

Indigenous Perspectives Docuseries (less than one hour)

The Fort Erie Native Friendship Centre produced this three part docuseries highlighting Indigenous history in Niagara. Together they are less than an hour long.

1. In The Beginning

Part 1 focuses on how life was prior to contact with settlers and the Indigenous contributions to the War of 1812.

2. Residential Schools

Part 2 looks at the tragedies of the residential school system, the 60s Scoop, and the Millennial Scoop, and their impacts on Indigenous peoples and communities in the present.

3. Racism and Healing

Part 3 discusses racism in Canada today and how the community is healing from the trauma they have experienced.

Jordan River Anderson, The Messenger (1hr 5 mins)

Alanis Obomsawin's 52nd film tells the story of how the life of Jordan River Anderson initiated a battle for the right of First Nations and Inuit children to receive the same standard of social, health and educational services as the rest of the Canadian population.

Six Miles Deep (43 mins)

On February 28, 2006, members of the Iroquois Confederacy blockaded a highway near Caledonia, Ontario to prevent a housing development on land that falls within their traditional territories. The ensuing confrontation made national headlines for months. Less well-known is the crucial role of the clan mothers of the community who set the rules for conduct. When the community's chiefs ask people to abandon the barricades, it is the clan mothers who overrule them, leading a cultural reawakening in their traditionally matriarchal community.

Our Sisters in Spirit Film Screening and Q&A with Local Filmmaker Nick Printup (35 mins)

A short documentary that explores the question of calling a national public inquiry into the issue of missing and murdered indigenous women and girls in Canada or whether there may be a better approach. The documentary features interviews with family and community advocates; Members of Parliament; Sophie Gregoire-Trudeau; Minister of Indigenous and Northern Affairs, Hon. Dr. Carolyn Bennett; Haudenosaunee Confederacy Chief, Arnold General; and researcher and author of An Awkward Silence, Maryanne Pearce, LL.D.

The film was supported by the First Nations Inuit and Metis Student Services and the Centre for Student Engagement and Leadership. At the 2015 Niagara College Film, Radio and Television (FRATS) Awards show, the film won for Best Documentary and Best Cinematography. It has also been shown at local Sisters in Spirit vigils, at York University, and at the National Gathering of Our Sisters in Spirit held in Edmonton, Alberta.

Second Stories – It Had to Be Done (22 mins)

This short documentary explores the legacy of residential schools through the eyes of two extraordinary women who not only lived it, but who, as adults, made the surprising decision to return to the school that had affected their lives so profoundly. This intimate and moving film affirms their strength and dignity in standing up and making a difference on their own terms.