

BANFF
WORLD MEDIA FESTIVAL

Indigenous Screen Summit

Meet the 2024 Participants





Indigenous Screen Summit

**In partnership with founding partners
the Indigenous Screen Office (ISO),
Canada Media Fund (CMF),
and with presenting partner
Rogers Communications, and
supporting partner APTN, the
Indigenous Screen Summit - Pitch Forum
was created to shine a light on the
diverse talent and exciting screen
content being created by Indigenous
storytellers in Canada.**

**The goal is to provide an
international platform for participants to
pitch their projects to leading industry
decision-makers, and network for future
project and business opportunities at the
Banff World Media Festival's renowned
conference and marketplace.**



Ryan Atimoyoo

Writer

Gear Room Productions

Ryan is an Indigenous Cree writer from the Little Pine Reserve, Saskatchewan. He studied at New York's Circle in the Square Theater School, and holds a Joint MFA in Screenwriting and Film Production from The University of British Columbia. He is also a graduate from Netflix's 'Pacific Screenwriting Program' in 2021.

In 2021, Ryan completed his first sci-fi, VR short film titled, "Chord VR" which screened at VIFF, and worked on Season 1 of Netflix's "Grendel" as a script coordinator. In 2022, he was a winner of 'Access', Reelworld's competition to join the writer's room for City TV's, "Hudson and Rex" Season 5, and was a finalist for the 'NBC Launch Program'. He also won a \$20,000 grant to complete a script, and attained two buyer's agreements for two of his scripts. In 2023, Ryan won a \$20,000 prize to attend MIT's 'Virtual Reality' incubator program. He is currently writing for Paramount+ show "Skymed" and for CW's "Sullivan's Crossing". He is represented by 3 Arts.

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Gerald Auger

Creator | Producer | Director | Writer

4 Directional Studios

Gerald Auger is a writer, producer, and an award-winning director and actor. He is a Woodland Cree, a 4 Directional Relations Consultant, recipient of the Governor General of Canada Award, as a National Native role model. His mission is to advance the status, expose, and debunk the stereotyping of his people.

On his way to following through with career plans as an entrepreneur graduate of Business Management, Gerald found himself working in Hollywood for more than 20 years as an actor. Although he was a sought-after actor, the roles that were coming to him no longer satisfied his true calling as a visionary and healer. In 2009, he began a six-year-long sabbatical in the wilderness – taking time to reconnect to his culture's spiritual beliefs and values.

"Walking Alone", (NFB) his first film that he wrote, produced, and directed, dealt with Indigenous gangs and went on to win 'Best Film and Best Director'. His second documentary, "Honour Thy Father" (NFB, CBC & APTN), about spirituality in Indigenous communities, garnered 'Best Film' and 'Best Director'.

His acting credits include: Pawnee Killer, Hell on Wheels (AMC), Soaring Eagle, Into the West (Dreamworks), Crow Chief, Dreamkeeper (Hallmark Entertainment) Timothy Whiteknife, Tin Star (HBO), Chief Wandering Spirit, Bones of Crows (CBC) Makamuk, Lost Face (Soma Films) made the Oscar's Top 10 Short Films in 2019.

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Berkley Brady

Creator

Nika Productions

Berkley Brady is a Métis writer, director and producer based out of Treaty 7 territory, in Calgary, Alberta. She holds an MFA in Film Directing from Columbia University in New York City.

She is the director and president of Nika Productions, which most recently produced the feature film, "Dark Nature". In addition to screening at festivals around the world—it premiered at Fantasia in 2022. The film was also featured at the Marché du Film at Cannes. It won 'Best Feature' at Fogfest, 2022, and Berkley won 'Best Director' at Blood In the Snow Festival, 2022. "Dark Nature" was released theatrically in North America on 50 screens, and is now available on all major streaming services.

Berkley also directed and has written episodic TV, commercials, and music videos. She was nominated by the DGC for 'Outstanding Directorial Achievement in Television' for her episode about Louis Riel on the series, "The Secret History of the Wild West". In 2023, she was also one of eight writers to participate in TIFF's prestigious 'Writing Lab', where she was a recipient of both the CHANEL Women Writers' Network Grant, and the Renee Perlmutter Memorial Fellowship for Literary Adaptation.

nikaproductions.co



Kerriann Cardinal

Producer

Sweetgrass Stories

Hailing from Fort McMurray, AB, home of Treaty 8 Territory, Kerriann Cardinal is a producer and arts manager. She has over 20 years experience across the realms of theatre, dance, festivals, and special events. Métis on her mother's side, her journey into the world of storytelling was deeply influenced by her Kokum, instilling in her a profound appreciation for culture, language, and connection with the land.

Currently, she is co-producing "Water Worlds", a documentary TV series for APTN, and her production company, Sweetgrass Stories, is developing a documentary feature film, "Deb Mearns: Still Here". More recently, she worked as an associate producer on "Bones of Crows", a co-writer on three episodes for Season 2 of "Moosemeat & Marmalade" as well as a production manager for other documentary and children's TV series.

Recently, she was honoured to receive funding from the ISO Mentorship program which allows her to further develop her skills while working with Marie Clements and Screen Siren Pictures Inc., on a scripted feature film, and a 3-part documentary series.

Kerriann remains dedicated to amplifying Indigenous voices and fostering community engagements through her involvement in initiatives such as the Sustainable Production Forum, and Vancouver Indigenous Fashion Week.

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Jim Compton

Producer | Writer

Wabung Anung Films

Wabung – Anung is the Morning Star. It illuminates a dawn of a new day; a time when the Thunderbird rises, dances and bestows spiritual gifts unto the people. Gifts guided by Nanabooshoo...a prophet, teacher and guide sent down to us by the creator to guide us through trying times. Wabung Anung embraces that spirit. It guides the vision of award-winning journalist, director, producer, writer and host, Jim Compton. Compton has shared those gifts of story with the Aboriginal Peoples Television Network as its Founder, Executive Producer, Host, and Programming Director. This spiritual rising has given voice to a myriad of archetypal, Indigenous programs, from in-depth documentaries, to dramas, to talk shows, to feature films.

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Norm Coyne

Producer | Writer

Barker Street Cinema

Norm Coyne is a Smelqmix/Sylix producer, writer, and director. Through the years, Norm's projects have appeared in Mashable, Fox News, Paste, CBC, Mental Floss, Nerdist, Playback and on Kevin Smith's podcast, 'Fatman Beyond'.

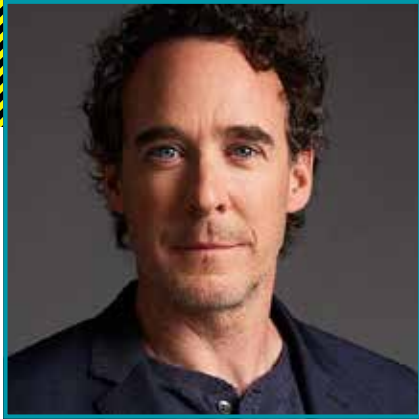
In 2015, Norm founded the blockbuster event, 'Northern FanCon'. The convention has hosted stars in northern British Columbia including: William Shatner, Kevin Smith, Nichelle Nichols, Lou Ferrigno, Tricia Helfer, Lou Diamond Phillips, and Karl Urban to name a few. Identifying its opportunity, Norm developed the event into a local film industry catalyst, and has seen significant results.

Norm was an executive producer of the acclaimed adaptation of Stephen King's, "The Doctor's Case" which won awards at festivals internationally and was reported by ScreenRant as "The 5th Best Stephen King film adaptation (according to IMDB)". The momentum from the film helped build the industry in northern British Columbia. In 2021, he produced the feature films, "A Great North Christmas", (available on Tubi & Apple TV), and "The Way to the Heart", (available on Super Channel and Amazon Prime).

In 2023, he was nominated for an Indiescreen Award by the Canadian Media Producers Association in the 'Emerging Producer' category, for his work developing rural shooting locations.

Most recently, "Conquest", a short film he wrote and produced, world premiered at Fantasia International Film Festival. Rogers Indigenous Film Fund has provided a grant for production of a feature version of the script.

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Saxon de Cocq

Writer | Co-Creator

3 Story Pictures

Saxon de Cocq is a Métis writer, director and creative producer from Southern Alberta, Region 6 and is a citizen of The Métis Nation of Alberta. After nearly 20 years of refining his storytelling craft, Saxon is perfectly at home in both the documentary and scripted worlds. He is the writer and creator behind APTN's nationally broadcasted documentary series, "Treaty Road". He has been the creative force on the APTN series, "The Other Side" (writing and directing 18 episodes and creative producing) as well as writing, directing and producing eight films that were screened and broadcast across the country, including CBC. Saxon has a preternatural gift for bringing stories to life in a relatable way, and he is currently in post production of Season One of "Red River Gold", a gold hunting docu-series centred around the Red River Resistance. Saxon is excited to be in funded development on several scripted television series, including "The Unravelling". Saxon is a proud partner of 3 Story Pictures.

3storypictures.com



Kira Doxtator

Director | Producer | Writer

Senklip Productions

Kira Doxtator is Oneida, Anishinaabe, and Dakota and from Ottawa, Ontario. A 2024 graduate of UBC's, BA program in Cinema Studies, she began her work in the film industry as a production assistant for the APTN series, "Moosemeat & Marmalade" in 2021. She has worked in the Vancouver independent short film community, and was a participant in the 2021-2022 WarnerMedia Access to Action program, and has worked on feature films, MOWs, commercials and independent projects, and in the growing Indigenous film community, most recently working as a TAD on Indigenous feature films. Kira worked for the Indigenous Curatorial Collective in 2022, and assisted in the planning of an hybrid gathering, as well as helped organize a selection of Indigiqueer Films for a special screening in partnership with the Toronto Queer Film Festival. She was also the recipient of the 2022 'Indigenous Filmmaker Bursary' from Vancouver Film Studios and Pacific Backlot, to create a short film titled, "A Poem For My Future", that she wrote, produced and directed with the help of a cast and crew of 25. Kira works as a producer for Senklip Productions, and hopes to continue her career in the industry working closely with amazing Indigenous women, sharing stories of finding power and joy. Her goal as a film producer is to create cinema that tells healing-focused, and Indigenous futurist stories. She also works as a model and actress, and enjoys spending time at home with her family on the land, dancing, singing, and crafting.

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Rylan Friday

Director | Writer | Co-Producer

Terror Fox Productions

Rylan Friday (Saulteaux Ojibway/Plains Cree) is an award-winning director, curator, writer, and producer from Cote First Nation, Saskatchewan. He is dedicated to bringing honest LGBTQ2+ and Indigenous representation to the big screen, staying true to their own experiences.

Rylan produced Trevor Mack's, "Portraits From a Fire" and launched a mentorship program for Indigenous youth. He received the 'Kevin Tierney Emerging Producer Award' and the Leo Award for 'Best Motion Picture' for their work on Mack's debut feature.

Rylan's film, "Terror/Forming" has been highly acclaimed and won 'Best Short Horror Film' at the 2023 London Independent Film Festival and 'Best BC Short' at the Vancouver Horror Show.

Rylan infuses his work with surrealism inspired by art-house cinema while maintaining grounded realism for authentic performances with an intersectional lens.

"Terror/Forming" has screened at renowned festivals such as VIFF, Māoriland Film Festival, and imagineNATIVE Film + Media Arts Festival. Rylan made history as the first openly gay, Indigenous, and person of color, to lead the Vancouver International Film Festival's Catalyst Mentorship Program. He also founded and curated the successful #Indigeneity series for Reel Causes and served as the lead curator for the 'Who We Are' Indigenous film series. Recently, Rylan completed, "Musk.", and "The Sound of You Collapsing," and with the release of "Terror/Forming", he aspires to develop it into his debut feature film, "Terror/Rising."

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Marshall Leigh George

Director | Writer

Kettle Point Productions

Marshall Leigh George is a writer, director, location recordist, musician, and award-winning sound designer. He is a graduate of Capilano University's Independent Indigenous Film-making Program, and a graduate of the Ontario Institute of Audio Recording Technology where he earned a diploma in sound engineering. He also has a passion for youth engagement and has many years of experience, both teaching and mentoring youth as an instructor at Kettle Point Hillside School, and as the Post- Production Instructor/Lab Supervisor at Cap U. Leigh has directed several documentaries for the Anishinabek Nation and a music video which was in official selection at the Southwest International Film Festival. As a location recordist, he has worked on numerous productions ranging from APTN productions to Hallmark films, as well as, sound mixing for the film "Rosie", that was selected for TIFF.

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Stephen Gladue

Creator

Luksilyoo Productions

Award- winning, animated short filmmaker, and widely recognized Indigenous artist, Stephen Gladue has been the focus of several profiles by major media outlets for his work in the Arts. He was the featured artist in the series, "The Unforgotten" where his mural of Brian Sinclair in Winnipeg's downtown core cast light on the mistreatment of Indigenous people in Canada's healthcare system. His skill set catapulted him from student, to Creative Director, in a matter of months early on in his career.

Born and raised on the Fishing Lake Métis Settlement in Treaty Six territory in Alberta, Stephen moved to Vancouver in the early 2000's to pursue his education in film and television and has since enjoyed a long career in production. He studied animation, visual effects and design at the Vancouver Film School and the Art Institute of Vancouver as well as all other facets of animation production.

Animator, creative director, background artist, matte painter, character designer, storyboard artist, and VFX artist, these are a few of the titles Stephen takes on in various productions. When he is not painting, or working in production, he could be found talking with Indigenous students from across Turtle Island and sometimes teaching animation, art and filmmaking to Indigenous youth.

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Tera McDonald

Creator | Writer

Kalawikk Diversity

Tera McDonald's most recent work, "Unsung" (2024), is a captivating documentary series telling stories of Indigenous veterans from Newfoundland. "Unsung" is their writing/producing/hosting debut and the access program will air on Bell Fibe TV1. This experience galvanized them to share more of the complex, yet heartening, narratives of Indigenous people who are reconnecting to their Indigeneity.

McDonald, a college instructor for nearly 20 years, uses educational experience to empower Indigenous youth. Most recently, they partnered with Northern Film Initiative and Ulnooweg Educational Fund, supporting a mentorship program for Indigenous youth on the set of "Unsung". Advocating to uplift Indigenous storytelling, they became a founding director of the newly incorporated Indigenous Performing Arts in Newfoundland and Labrador. This board's mission aligns with their role as CEO and founder of Kalawikk Diversity which seeks to create space for Indigenous narratives through diversity, equity, inclusion and Truth and Reconciliation through a two-eyed seeing lens.

A two-spirit Mi'Kmaq, McDonald shares an intimate look at their story as a chapter contributor to 'Grace & Grit' (June, 2024); a book celebrating inspiring stories of Indigenous women entrepreneurs in Atlantic Canada. McDonald is currently developing their next documentary film, "Reclamation", and writing for an upcoming feature television series.

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Ryan Moccasin

Producer/Writer

The Feather Entertainment

Ryan Moccasin is a notable author, satirist, and comedian from Saskatoon, Canada. He is currently Executive Producer for the online satirical news show called, "The Feather News". His fake news articles and videos have been featured on APTN's, 'InFocus', CTV, and CBC. His work has garnered over thousands of views and impressions on social media. His work has been funded by Creative Saskatchewan, Saskatchewan Arts Board, PAVED Arts, and the Indigenous Screen Office.

The work done with The Feather has led to opportunities such as winning the web series pitch competition for the ImagiNATIVE/APTN Festival. The web series, "The Feather News" is now streaming on APTN Lumi. His recent sci-fi novel, "Suicide Empire" was featured on CBC Radio, APTN, and Eagle Feather News. It can be found on Amazon and wherever fringe books are sold near you.

His stand-up career has been busy as of late, with the release of an audio album with Just For Laughs: Originals in 2023. And he has been invited to notable comedy festivals in the U.S. such as the Empire State Comedy Festival in NYC, and the Riot Comedy Festival in Houston, Texas. He can be seen rocking a stage near you!

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Moniquea Marion

Creator, Writer, Producer

Slaw Paw Productions

Moniquea Marion is a Saskatchewan based Métis writer, comedian, and producer. She's a graduate of the Second City Conservatory in Toronto and the Upright Citizen's Brigade Theatre in NYC.

Moniquea was recently chosen as one of six writers from across Canada to participate in the inaugural '2024 Reelworld Training Lab' presented by Amazon MGM Studios. She's one of four teams from across Canada to participate in the 2023/24 National Screen Institute's 'Series Incubator' for her original scripted comedic series.

Last year she was a part of the inaugural Creative Saskatchewan's Whistler Film Festival Market Accelerator for her original unscripted series, "Fuel Up", as an emerging producer. And in 2022, she was part of the Women in Animation ACE accelerator program with her original animated children's series, "Yami's World".

Marion was a twice selected participant for the 2023 & 2019 BANFF Netflix-Diversity of Voices program. She was 1 of 20 selected participants from across Canada for the Reelworld Emerging 20 program in 2019, and a 2018 selected participant for the Women On Screen Web Series Incubator.

Marion is a twice nominated contender for 'Best Female Improviser' by NOW Magazine in 2014 & 2015 and is responsible for successfully completing three web series.

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Jérémie Wookey

Co-creator | Co-producer

Wookey Films

Jérémie is the co-founder and Producer at Wookey Films, an award-winning Métis and 2SLGBTQ+ owned production company based in Treaty 1 Territory. He started his career at Radio-Canada in Winnipeg, working in news and special series. In 2013, he co-founded Wookey Films with his sister Janelle. In 2014, their film, "Treading Water" won 'Best Documentary' at the ImagineNATIVE Film Festival in Toronto. Jérémie has been nominated for three Prix Gémeaux Awards, a Canadian Screen Award, and took home a Rockie Award at the Banff World Media Festival in 2022.

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Indigenous Screen Summit

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