



INUIT AMALU ADLAI T ISUMAGIJUNIQTIGINI IQ INUIT CREE RECONCILIATION



Screening Information

Format :	HDCam SR (16:9)	Genre:	Documentary
Sound:	Stereo	Length:	46 min
Year:	2013		
Country:	Canada		
Language:	Inuktitut & Cree with English subtitles		

World Premier:

imagineNATIVE Film + Media Arts Festival 2013 (Toronto, Canada): Awarded "Best Short Documentary"

Short Synopsis:

Zacharias Kunuk and Neil Diamond team up to research the events and historical impacts of an 18th century war between Inuit and Cree in Northern Québec.

Long Synopsis:

In the documentary film *Inuit Cree Reconciliation*, Zacharias Kunuk and Neil Diamond team up to research the events and historical impacts of an 18th century war between Inuit and Cree in Northern Québec. Following the Peace Celebration Event held at Nastapoka River in Nunavik by a small group of Inuit and Cree in the summer of 2011, Zacharias Kunuk (Inuit) and Neil Diamond (Cree) - two of Canada's most respected filmmakers - interview Inuit and Cree Elders in the side-by-side communities of Kuujuarapik and Whapmagootsui in an attempt to better understand the long and bloody conflict between the two nations and its impact on people today.

Co-Directors Biographies

Zacharias Kunuk is a renowned filmmaker whose dramatic feature films include *Atanarjuat The Fast Runner*, which won the Camera d'Or at the Cannes film festival in 2001, and *The Journals of Knud Rasmussen*, co-directed with Norman Cohn, which opened the Toronto International Film Festival in 2006. Kunuk is the winner of a National Arts Award, the National Aboriginal Achievement Award and was named an Officer of the Order of Canada in 2005. His last film, *Inuit Knowledge and Climate Change*, which brought to the world an aboriginal perspective on climate change, won the *Rigoberta Menchu Prize Award* at the Montreal's First People's Festival as well as the *Audience Choice Winner* at the Reel Green Film Festival in Winnipeg.

Neil Diamond is a Cree filmmaker based in Montreal but born and raised in the community of Waskaganish, on the coast of James Bay. He directed the award-winning films *Reel Injun*, *One More River*, *Cree Spoken Here*, and *Heavy Metal: A Mining Disaster in Northern Quebec*. He is also an award-winning photographer and co-founder of *The Nation*, the first news magazine to serve the Cree of northern Quebec and Ontario. As an integral part of the Rezolution Pictures International creative team, his recent credits include *The Last Explorer* and *Dab Iyiyuu*.

Director's Notes

Zacharias Kunuk

I was born in 1957 in a sod house at Kapuivik. We were living happily like my ancestors waking up with frozen kamiks for a pillow. In 1965 Government workers told my parents, 'You should send your kids to school or you could lose your family allowance.' The next summer I was on the boat to Igloolik with my brother. While my parents lived on the land I stayed in town and learned the English language. Most weeks they showed movies at the Community Hall. I remember John Wayne in the West. He spearheads the US cavalry and kills some Indians at the fort. Arrows stick out of dead soldiers and horses and one soldier says, 'What kind of Indians did this!' I was shocked too. I learned to think like one of the soldiers.

When I began to see myself as an aboriginal person and a filmmaker I learned there are different ways to tell the same story. People in Igloolik learned through storytelling who we were and where we came from for 4000 years without a written language.

In the 1970's Igloolik voted twice against TV from the south since there was nothing in Inuktitut, nothing in it for us. But I noticed when my father and his friends came back from hunting they would always sit down with tea and tell the story of their hunt. And I thought it would be great to film hunting trips so you wouldn't have to tell it, just show it.

Is there room in Canadian filmmaking for our way of seeing ourselves? I want to show how our ancestors survived by the strength of their community and their wits, and how new ways of storytelling today can help our community survive another thousand years. Our productions give an artist's view of where we came from: what Inuit were able to do then and what we are able to do now.

Neil Diamond

When I was a child my family lived and trapped with an Inuit woman who was married to a Cree man. My parents were great friends with the couple and remained close until her death in her 80s. Sadly, the woman was never treated well or respected by certain people in the community because she was Inuit. Today, many Cree are still prejudiced against the Inuit because of ignorance and fear. I quickly figured out this was because many Cree people hadn't known and lived close to Inuit people. The Inuit people I knew growing up were generally friendlier towards the Cree than the Cree were with them. Many of my friends disparaged them and I always found this disturbing.

Today, I have a niece who is part Inuk and many of my friends are Inuit. I believe I am uniquely suited to tell this story with an Inuit storyteller such as Zack.

The story of the conflicts between the Cree and Inuit is a sadly neglected part of Canadian and Native history. This is an important story for the Inuit and Cree youth, and the Canadian public in general, to hear. Perhaps (the film) will not only inform and entertain audiences, but also will also foster understanding and build bridges between the two Nations.

I believe (Inuit Cree Reconciliation) can show people today that the two cultures have more similarities than the differences that have caused fear and ignorance for so many years.

Productions Company

Kingulliit Productions is a majority Inuit-owned multimedia production company based in Igloolik Nunavut, founded in 2010 by Zacharias Kunuk and Norman Cohn. Kingulliit updates and replaces Igloolik Isuma Productions and continues the tradition for producing independent Inuktitut-language films and TV from the Inuit point of view, while recognizing the importance of new media and innovative technologies to the future of communications in the north in the 21st century.

Billing Bloc

KINGULLIIT PRODUCTIONS
PRESENTS

INUIT AMALU ADLAI T ISUMAGIJUNI QATIGINII Q
INUIT CREE RECONCILIATION

A FILM BY

ZACHARIAS KUNUK AND

NEIL DIAMOND

PRODUCERS ZACHARIAS KUNUK - STÉPHANE RITUIT

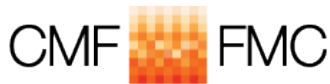
EXECUTIVE PRODUCER NORMAN COHN

WRITTEN BY NORMAN COHN AND RON SHESHAMUSH

DIRECTOR OF PHOTOGRAPHY DAVID POISEY

EDITOR JONATHAN FRANZ

PRODUCED WITH THE FINANCIAL PARTICIPATION OF



Canadian Film or Video Production Tax Credit

WITH THE COLLABORATION OF
NUNAVUT INDEPENDENT
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AND

ISUMATV
www.isuma.tv

For more information please go to:
www.isuma.tv/InuitCreeReconciliation

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Kingulliit Productions
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