

ABORIGINAL PEOPLES & FIRST NATIONS

All Our Business (Video 728) 1985; 28 min

Audience: Adults

Synopsis: This drama is meant to illustrate some basic strategies for managing family violence in a small community. Mary and Bill, a young couple, hear a violent argument in a neighbour's house. At her mother's suggestion, Mary visits the woman and sees evidence that she has been beaten, but refuses to talk. Mary seeks information from neighbours, a policewoman friend and the referral centre. She learns that Jean's husband drinks a great deal and becomes violent. Mary returns to Jean and offers to shelter her if her husband becomes violent again. Jean takes Mary up on her offer and stays with her and Bill until Jean's husband gets help for his problem.

Alkali Lake See: **The Honour of All**

Beating the Streets (Video 2226) 1998; 49 min

Audience: adult; students

Synopsis: Joe Cloutier developed the Inner City Drama Association in 1986 as a means of engaging pre-teens and developing their self-confidence and creative self-expression. Over a period of years the ICDA evolved into a theatre program that involved adolescents and dealt with issues of homelessness, violence, racism and suicide. This video focuses on two participants, Marilyn Brighteyes and Lance Marty and shows how they change and become more confident and better able to handle life challenges. Under the influence of these and other young people the drama program develops into an alternative school that see its first graduate, Lance, admitted to the University of Alberta Aboriginal studies program.

Beyond the Shadows (Video 2500) 1992; 29 min

Audience: general adult, senior students

Synopsis: This documentary presents the historical background to the establishment and operation of residential schools in Canada. The concept of these schools was advanced to speed the integration of Aboriginal people into Canadian society. The schools have come to represent a massive abuse of power with multigenerational impact on the inmates of these institutions.

A Chance for Change (Video 1001) 1990; 30 min

Audience: drug users; general adult

Synopsis: Mike, a young Native man just out of prison, returns to his FN in British Columbia and tries to renew his relationship with his wife and young daughter. But she is concerned that his past high-risk behaviour may have exposed him to AIDS, and upset that he shows no inclination to change. Mike eventually attends a community seminar on AIDS prevention and agrees to be tested. He also agrees to get help for his substance abuse, and he and his family are reconciled.

The Circle Moving (Video 2146) 1986; 30 min

Audience: general adult

Synopsis: Introduced by Andy Chelsea, interviews are shown with individuals and community leaders across Canada from Alkali Lake and Tsarlip FN Tribal Council in British Columbia to the Street Patrol in Kenora, to St Paul's Treatment Centre on the Blood Reserve, to Escoumis FN in Quebec. They talk of their successes and of more work to be done on alcohol and drug abuse in their communities and of the necessity of learning to live with the "outside" community.

Circle of Healing (Video 2101) 1989; 50 min

Audience: adults; health professionals; secondary students

Synopsis: "In the light of sobriety, the mind begins to disclose its darkest secrets." The people of *Alkali Lake* in British Columbia fought and largely conquered widespread alcohol abuse. But now they must confront the related problem of sexual abuse, estimated by one therapist to affect 80 to 90 percent of community members. In this CBC **Man Alive** broadcast, the viewer becomes an

eyewitness at group counselling sessions. People in these groups describe their experiences of abuse and support each other in the healing process. One man, in a group mainly of women, discloses his past as having been an abuser, but this is seen as part of the social problem, not as a person to be singled out for special blame.

Circle of Warriors (Video 2162) 1989; 27 min

Audience: adults; students

Synopsis: A group of aboriginal people who have been diagnosed HIV positive discuss as a group the impact and consequences of their illness. These people are from a wide variety of economic backgrounds and at different levels of dealing with their life situation: in the words of one participant "I'm not dying with AIDS, I'm living with AIDS." With the guidance of counselor Terry Tafoya they discuss feelings, sexuality, getting support, telling family, friends and mates and dealing with others reactions.

Circles (Justice & Community Healing) (Video 2299) 1997; 58 min

Audience: adults; senior students

Synopsis: Set in Yukon Territory, this film explores the concept of circle sentencing. The object of introducing a mixture of traditional Aboriginal justice and the Canadian Justice system is to break the cycle punishment and re-offence. The circle brings together the perpetrator, victims and community members to heal the whole community. The success of the program has led to its application in other Canadian and US locations.

Denial, Healing and Hope (Video 2127) 1994; 59 min

Audience: health care professionals; senior students

Synopsis: This is a Native produced documentary of a youth forum brought together in the wake of a series of suicides. In it there is an examination of social problems like the abnormally high suicide rate, solvent abuse and lack of recreational facilities in the remote Ontario communities of Attawapiskat, Constance Lake and Wapeketa. They explore the need for more access to counselling, efforts to develop their spiritual lives and ways to learn respect for themselves and for others.

Diabetes: Lifetime Solutions (Video 2560) 2001; 30 min

Audience: adults; families; secondary students

Synopsis: There are two types of diabetes: Type I, requires daily insulin injections to maintain stability, Type II is related to lifestyle and obesity, with genetic components. The main focus here is Type II diabetes, the most common form seen in Aboriginal people. The video discusses the disease and its causes, risk factors and symptoms, management and prevention. For aboriginal people lifestyle patterns that have developed with the loss of traditional food and vigorous living, widespread use of alcohol and a diet often high in fat and sugar combines with high genetic risk.

Donna's Story (Video 2403) 2001; 50 min

Audience: people in recovery; women; students

Synopsis: Directed by Doug Cuthand this video tells the story of Donna Gamble's struggle to recover. From the age of thirteen she worked as a prostitute and was addicted to drugs. Her mother was also involved in sex trade and Donna found a commitment in trying to keep her daughters and others from heading to the same kind of debilitating life. Donna's struggle continues as the documentary unfolds. She has a wedding, which ends badly and her struggle with relapse is recurring despite her work. There is also a sense of hope as Donna and her family strive to reverse generations of loss.

Fetal Alcohol Syndrome: The Preventable Birth Defect (Video 2016) 1985; 13 min

Audience: students 15 years +; women; families

Synopsis: Mary Atkins, a Mohawk Indian tells her life story, an early marriage to an older abusive man, of alcohol abuse and neglect. Now a recovering alcoholic she has come to understand that some of her children's development may have been affected by her drinking while she was pregnant. Also provided is an examination of the pattern of birth defects associated with heavy

drinking known as the Fetal Alcohol Syndrome. (See also the section on **ALCOHOL RELATED BIRTH DEFECTS** for more resources.)

Finding Dawn (DVD 1678) 2006; 74 min

Audience: general adult

Synopsis: Dawn Crey is one of five hundred women who are known to have been murdered or have disappeared over thirty years, mainly in western Canada. This documentary explores the many factors that have led to this tragedy that effects mainly Aboriginal women, but is in fact Canada's responsibility to solve. The work of Native rights activists Janice Acoose and Fay Blainey is highlighted along with the annual Women's Memorial March in Vancouver. Though spectacular stories like the Pickton case attract popular attention, dozens of other cases remain unresolved in what is described in this program as an "epidemic of violence" against Native women.

Flight from Darkness (DVD 1681) 2007; 52 min

Audience: adult

Synopsis: This documentary examines the life of Percy Paul, born in a Dene community in Saskatchewan. Percy did well in school and excelled particularly in mathematics. Eventually working on theoretical physics at Princeton University, he is remembered by physicist Leonard Susskind. Troubled with mood disorders, he developed an alcohol problem and made several suicide attempts. Diagnosed with bipolar disorder he went on and off medications, and had continuing trouble with alcohol. Commentary on bipolar disorder from Kay Jamieson highlights major issues with this disorder, particularly the creative energy provided by the manic phases, which she states can actually interfere with the need to stay on a treatment plan. Percy has managed to maintain contact with his family and community and continues to struggle with his illness.

For John (Video 2504) 2003; 53 min

Audience: adult; family

Synopsis: This is the story of John Diabo from Kahnawake. For much of his youth he struggle with drug addiction, but this story is also about his life and his family and their attempts to deal with john's suicide.

Gang Aftermath (DVD 1710) 2005; 48 min

Audience: youth

Synopsis: This prevention program interviews both current and former gang members and their female associates. The object is to alert youth at risk about the destructive nature of gangs and to correct misconceptions about gang life.

Healing Road (DVD 1697) 2000; 60 min

Audience: health professionals; counsellors

Synopsis: This professional development program features Robert Ryan, of the Multitribal Community of California with additional commentary by Eduardo Duran, Teresa LaFromboise, and Derald Wing Sue. Designed to help address healing from generations of violence, practitioners here raise questions about the appropriateness of commonly encountered counseling approaches. Intergenerational trauma, posttraumatic stress and other issues are discussed. The concept of "Soul Wound" is introduced. The object is that the ways students and professionals consider treatment for Aboriginal people will be reconsidered. Community action and prevention issues are central to the approaches to individual, family, and group work.

A Hit for Mike (Video 725) 1985; 28 min

Audience: students; adults

Synopsis: This film opens with a scene of some Native boys stumbling around in a field. Mike, one of the boys, wanders on to the road and falls in front of a truck, almost getting hit. Bill and Mary, the truck owners, rush Mike to the clinic, where the nurse identifies the problem as the result of gasoline sniffing. Bill and Mary go the referral centre to learn how they can help Mike.

The head of the referral centre urges them to get Mike involved in baseball again. Bill and Mary enlist the aid of a tribal elder to talk to Mike. He tells Mike of many ways to feel good without sniffing gasoline and teaches him to whittle. Mike finally decides to join a baseball team and tells his younger brother about the dangers of sniffing.

Hollow Water (Video 2402) 2000; 44 min

Audience: adults; health and law practitioners

Synopsis: Hollow Water is a First Nation in Manitoba. Problems of substance abuse and suicide were common, but repeated efforts to deal with these issues met little success. Blame was directed at residential schools and the loss of traditions - but undisclosed sexual abuse undermined efforts to change. Tina Mason states, as many as two thirds of children have been sexually abused. Sexual offenders were convicted under the Manitoba justice system and sentenced to prison terms. It was this threat that helped keep the problem hidden and reinforced denial. A new method was tried, restorative justice with a Community Holistic Circle Healing (CHCH) program. The counsellors to be were trained at *Alkali Lake*. Here they learned to deal with offenders, victims and families. Among the first to participate, Richard and Deborah would have gone to jail but went to CHCH. The Justice Society monitored the process and participants were required to participate in the circle, take responsibility for actions, be honest and admit, not deny their offences.

Honored by the Moon (Video 1608) 1990; 15 min

Audience: adults; LGBTTIQ; HIV/AIDS

Synopsis: Within the Native American community, homosexuality was traditionally associated with the power to bridge worlds. The personal testimony of Lesbians and Gay men speaks of their historical and spiritual role and interviews with activists attest to both the positive and painful experiences of being Native and gay. The Minnesota American Indian AIDS Task Force had this video produced to raise issues of homophobia within Aboriginal communities. This documentary is also makes a contribution to culturally sensitive discussions of homosexuality.

The Honour of All, 1987
Alkali Lake

Audience: general adult

Synopsis: This three-part documentary is about the community of *Alkali Lake* in British Columbia and their success in controlling alcohol use. Two other titles deal with the *Alkali Lake* community, **Circle of Healing** and **The Spirit that Moves**, are described separately.

A non-circulating DVD version is available for review in the library.

- **2038.1** (56 min) In 1971, Phyllis Chelsea took a stand against alcohol. Five days after she quit drinking, Andy, her husband did the same. For the first two years, Phyllis and Andy were the only abstinent members of the community. After Andy was elected chief visible changes began to appear. Between 1971 and 1986 the people of Alkali Lake turned their lives around and achieved a sobriety rate of 95 percent. This part of the series is a dramatization of life in the community just as members were beginning to make changes in their lives.
- **2038.2** (55 min) This part of the documentary series outlines the community development process at Alkali Lake. Various members of the Band discuss the past, present and future of their community. They also talk about the impact of making the film had on the community.
- **2038.3 Sharing Innovations that Work** is the title of this, the First International Conference of Indian Bands that came together at Alkali Lake. Charleen Belleau, chief of the Band, opens the conference, welcoming Aboriginal people from across Canada. Participants discuss what alcohol has done to their communities; hear testimonials from recovering alcoholics; and leaders encourage participants to remember their traditions.

Is The Crown at War with Us? (Video 2518) 2002; 96 min

Audience: general adult; secondary students

Synopsis: Filmmaker Alanis Obomsawin chronicles the police action against Mi'gmaq fishermen at Esgenoopetitj (Burnt Church) New Brunswick. Federal fisheries officers were caught on film

using violent actions against Aboriginal fishermen in support of the white commercial interests. This documentary comes out in support of the Mi'gmaq position on Native fishing rights.

Kanehsatake: 270 Years of Resistance (Video 1299) 1993; 120 min

Audience: adults; senior students

Synopsis: In July 1990, an historic confrontation propelled Aboriginal issues in Kanehsatake and the village of Oka, Québec, into international and national attention. Director Alanis Obomsawin, along with many members of the community and others, including Warriors, endured the seventy-eight day confrontation. Oka Mayor Jean Ouellette initially called in La Sûreté du Québec to arrest the protesters and clear a road blockade against a golf club expansion. Eventually the Canadian army was used to break the stalemate. This documentary takes issue with an age-old aboriginal struggle in the area. The result is a portrait of the people behind the barricades, providing insight into the Mohawk's determination to protect their land.

Kuper Island: Return to the Healing Circle (Video 1308) 1997; 45 min

Audience: health professionals; recovery programs; residential school survivors

Synopsis: Dubbed "Alcatraz" by its residents, the former Kuper Island Residential School left a mark on generations of the Coast Salish community. For almost a century, children were sent to this secluded island school off the coast of British Columbia. There, many were sexually abused, beaten and degraded. Denied their language, their culture and contact with their families, the children suffered emotional scars that many carried into adulthood. This video was filmed 20 years after the school closed, when a group of former residents returned to Kuper Island to begin to heal the wounds inflicted there. The now-deserted buildings serve as the backdrop for many poignant recollections. Central to recovery is the healing circle, where survivors share their experiences, their fears and their hopes. Says one such survivor: "healing means coming face-to-face with the whole residential experience." This insightful video gives viewers a powerful glimpse of that experience.

Looking Beyond, 2000

From the Shared Realities Working Group, these videos are a record of an Ottawa (City of) conference on HIV and harm reduction and featuring Terry Tafoya, a Native American educator and storyteller.

Attitudes, Values, Beliefs (Video 2347.1) 75 min

HIV/Substance Abuse (Video 2347.2) 75 min

Cross Cultural Competence (Video 2347.3) 75 min

Question Period (video 2347.4) 50 min

Medical Refugees: Natives and Diabetes, CBC - The National

(Video 1522) 1999; 23 min

Audience: general adult

Synopsis: Aboriginal people are at high for diabetes, but Island Lake FN in northern Manitoba, has the highest rate of diabetes in Canada, four times the national average. Here, there is no hospital, emergency ward or even a resident doctor. The situation is critical because every family in the community has at least one member who has diabetes, and often, entire families have the disease. Many members of the community must decide whether to make the 1000 km journey to Winnipeg for dialysis several times a month, or uproot themselves and their families and move to the city permanently. The costs, both in transporting patients and providing treatment in Winnipeg, continue to mount. FN leaders lobby the government for local medical facilities, but without result.

The Mind of a Child (Video 2438) 1995; 60 min

Audience: adult

Synopsis: Lorna Williams, from the Lil'wat First Nation in British Columbia, worked with the Vancouver School Board as a First Nations Education Specialist. Influenced by the work of Israeli psychologist Reuven Feuerstein she helped produce this program to show how his idea of mediated learning can be applied to enhance the learning skills of Aboriginal students.

Feuerstein, working with traumatized and displaced children, developed materials and techniques for assessing and mediating the learning process. The video shows several examples of children being led by a mediating adult through the processes of discovery. The goal is to bring forth the existing intelligence and abilities of children, help them build the skills they lack and show them they can think through a problem and discover strategies for seeing patterns and relationships.

My Name is Kahentioosta (Video 2480) 1995; 30 min

Audience: adults; senior students

Synopsis: Arrested after the 78-day armed standoff during the 1990 Oka crisis, Kahentioosta, a young Kahnawake Mohawk woman is proud of her centuries-old heritage. This film is witness the arrest and detention of her and others who took refuge in the Treatment Centre after the Canadian Army advanced. The prosecutor representing the Quebec government will not accept her aboriginal name; because of this 'contempt' she is kept in detention longer than others.

My Spirit Touches Yours (Video 2129) 1989; 21 min

Audience: treatment professionals; adults; students

Synopsis: This video presents an overview of the Nechi Institute in Alberta, a Native run training centre for alcohol and drug abuse counsellors. We learn of the modest start and history and its association with Poundmaker's Lodge. There are interviews with staff and of role-play demonstrations during training sessions.

Nasawin (Video No.1140) 1993; 20 min

Audience: health care professionals; general adult

Synopsis: In this documentary, members of the Kettle & Stoney Point First Nations discuss the history and prevalence of tobacco and smoking in their community. One of the elders looks at the origin of tobacco and its use in ceremony. Also examined are the dangers of some of the chemicals that are released when cigarettes are burned. Members of the FN relate the harmful consequences that smoking has had on the quality of their lives. According to the filmmakers, 59% of people in the First Nations smoke which argues for the importance of developing smoking policies in these communities. This program is available with an instructor's workbook.

Native AIDS (Video 2138) 1989; 14 min

Audience: health professionals; general adult

Synopsis: Young people from small rural communities in Manitoba come to Winnipeg for excitement, but often find themselves engaged in a high-risk lifestyle. The combination of drug and alcohol abuse, poor nutrition and unrestricted sexual activity has allowed the HIV virus to gain a foothold in the Native community. Although Native leaders are attempting to deal with the problem, AIDS is often seen as a gay white man's disease.

Native Disabled (DVD 2351) 1995; 24 min

Audience: adult

Synopsis: Filmed in Saskatoon this documentary examines how a small group of Aboriginal people with disabilities manages their lives in the city. The work of the Aboriginal Native Disabilities Network is profiled with attention paid to education, mobility and housing issues. It turns out that wheelchair maintenance is a major issue. Because few resources are available on reserves, people with disabilities experience additional problems with culture and social dislocation.

A New Dawn (Video 2095) 1983; 15 min

Audience: adults

Synopsis: At this Native Women's Conference of Canada meeting men and women speak out about the effects of alcohol and drug use on the family and community. In the process one possible solution presented is a combination of modern and traditional healing methods to begin the task of Nation rebuilding. Alcohol is presented as a symbol of oppression that "has drowned out what it means to be an Indian."

New Day, New Horizon (Video 2075) 1989; 15 min

Audience: adults

Synopsis: An Aboriginal family moves away from their reserve and into a larger community. The father gets a forestry job, but is subjected to racist comments from a white co-worker. He quits in response, but his supervisor finds out what really happened and gets him back to work.

O'Chiese: On the Road to Recovery (Video 2148) 1988; 25 min

Audience: health professionals; First Nation communities

Synopsis: Chief Theresa Strawberry of the O'Chiese Community in Alberta was among the first to admit that she had an alcohol problem. With the approval of the Band council she and three others went to Poundmaker's Lodge for treatment. The outcome of this event saw the others follow the same procedure, depending on those who had gone through the program to help support their families while they were away. Eventually the whole community became involved. With the help of Poundmaker's Lodge and the Nechi Institute, a "mobile" treatment program was developed. This moved the resource and experience of the professional organisations into the remote community where all members could see the results and go into treatment themselves without the worry of leaving their families and children behind. Interviews round out this profile and one person comments that there are no "quick fixes" and a lengthy follow-up program has been developed.

Patrick's Story (Video 2268) 1999; 24 min

Audience: general adult

Synopsis: This program seeks to focus attention on suicide and especially suicide in Aboriginal society. Patrick Bird suffered sexual abuse and family neglect, incarceration and abused drugs and alcohol. He resorted to self-mutilation and finally attempted suicide. Over time with help from his friends and adoptive mother he discovered his talent for acting and music. He also began to develop his identity and discover the spirituality of his Cree culture.

Playing With Fire: Aboriginal Adolescent Gambling (Video No.1425) 1998; 16 min

Audience: youth aged 12 to 15 years

Synopsis: This short video with its accompanying workbook is designed for use specifically with Native youth. The effort is to devise a prevention program that will keep youth from falling into dangerous gambling habits, but also recognise the place of gaming in traditional Aboriginal culture.

Positive for Life (Video 2332) 2001; 22 min

Audience: adult; youth

Synopsis: Looking at the HIV/AIDS epidemic from the perspective of Aboriginal Canadians, the program profiles the physical and emotional pain caused by being diagnosed as HIV-positive, the struggle in finding that a loved one has a diagnosis, and the reaction of community and friends to an HIV-positive diagnosis. Also examined are the problems that are unique to the Native community, including the false perception that AIDS is a "white man's disease" and how attitudes within the native community about sex, shame, and embarrassment can hinder the work of information programs.

Poundmaker's Lodge: A Healing Place (Video 2133) 1989; 30 min

Audience: health professionals; general adult

Synopsis: For many aboriginal people in trouble with alcohol and other drugs, Poundmaker's Lodge in Alberta is the first stop on their journey towards a new life. Staffed by Native people, many of whom are former addicts, the program draws heavily on Native traditions. The video focuses on the lives of several people who tell of their lives before they came to the Lodge: they speak with confidence, of being reconnected to their culture and of having found a place in the world and a new vision of themselves.

Problem Gambling: The Healing Circle (Video 1290) 1995; 12 min

Audience: gamblers

Synopsis: Statistics from a recent survey highlight the fact that there is a higher incidence of problem gambling amongst aboriginal populations. Some of the reasons for this include personal and cultural grief. This video therefore examines Aboriginal-specific approaches to treating these problems. According to Pat Shirt, the Executive Director of Poundmaker's Lodge, addictions are like mine fields, one is best advised to follow the footsteps of a person who has successfully walked through the 'mine field.' Both recovering persons and counsellors in recovery recount how they overcame their gambling addiction. Often times, the answers are not simple, but they invariably involve an interface between mind, body, emotions and spirit. Through the use of such culturally appropriate interventions, it is hoped that problems experienced by Native people with gambling will be eliminated.

Redskins, Tricksters and Puppy Stew (Video 2310) 2000; 55 min

Audience: adult

Synopsis: Featuring Tom King, Don Kelly, Don Burnstick, Herbie Barnes, Sharon Shorty and Jackie Bear this program looks at humour while it pokes holes in stereotype images. There are stand-up routines, skits, and excerpts from "Dead Dog Café" broadcasts.

Residential Schools (DVD 1581) 1999; 22min

Audience: adults; secondary students; youth

Synopsis: This CBC "National" news story looks at the ongoing demand that the federal government act on recommendations of the Royal Commission on Aboriginal Peoples. Particular among the many recommendations is that regarding the injustices inflicted by the residential school system. The demand is that the government apologize for its involvement and accept responsibility. Children lost their history, traditions and language, suffered sexual and physical abuse, and neglect when they were forced to attend these schools.

Richard Cardinal: Cry from a Diary of a Métis Child (Video 2128) 1986; 29 min

Audience; secondary students; adults

Synopsis: Richard Cardinal committed suicide in Alberta in 1984. This drama portrays his life since the age of four when taken from his home because of family problems. As a ward of the foster care system he spent the rest of his seventeen years moving in and out of twenty-eight foster homes, group homes and shelters in Alberta. Terry and Stanley Crothers, one of his many foster parents speak about his suicide at their farm 90 km north of Edmonton. The case attained media attention and a court inquiry revealed how the social welfare system failed.

Singing Home the Bones: A Poet Becomes Himself (DVD 1661) 2006; 48 min

Audience: adult

Synopsis: This chronicle of Métis poet Gregory Scofield's journey to make sense of his truly multi-faceted self, features story telling, interviews, and readings of his poetry. An established poet, and editor, Patrick Lane, offers insights on Greg's progress as a writer. This story bears witness to his determination and to his resilient responses to a family life disrupted by addiction and violence and by the limitations imposed by a bigoted society. He found ways of expression, sought out support and refuge among other family members, a fondly remembered Aunt Georgina for one. Later, and a little reluctantly, he rediscovers Métis culture at a Batoche Day celebration. Retaining his Cree language helped form a base that he used in his writing. Part of his struggle was the search for his father. He never knew this man who went to jail for petty crimes on the day Greg was born. Never hearing anything more Greg thought he must be dead. However, his mother knew different but was silent. His self discoveries follow like revelations, that he is Gay, learning that his father had gone to England, become a psychiatric nurse, remarried, and was Jewish. Making contact too late he visits his English stepmother and his father's grave. Two additional features include Greg in interviews with Rabbi Louis Sutker and with Métis poet Maria Campbell.

The Sniffing Bear (Video 1135) 1992; 8 min

Audience: children 6-10 years

Synopsis: This animated program is set in the high arctic winter. A polar bear is sniffing the wind and notices a strange scent. He finds an abandoned gasoline container and begins to sniff at it out of curiosity. Other animals, a snowy owl and a seal try to get him to stop, but he chases them off. He soon begins to have frightening visions, which become real when and is harried by wild dogs. Owl and seal return to help drive them off. The bear then crushes the can and moves off to other more bear-like ways.

Sniffing Stinks (Video 1068) 1991

Audience: children; youth to 14 years

Synopsis: Aboriginal youth speak about inhalant abuse, talking about how they started, of the intense peer pressure to use inhalants in Native communities: "Sometime between your sixth and eleventh birthday someone will ask you to sniff." The physical consequences of sniffing are presented: headaches, nausea, blackouts and the steps some have taken to stop using.

Something to Celebrate (Video 724) 1984; 28 min

Audience: adults; families

Synopsis: Mary and Bill, a young couple, have just learned that Mary is pregnant and they are planning to celebrate. Mary goes to the local clinic, where the nurse shows her pictures of children with fetal alcohol syndrome, born to mothers who drank while pregnant. Upon arriving home Mary tries to explain to Bill why she will not drink alcohol. Bill starts to go out with friends to celebrate, but changes his mind and comes back to tell Mary that he will wait until after the baby is born.

Special Treatment: Locking Up Aboriginal Children (Video 2203) 1991; 55 min

Audience: adult

Synopsis: Also subtitled "the arrest and imprisonment of Aboriginal children, this Australian documentary examines the question of state interference in the lives of Aboriginal people. Special Treatment (refers ironically to the schutzstaffel racial purity concept, euphemistically termed "sonderbehandlung") resulted in police harassment and judicial discrimination against Aboriginal youth. The focus is mainly on the removal of children from their families. Similar to Canada the politics of colonialization continues to deeply affect Native society and culture. Interviews with children and youth round out the presentation.

Spirit of the Forest (Video 2117) 1992; 21 min

Audience: children

Synopsis: The hazards of sniffing solvents like gasoline are dramatised here with the use of animal puppets in a realistic forest setting. After helping a friend who has become sick from sniffing gasoline, the animals listen to the spirit of the forest, portrayed here by a native elder, about the right way to live. The program is narrated first in English and following in Ojibwa.

Spirit Doctors (DVD 1660) 2005; 45 min

Audience: adult

Synopsis: This documentary examines the traditional healing practices of Mary and Ed Louie. During the filming the sound technician is diagnosed with cancer. While deciding to have convention medical care he also asks Mary and Ed for spiritual guidance. The actual practices are filmed as a way of educating others. As some traditional methods are not routinely made public, the film also examines arguments around the ethics of documenting this process.

The Spirit that Moves (Video 2137) 1987; 27 min

Audience: people in treatment; aboriginal communities; health professionals;

Synopsis: Introduced by Roy Bonisteel, this program focuses on the community of Alkali Lake after their successful struggle with the problem of alcohol abuse. In "The Honour of All" the chronicle of that struggle is re-examined. One of the key players, Fred Johnson, Principal of the Alkali Lake School, comments, "even in sobriety something was missing...I wanted to learn what it is to be a Native person." The development of their spiritual life, especially with the

reintroduction of the sweat lodge and other traditional ceremonies, has helped give the community and its individuals the resilience to maintain their success.

The Spirit Within (Video 2295) 1990; 52 min

Audience: adult; youth

Synopsis: A disproportionately large number of Aboriginal Canadians are incarcerated in prisons, especially in the west. This video examines Native spirituality programs that have been set up in Canadian federal prisons and also in some provincial jails. The programs, which are led by Elders, include workshops and healing ceremonies. The circles help the Native prisoner develop a sense of self, and begin to understand aboriginal culture and spirituality. The film deals with the impact of the programs with particular focus on the sweat lodge.

Substance Abuse Disorders (Video 1289) 1992; 60 min

Audience: adults; general; health professionals

Synopsis: Supplemented by testimonials of people in recovery and expert opinion, including Drs. Alan Marlatt and Charles O'Brien, this video focuses on the most commonly misused drugs: alcohol, cocaine and nicotine. It explores the causes, nature and course of dependence and treatment interventions. There are many approaches that can be used; the challenge is to determine the best fit between program and individual or group. There is an examination of the treatment program Seattle's Leschi Centre where a twelve-step program is combined with the Indian medicine wheel to provide an approach that meets the needs of Aboriginal clients. Finally, future directions of the substance abuse field are summarised including single genetic markers, treatment matching and alternatives to existing programs and prevention opportunities amongst post-secondary students.

Suckerfish (Nahmabin) (Video 1578) 2004; 8 min

Audience: adults; families

Synopsis: When she was a child of eight years, the make of this film, Lisa Jackson began to suspect that she might be part Native. She then learned from her mother that their Indian name was Nahmabin, or Suckerfish. But, her mother suffered from depression, alcohol and prescription drug abuse. At ten years of age, Lisa left her home in Toronto to live with relatives in Vancouver. Twenty years later, though she is sifting through memories and letters from her mother to reconnect with the woman who was able to love her daughter and triumph over her addiction.

Tobacco: A Gift of Choice (Video 1059) 1991; 16 min

Audience: health professionals; general adult; students

Synopsis: Many aboriginal people have long regarded tobacco as a gift from, and a symbol of respect for, the Creator. They assert there is a difference between its traditional ceremonial use and the habitual use of cigarettes and chewing tobacco. An elder tells his grandson: "It's a sad thing when you have to watch kids abuse things given to us by the Creator." He passes on to his grandson the tobacco-related lore given him by his own grandfather, hoping tobacco will cease to be a substance of abuse, and that young people will rediscover its traditional use. A group of youth then performs a rap song that supports this message, incorporating traditional Native images. The grandson also recreates a tobacco ceremony taught to him by his grandfather.

Two Spirit People (Video 1607) 1990; 26 min

Audience: adults; secondary students; LGBTTTQ

Synopsis: An overview of historical and contemporary Native American concepts of gender, sexuality and sexual orientation. In this documentary, Terry Tafoya, explores the berdache tradition in American Aboriginal culture. In this tradition individuals who embody feminine and masculine qualities are thought to act as a conduit between the physical and spiritual world.

Two Worlds Colliding (Video and DVD 1622) 2005; 49 min

Audience: adult; senior students

Synopsis: This documentary profiles the tragic relations of the city police and the Aboriginal community in Saskatoon. In January 2000, Darrell Night, was picked up by the police after

leaving a party. The two officers drop him in a barren field on the city outskirts in -20° C temperatures without a coat. He survives the ordeal by finding shelter at a nearby power station. Later he hears that the frozen body of another Aboriginal man is discovered in the same area, then days later, another. When Night comes forward, his story sets into motion a chain of events: a major RCMP investigation into several suspicious deaths, convictions of two constables, and the reopening of the old case, of Neil Stonechild, leading to a judicial inquiry.

Urban Elder (Video and DVD 1550) 1997; 29 min

Audience: adults; secondary students

Synopsis: Most Aboriginal people in Canada now live in cities and most of those live in Toronto. Many people who come to the city from an FN are often ill equipped to deal with urban life. Vern Harper, talks about his life and the path that took him to become an elder. Part of this path involved abusing drugs and living off the street until an elder foretold his future. Vern did not believe at the time that he had a future. On the Red Road now he works with aboriginal men in prison, in this case Warkworth Penitentiary where he leads a healing circle to give the men another chance. In a more personal setting he demonstrates a simple prayer ceremony. The video concludes with a "sweat," a ceremony that is always conducted outside the city.

Walking in Pain (Video 895) 1988; 50 min

Audience: adults; health professionals; people in recovery programs

Synopsis: Alcohol and other drug addiction are among the most serious problems currently threatening aboriginal people. At the Round Lake Treatment Centre near Armstrong BC, Marg Mackie-Orr, a senior counsellor, talks with clients, both individually and groups, to help them understand and overcome the root causes of their alcohol and drug abuse. She believes drinking is a sickness of the ego and the key to recovery lies in unlocking and dealing with suppressed emotions. Alcoholics are in constant anguish, walking in pain of self-remorse, guilt, hurt, hatred and anger.

Wigwams and Flophouses (Video 2123) 1990; 27 min

Audience: adults

Synopsis: This video, produced by Anishnabi Health, outlines the plight many aboriginal people experience when they move to urban centres unprepared for the radically different cultural environment. Homelessness and health problems affect some while misunderstanding and racism interfere with the establishment of housing projects.