  Director(s):  Xstine Cook  Jesse Gouchey

RKLSS
Tank, a natural artist who is always drawing, runs into trouble with the law with his gang of friends. Tank is convicted, jailed, and subjected to solitary confinement and intense brutality. His art allows him to escape his terrible conditions. He discovers his own native spirituality while in jail, and through his art, finds a way to be in the world, and to reflect on his own reality.

Run Time: 0:05:07  Category: AN CAN  Director(s):  Tank Standing Buffalo
Film Descriptions

This Ink Runs Deep
This Ink Runs Deep features indigenous tattoo artists from across Canada who are reviving ancestral traditions that disappeared during colonization. Through the film, we learn about the practices that were thought to be lost forever, and how their revival reflects a reawakening of indigenous identity.

Run Time: 0:16:25  Category: CAN DOC ST  Director(s): Asia Youngman

My Indian Name
My “Indian” Name is a one-hour documentary that takes a look at how having their traditional names stripped away from them has impacted Indigenous peoples. Without their original names, people are often left trying to find how they fit in this world. Luckily today, steps are being taken to reclaim their basic right to their true names.

Run Time: 0:45:00  Category: CAN DOC FT  Director(s): Abraham Côté

Kahurangi
Kahurangi is a teenage girl struggling with her fear of loss. While attempting to overcome her fears, she reconnects with her culture.

Run Time: 0:14:57  Category: IN ST  Director(s): Kayla Hamilton
Healing Nation

Healing Nation is an intimate look at the impact of children being separated from their parents because they are Indigenous. The stories collected in this film are raw and uniquely unfiltered, giving the audience a chance to see what it’s really like to deal with the forced separation of family members. Throughout colonial history, Canada has maintained policies that enable the forced removal of Indigenous children from their homes and communities. The film features the story of mother, Symbia Barnaby, who had her six children apprehended by the Ministry of Child and Family Services. In order to understand the complexity of how she got there, we also hear from her mother, a Sixties Scoop survivor, and her sister, a survivor of domestic violence. The film also features the stories of Elders, Joyce and Joseph Fosella, who run the organization Warriors Against Violence. They speak to the legacy of residential school and their own lived experience of healing from domestic violence. And lastly, a traditional carver named Henry Kelly shares stories of being raised by survivors of residential school and the legacy he wishes to leave for his son. The stories in ‘Healing Nation’ illuminate how colonial violence has an intergenerational impact, and it shows some tools these people are using to heal from their experiences.

Run Time: 1:26:07  Category: CAN DOC FT  Director(s): Jamuna Galay-Tamang
**Film Descriptions**

Sunday May 29th
6:00 pm

**Revival**

Our old people tell us that is we pray on the land with tobacco, we will pick the knowledge she has, she has so much love and compassion for us.

**However Wide the Sky: Places of Power**

The history and spirituality of the Indigenous People of the American Southwest are deeply rooted in the Land. Since the beginning of time, they have been stewards and protectors of their home lands, past and present. These places intimately connect the People and their beliefs to the natural world. No place is ever abandoned, the landscape is forever living. This is their story, of the Land and who they are. “HOWEVER WIDE THE SKY: Places of Power:” documents the rich history and significance of the Land, as told by Tribal Leaders, scientists, historians and educators. Each place: Chaco Canyon, Bears Ears, Zuni Salt Lake, Mount Taylor, Pueblo of Santa Ana, Taos Blue Lake, Mesa Prieta and Santa Fe - tells a story of cultural strength and sustained connection, through the continuous fight to protect the integrity and existence of these places of power.

Run Time: 0:57:15    Category: IN DOC FT    Director(s): David Aubrey
Revenge

Revenge is as a spirit with the power to consume everything in its path if you let it.

8:37 REBIRTH

Jared Peters and Sergei Radic, two youth from vastly different backgrounds become forever linked in a split second with the four pound trigger pull of a snub nosed 38. Twenty two years later, that single moment still reverberates when Jared Peter is released from prison for the death of Sergei’s father, a convenience store owner. Deeply regretful, Jared tries to forge ahead into a better life and the art of his ancestors. Conversely, Sergei descends into an abyss of revenge driven obsession. As the story develops both men must face their sins and each other: where one man might lose his life while the other his sanity.

Run Time: 1:40:11 Category: CAN FT Director(s): Juanita Peters
Portraits from a Fire

Portraits from a Fire is a coming of age film following an eccentric misfit named Tyler who spends his days recording and vlogging his community, until he meets Aaron; an older, influential teenager who pushes him to show his latest work about his family to the community, leading to a reckoning between the past and the future, life and death, and father, mother, and son. Portraits from a Fire is about gaining the strength to face the fear of the unknown, and weaving together the sacred bond of family in the face of Truth.

Run Time: 1:32:00  Category: CAN FT  Director(s): Trevor Mack

Reckoning

There is a price to pay and in paying we are redeemed or condemned... or both
Trevor Solway, Sinakson, is a Blackfoot filmmaker from Siksika Nation. Trevor attended the Independent Indigenous Digital Filmmaking program at Capilano University in 2012. He then graduated from Mount Royal University with his Bachelor’s of Communications in 2017. In 2020 Trevor was a recipient of the Mount Royal University Alumni Award for his early career success. Trevor has self produced and directed various short narrative and documentaries that have screened at Calgary International Film Festival, ImagineNATIVE Arts and Media Festival and Big Sky Documentary Film Festival. Trevor is the founder of The Napi Collective, a mentorship filmmaking society based in Siksika. From 2018-2020 Trevor mentored eighteen emerging indigenous filmmakers from his community to write, direct, shoot and edit four narrative films, which screened in their community and abroad at Indigenous film festivals such as the American Indian Film Festival, LA Skins and Moariland Film Festival. In 2019 Trevor appeared on CBC’s Still Standing and was interviewed by Johnny Harris about his filmmaking mentorship initiatives with The Napi Collective. In the fall of 2020 Trevor has his broadcast debut on CBC for his documentary Intertribal.
Cobra Collins (She/Her) is a Métis poet of significant height based in Mohkinstsis (Calgary) - Treaty 7 Territory.

Cobra was the captain and coach of Calgary’s 2015 and 2016 Slam team, representing our city on a national level at the Canadian Festival of Spoken Word and was a member of Calgary’s Inkspot Spoken Word Collective, home of Calgary’s official poetry Slam. Cobra has participated in several Nationwide Spoken Word festivals, as well as collaborated with artists of different backgrounds for dance (Fluid Movements Arts Festival) and performance festivals (IKG I ! Live Performance Festival). Cobra was honoured to be shortlisted as a nominee for Calgary’s 2016 & 2018 poet laureate. Above all things, Cobra truly believes that our words can change us.
Metis filmmaker Daniel Foreman has been involved with film and music since before he can remember. His father’s love of North American film, combined with his mother’s passion for French cinema, has helped shape Daniel’s style and sensibilities. Beginning with music videos, he soon branched out to shooting on a film camera and editing on a Steenbeck.

After a run of successful live action digital shorts, he turned to animation and began exploring Indigenous mythology. This led to a Best Animation win at the American Indian Film Festival in 2018 which in turn led to being Fast Tracked in Telefilm’s Talent to Watch program. With this seed funding, the suspense thriller feature film Abducted was given life.
Wâhkôhtowin | All My Relations & Premonition: On the Eve of Signing Treaty 6

Director - Barry Bilinsky

Barry is a professional theatre creator of Cree, Metis, and Ukrainian heritage. Based in Alberta, he has worked across Canada on projects centered primarily around the proliferation of Indigenous arts, artists, and collaborations. Barry is committed to developing safe, authentic, respectful creations that challenge the overarching cultural assumptions we often face in the performing arts community. Barry is an emerging filmmaker.

Johnny Crow

Director - Jesse Gouchey

is a self-taught, emerging visual artist and award-winning animator/filmmaker from Central Alberta. His wide range of skills includes illustration, paintings, graphic design, photography and animation.
HOLLY FORTIER, a Cree/Dene from Ft. McKay First Nation, Alberta, was born in Treaty 7 Territory and was fortunate to be raised by cultural leaders, academics, and activists. She owns a business that specializes in the development and delivery of Indigenous Awareness Trainings. She has been delivering trainings across Canada since 2007 to thousands of participants. The audience has comprised of government, industry, agencies, schools, businesses, with people from a variety of positions such as stakeholder relations, administrative personnel, scientists, machine operators, supervisors, managers, human relations, health workers, teachers, police/fire, etc.

Her passion for sharing Indigenous history and culture began with her mother’s Indian Residential School experience, and her mothers’ story of survival, determination and success.

Holly has been involved in the Alberta film industry since the early 1990’s, particularly in Indigenous theme productions such as North of 60. Other film credits include The Assassination of Jesse James with Brad Pitt, Bury My Heart At Wounded Knee and The Revenant.
City of Edmonton is a proud sponsor of this year’s **Dreamspeakers International Indigenous Film Festival**.

Congratulations to all creators and filmmakers & thank you to the organizers and volunteers!
HOPKINS LAW
CRIMINAL DEFENCE LAWYERS - EDMONTON & SURROUNDING AREA

EDMONTON: 11051 97 STREET #101
587-414-6851 *AVAILABLE 24/7
1-877-228-6697 (Toll-Free)
WWW.HOPKINSANDCOMPANY.CA

WHISKEYJACK ART HOUSE
Indigenous Owned
Art Gallery | Boutique | Events
11051 97 St NW #102
Edmonton, AB
whiskeyjackarthouse.ca

CÂHCACÊP BOWS ART
SITUATED IN THE ARTHUB @MIHCÊTOHTĂWIN
“PLACE WHERE THINGS HAPPEN”

We offer workshops on making traditional Cree hunting bows. Our products include bows and other woodworking arts.

cahcacepinfo@cahcacep.ca
Visit us on Facebook!

#102, 11051 – 97 Street
(BACK DOOR)
EDMONTON AB
PH: 780.250.0090
www.cahcacep.ca

THE MATORIARCH
Heal Your Life® Workshop
Teacher and Life Coach
- Classes available On-Line or In Person
- One on one Life Coaching sessions

Book
The Matriarch
Cora-Lee Fedoruk
P: 780.266.0114
E: cora@thematriarchmedicine.com

Contact to book a workshop or life coach appointment.
The Edmonton Short Film Festival is celebrating its 10th anniversary year!

UPCOMING EVENTS:

June 25: Indigenous Filmmakers Screening Event in partnership with Dreamspeakers
July 22 - 31: 10 Days of Alberta Films in partnership with K-Days 2022
July 22 - 24: 48hr Mobile Device Filmmaking Challenge
September 17: Fall Filmmaker Panel
October 14: ESFF 10th Anniversary Event
October 15: ESFF Red Carpet GALA: Alberta Shorts
October 16: ESFF Long Shorts

ESFF PROUDLY SUPPORTS AND CELEBRATES THE DREAMSPEAKERS FILM FESTIVAL www.esff.ca

Community, Collaboration, & Connection

Bridging the needs for off-reserve First Nations, un-affiliated Metis, and southern Inuit peoples

AUTUMN RAIN HEALING

Autumn Rain Healing is founded and operated by Ayla Modeste, an Indigenous Registered Massage Therapist, Registered Yoga Instructor and Dance Facilitator in Amiskwaciwâskahikan

Book an appointment today!

11051 97 Street
South Entrance
(780) 803-1947

Become a member
membership@indigenouscongress.com
780.699.9161
indigenouscongress.com