

Meet the 2026 Participants

BANFF
WORLD MEDIA FESTIVAL

Indigenous Screen Summit

FOUNDING PARTNERS:



INDIGENOUS SCREEN OFFICE
BUREAU DE L'ÉCRAN AUTOCHTONE



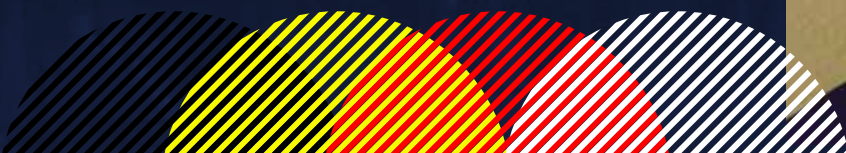
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ROGERS





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

Creator

Gear Room Productions

Ryan is a Cree from the Little Pine Reserve as well as an international award winning writer/director. He has studied at New York's Circle in the Square Theater School, holds a Joint MFA in Screenwriting and Film Production from the University of British Columbia, and is a board member and alumni of the Pacific Screenwriting Program.

He has gathered numerous international awards, grants and screenings and has worked as a Script Coordinator for Netflix's GRENDEL and writer for Netflix/CW's SULLIVAN'S CROSSING. He currently writes for Paramount's SKYMED and is in early development with APTN/CBC for THE BROTHERHOOD.

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Daniel Foreman

Creator/Producer/Director

Treaty 6 Productions Inc.

Daniel Foreman is a registered member of the Métis Nation of Alberta, Region 4. He began his career creating live-action digital shorts, quickly gaining recognition for his engaging storytelling and visual style. Drawing inspiration from his heritage, Daniel turned to animation to explore Indigenous teachings, a move that earned him Best Animation at the American Indian Film Festival. This achievement led to his Fast-Tracking in Telefilm's Talent to Watch program, where seed funding brought his suspense thriller feature film ABDUCTED TO LIFE.

Daniel continues to develop a diverse and ambitious slate of projects. These include the supernatural crime drama series DAUGHTERS OF THE WOLF, the children's live-action/animation series LEGENDARY MYTHS: TALES OF WISAKEDJAK, the romantic comedy RETAIL ROMANCE, and the docu-series WHAT HAPPENED TO THE MEN? Through his work, Daniel Foreman combines genre innovation with culturally resonant storytelling, establishing himself as a distinctive voice in contemporary Canadian film and television.

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Holly Fortier

Director/Producer

Two Canoes Media

Holly Fortier is a filmmaker, cultural awareness trainer, and Elder from Fort McKay First Nation whose work in film and television is grounded in Indigenous storytelling, lived experience, and community connection. Born in Treaty 7 Territory and raised alongside cultural leaders, academics, and activists, she brings a deeply informed perspective to every project she creates.

Fortier has been active in Alberta's film industry since the early 1990s, contributing to major productions including NORTH OF 60, THE ASSASSINATION OF JESSE JAMES, BURY MY HEART AT WOUNDED KNEE, THE REVENANT, and numerous documentaries. In 2020, she founded Two Canoes Media to support stories that foster understanding between Indigenous and non-Indigenous communities.

Her directorial work has earned significant recognition on the festival circuit. Her 2022 documentary AYOUNGMAN, won Best Albertan Short at the Calgary International Film Festival, Best Albertan Documentary at the Alberta Film and TV Awards, and Best Documentary at the DOCAM Film Festival in Palm Springs. The film was also an official selection at the San Francisco International Film Festival.

A MOTHER'S VOICE, released in 2019, was inspired by her mother's experience as a Residential School survivor and reflects Fortier's commitment to telling courageous, deeply personal stories on screen. Across her work, Holly Fortier uses film and television as a powerful platform for truth-telling, healing, and relationship-building.

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Lisa Genaille

Creator/Producer/Writer

Waif Cat Productions

Lisa Genaille is an Indigenous (Stó:lō & Ojibwe) producer and screenwriter based in Hope, BC, dedicated to bringing Indigenous stories to the screen. Lisa began her career in various on-set roles, from art and camera to production support, before earning a diploma in Motion Picture Production at Capilano University. She has produced shorts for the Vancouver International Film Festival and imagineNATIVE, earning six career Leo Award nominations.

As a producer, Lisa secured funding through APTN, the Harold Greenberg Fund, Telefilm, and Creative BC. In 2019, she was selected for the Whistler Film Festival Producers Lab. She produced her first feature, REHAB (2022), distributed by LevelFilm and available on Apple TV, which received three Leo Award nominations.

As a screenwriter, her pilot STOLEN HISTORY ranked in the top 11% on Coverfly and #16 on the Red List for Thriller Shorts. Her series THE DEAL was a GEMS International Screenplay Competition quarterfinalist, leading to her selection for the 2025 GEMS Emerging Television Producers Program.

Lisa holds an Inclusive Leadership for Film and Television Certificate and completed Commercialization Training through Stó:lō Community Futures. She is currently developing RIVER HOME, a feature backed by the First Peoples' Cultural Council and selected for the 2025 Beverly Hills Film Festival Screenplay Competition.

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Dustin McGladrey

Creator/Writer

House of Copper Films Inc.

Dustin McGladrey is a Vancouver-based writer, director, and editor from the Nisga'a Nation's Grizzly Bear Clan, whose work centers Indigenous identity, community memory, and the evolving relationship between tradition and contemporary life. A graduate of the University of British Columbia's Film Production program, he has built a multidisciplinary career spanning documentary and narrative storytelling, with a strong foundation in post-production and story development.

Dustin has written and directed multiple festival-screened short films, including 'WATS'A and LIVING WEAVING, with selections at festivals such as Māoriland Film Festival, the Vancouver Horror Show, and the Whistler Film Festival. His documentary series IN THE WAKE OF OUR ANCESTORS premiered on Knowledge Network, further establishing his voice in Indigenous factual storytelling.

In addition to his creative work, Dustin is an active story editor, most recently contributing to Season 2 of UNSETTLED SPIRITS with Blue Ant Media, where he helps shape narrative arcs and character-driven storytelling. His practice is deeply informed by both technical craft and cultural responsibility.

Outside of film, Dustin is also a copper shield maker and artist, creating works that reflect Northwest Coast design and cultural continuity. He is the co-founder of House of Copper Films Inc., an Indigenous-owned production company dedicated to bold, original storytelling across genres.

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Tahmoh Penikett

Producer

Sir Pephoulous Films Inc.

Born in Whitehorse, Yukon, Tahmoh Penikett is the son of former Yukon premier Tony Penikett and Lulla Sierra Johns of the White River First Nation. Best known for playing Karl "Helo" Agathon on SyFy's television series BATTLESTAR GALACTICA, Tahmoh has also starred in TV series SUPERNATURAL, Joss Whedon's DOLLHOUSE, the Showcase time travel show, CONTINUUM and, most recently, the Netflix series, ALTERED CARBON, DEVIL IN OHIO, the film 2HEARTS, and NBC's TAKEN. Tahmoh is proud of his Yukon heritage, and deeply connected to his First Nation. Tahmoh is passionate about film and excited about producing and directing next, having been a professional for twenty plus years in the business.

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Kim Senklip Harvey

Creator/Writer

Senklip Productions Inc.

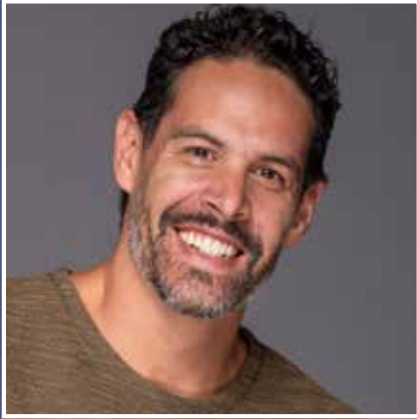
Kim Senklip Harvey is a Tsilhqot'in and Syilx writer, director, and showrunner. What would happen if Shonda Rhimes and John Grisham had a baby and she was a rez kid? That's Kim. She is the creator of the television series ON THE PLATEAU, HALF WAY HOME, and ALL MY RELATIONS, all in development with Emmy, Canadian Academy, and Peabody Award-winning producers. Her work is sharp, character-driven, and grounded in Indigenous story – the kind that moves fast, hits hard, and changes how audiences understand power, justice, and belonging.

In 2020, Kim became the first Indigenous woman to win the Governor General's Literary Award for Drama for her play KAMLOOPA, which has toured nationally and is taught in schools and universities across Canada, the United States, and Japan. Her documentary film, BREAK HORIZONS, has screened internationally and is used in prisons, healing lodges, and halfway houses across Canada as a tool for dialogue and transformation.

A graduate of the ISO x Netflix Director and Showrunner Fellowships, Kim brings sharp storytelling instincts and a fearless creative vision to everything she makes. She is a Vanier Scholar and PhD candidate in Law at the University of Victoria, the founder of Senklip Productions, and the creator of the Deni Ghelghes land-based arts mentorship project.

Comedy is her weapon of choice, questions are her love language, and she will build you a whole universe from scratch.

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Dallas Soonias

Creator/Director/Writer

Soonias Industries Inc.

Dallas is a multi-talented actor who also writes, directs and produces his own various projects. His first short film, FRANK GETS THE JOB DONE, Dallas wrote, directed and produced. This short was commissioned by the ImagineNATIVE Film Festival and Telus Storyhive. That same year, Dallas wrote, directed and starred in another short film, titled THE SAINT AND THE BEAR. This past year (2024) Dallas took on the task of directing ONE CLICK, a western short, along with directing a TV series RENEGADE FEVER. Since Dallas has ties to the sporting world, he is proud to be the first male Indigenous person to represent Canada in volleyball. For the 2024 Summer Olympics, Dallas produced and hosted a segment for CBC Olympics. He also directed the Olympic opening for CBC Olympics; as well as being an Analyst for CBC Sports, covering many of the volleyball games.

Currently, Dallas has a feature film in development with TeleFilm Canada. Dallas is Nehiyaw/Anishinaabe. He is registered with The Chippewas of Nawash and has close ties with his father's band, Red Pheasant. Dallas grew up living off-reserve in Red Deer Alberta.

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Jeremy Torrie

Writer/Director

White Bear Films Inc.

Born in Treaty 3 territory Jeremy/Waabishki Makwa is an Ojibwe from Wabigoon Lake Indian Reserve #27 near Dryden, Ontario. He is a pipe carrier, traditional drummer, and practitioner of Ojibwe ceremonies. For three decades he has worked to realize his path as the ancestors foretold at his birth, as an aadizookewinini (storyteller) through the mediums of film and television.

Firmly established as a multi-award-winning writer, director, and producer his stylistic vision is complemented by his pursuit of thought-provoking stories of (mostly) a spiritual nature for mainstream audiences. He believes his work in this life is to assist in elevating human consciousness.

Exploring our human condition has taken Jeremy around the world and virtually every corner of Turtle Island. Along with Jim Compton, Gary Farmer, Jerry Giberson, Abraham Tagalik, and others Jeremy was involved in the creation of APTN, and was responsible for headquartering the network in Winnipeg.

Jeremy is a CMPA member as well as the Director's Guild Of Canada. His dream is to have a land-based facility for storytellers who can work in a collaborative environment with others of all races, grounded in their spiritualities.

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Janelle Wookey

Creator/Producer

Wookey Films

Janelle Wookey is an award-winning Producer and co-founder of Wookey Films. Since 2013, she has overseen development and production of over 200 episodes of nationally-televised programming for CBC, Radio-Canada, TV5, APTN, AMI-Tv and Unis Tv, picking up a Canadian Screen Award, a Banff Rockie Award and 14 Prix Gémeaux nominations along the way. Her company's scripted and unscripted projects have been pitched and developed alongside execs from CBC, Netflix, PBS and HBO and she's served on panels at Banff World Media Fest, Prime Time in Ottawa and ImagineNATIVE in Toronto. Janelle is a proud member of the Red River Métis nation and of the LGBTQ+ community. She works full time out of the company's main office in the heart of the Exchange District in Winnipeg.

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