

THE NFB IN LIBRARIES

2024-2025
PROGRAM

FILM SUGGESTIONS
FOR THE YEAR!

CONTACT

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THE NFB IN LIBRARIES

You can bring the latest NFB films to your patrons by selecting handpicked titles that have been curated around a wide variety of themes. You'll find programming suggestions in our newsletters (the one for National Indigenous History Month, for example) and in our annual program (which you're reading right now).

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TO ORGANIZE A SCREENING ATTENDANCE FIGURES

To organize a screening, choose one or more titles, then send your selection(s) by email to libraries@nfb.ca. You'll receive an MP4 file or a DVD (upon request), as well as promotional materials (upon request).

If you have questions or would like to discuss your upcoming events, contact us: libraries@nfb.ca.

FREE FILM LOANS

Since the films in our collection are bound by public performance copyright restrictions, admission to screenings must be free of charge, and DVDs must be returned to us by regular mail after your screening or destroyed if they cannot be returned. Downloaded film files (MP4s) must also be destroyed. The NFB is committed to complying with these copyright restrictions and thereby respecting the work of the artists, technicians and professionals involved in these productions.

To assist us in tracking the outreach of the NFB's films, please make note of the number of people who attended each library or virtual screening. You can provide us with an estimate if you don't have exact figures. This data helps give us an idea of the public's interest in the NFB.

FILM PURCHASES

If you want to keep a film, you can always buy it and add it to your collection. Please contact our customer service department: info@nfb.ca.

QUICK LINKS

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DOCUMENTARIES AND SERIES](#)

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[DETOURS OF DESTINY – NFB NEW RELEASES](#)
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Tap the titles or the images
on the description pages
to view the film trailers online!



WAAPAKE (TOMORROW)

JULES ARITA KOOSTACHIN, PH.D. | 2023 | 80 MIN | IN ENGLISH WITH CREE AND FRENCH SUBTITLES

Dr. Jules Arita Koostachin's deeply personal documentary **WaaPaKe (Tomorrow)** asks the difficult question: "Who are we without our pain?"

For generations, the suffering of residential school Survivors has radiated outward, impacting Indigenous families and communities. Children, parents and grandparents have contended with the unspoken trauma, manifested in the lingering effects of colonialism: addiction, emotional abuse and broken relationships.

In her efforts to help the children of Survivors, including herself and her family, Koostachin makes the difficult decision to step in front of the camera and participate in the circle of truth. Moving beyond burying intergenerational trauma, **WaaPaKe (Tomorrow)** is an invitation to unravel the tangled threads of silence and unite in collective freedom and power.



ARAB WOMEN SAY WHAT?!

NISREEN BAKER | 2022 | 82 MIN | IN ENGLISH AND ARABIC

Arab Women Say What?!, by Egyptian-Canadian filmmaker Nisreen Baker, presents Arab women as we've never seen them before.

Nermeen, an Egyptian Canadian, introduces us to her friends from different Arab countries, who "love to laugh": Nedra, Carmen, Aya, Sanaa, Tereza, Laylan and Hala. They are outspoken and daring Arab-Canadian women who don't shy away from showing their strengths and vulnerabilities.

Through a mosaic of eight windows, the women offer us a big window into their lives, revealing their unique perspectives, sharing personal experiences and claiming their narratives. Amid discussions, arguments and jokes, they deconstruct their patriarchal culture and grapple with challenging—and often taboo—issues, with Aya's singing punctuating these conversations.



A RETURN TO MEMORY

(available starting November 1, 2024)

DON MCWILLIAMS | 2024 | 116 MIN | IN ENGLISH

"We learned to work with chaos."

The intrepid women who helped create Canadian cinema come to vibrant life in ***A Return to Memory***, a documentary illuminating their vital but little-known role in establishing Canada's National Film Board.

Juxtaposing a dazzling array of archival material with dynamic animation by NFB infographics artist Mélanie Bouchard, director Donald McWilliams

evokes the heady wartime years, when women played a key part in transforming the NFB into a major international studio.

With men engaged elsewhere in the war effort, hundreds of women pursued careers at the newly formed public producer—and pioneering figures like Evelyn Spice Cherry, Red Burns and Jane Marsh Beveridge made movie history, creating work that spoke to the world with a distinctive Canadian voice.



THE GEOGRAPHIES OF DAR

MONIQUE LEBLANC | 2023 | 73 MIN | IN ENGLISH

The Geographies of DAR is a captivating film that explores the life and literary works of renowned Canadian author David Adams Richards. Through stunning visuals, insightful interviews and excerpts from his writings, the film uncovers the profound connection between Richards' personal experiences and Eastern Canada's Miramichi, the region that shaped his storytelling.

The masterful cinematography showcases the harsh yet beautiful landscapes of Richards' Miramichi, taking viewers on a journey through the

complex lives of his characters, marked by destruction, freedom and redemption. Richards opens up about his childhood, his struggles and demons, and his unwavering belief in God, providing candid and perceptive insights into cruelty, love, faith and the human experience.

This poignant film is an elegy to the joys, suffering, mercies and beauty of life, celebrating the indomitable spirit and courage of this extraordinary Canadian writer.



A QUIET GIRL

ADRIAN WILLS | 2023 | 86 MIN | IN ENGLISH

In *A Quiet Girl*, adopted Montreal filmmaker Adrian Wills commits, on camera and in real time, to unravelling the mystery of his complex beginnings in Newfoundland. Spurred on by a meager clue in his adoption documents, Wills spends two years travelling from the spare beauty of Canada's most eastern coastline to the red heat of Arizona in search of answers. What Wills finally uncovers pierces into the meaning of family, revealing disquieting parallels between his own life and that of the birth mother he never knew.

This moving feature documentary combines 16mm footage and contemporary images with deeply personal conversations, transforming an urgent search for identity into a quest to give a quiet girl her voice. Ultimately, Wills honours his birth mother's resilience and, in doing so, reveals his own.



WAITING FOR RAIF

LUC CÔTÉ, PATRICIO HENRÍQUEZ | 2022 | 150 MIN | IN FRENCH, ENGLISH AND ARABIC WITH ENGLISH SUBTITLES

Filmed over a period of eight years, *Waiting for Raif* tells the tragic tale of a family torn apart by the Saudi monarchy's intransigence, as it follows Ensaf Haidar's inspiring battle to free her husband, prisoner of conscience Raif Badawi. Accused by the regime of insulting Islam, in 2012 he is sentenced to 10 years in prison and a thousand lashes—a barbaric punishment that provokes international outrage. Throughout his imprisonment, Ensaf, who

arrived in Quebec as a refugee in 2013, leads a remarkable campaign for his freedom, with courage and determination. The film offers a privileged and moving look at the personal and political implications of the Badawi affair, lays bare the West's contradictions with respect to Saudi Arabia, and follows the challenges faced by a young woman both in her adopted land and on the global stage.



LAY DOWN YOUR HEART

MARIE CLEMENTS | 2022 | 70 MIN | IN ENGLISH

An accomplished artist, a lifelong performer and a person with Down syndrome, Niall McNeil has built a unique family tree of blood and chosen relations made up of his closest friends and collaborators. In **Lay Down Your Heart**, Niall introduces his “family members,” his multiple “children” (some twice his age!), his renowned “ex-wife” and director of the film Marie Clements, and more. Bonded together by shared creative passion

and their relationships with Niall, his family includes some of Canada’s most outstanding theatrical and artistic talent.

By exploring his unconventional family histories—sometimes factual, sometimes infused with fantasy, but always deeply felt—Niall’s limitless imagination drives him toward the heart of human connection.



STOLEN TIME

HELENE KLODAWSKY | 2023 | 85 MIN | IN ENGLISH

In **Stolen Time**, a riveting feature documentary, charismatic elder rights lawyer Melissa Miller takes on the for-profit nursing-home industry. It’s Miller’s most challenging case yet in her early career: a mass tort representing hundreds of families fighting some of the world’s most powerful long-term care corporations. Her adversaries stand accused of neglecting their vulnerable charges as they reap huge profits. Booming elderly populations worldwide add urgency to holding these corporations to account.

Stolen Time is a compelling call for justice from desperate families who’ve turned to the courts as a last resort. We witness surprising testimonies and images from researchers, advocates and, most notably, frontline caregivers whose work is often undervalued but disproportionately blamed for what goes wrong.



SOUNDS & PRESSURE: REGGAE IN A FOREIGN LAND

(a series of short films; available starting September 1, 2024)

CHRIS FLANAGAN, GRAEME MATHIESON | 2024 | 5 FILMS | IN ENGLISH AND JAMAICAN PATOIS

This anthology series uncovers the musical journeys of five Jamaican greats who brought the irresistible rhythms and unifying power of reggae to Toronto: Jerry Brown, Leroy Sibbles, Johnny Osbourne, Nana McLean and the duo Roy Panton and Yvonne Harrison.

Graeme Mathieson is a Jamaican-Canadian filmmaker based in Toronto. Made in collaboration with Chris Flanagan, his film about ska and reggae legend Stranger Cole, *RUFF & TUFF*, premiered at Hot Docs. Also Toronto-

based, Chris Flanagan is an installation artist and documentary filmmaker who creates work about music, magic and obsessive subcultures. His feature, *Shella Record: A Reggae Mystery*, premiered at Hot Docs 2019, played at festivals around the world and aired on Television Jamaica and CBC.



A MOTHER APART

(available starting February 1, 2025)

LAURIE TOWNSHEND | 2024 | 89 MIN | IN ENGLISH AND GERMAN

"My mother's leaving me was the first wound."

Staceyann Chin embodies multiple complex identities—poet, activist, lesbian, Jamaican American, mother. But the most complicated of all is “daughter.” Abandoned by her mother as a child, Staceyann has been seeking her out for decades, travelling the globe in a one-sided attempt to forge a meaningful bond with the woman who brought her into the world.

And now, as the sole parent of nine-year-old Zuri, she wrestles with an all-consuming dilemma: how to mother a daughter when your own mother was missing in action.

A Mother Apart catches up with Staceyann as she picks up the trail of her elusive mother. Along the way she just may find the sense of home she's been longing for.

FEATURE-LENGTH DOCUMENTARIES AND SERIES



TO KILL A TIGER

(nominated for the Oscar® for Documentary Feature Film)

NISHA PAHUJA | 2022 | 125 MIN | IN HINDI, NAGPURI

In a small village in India, Ranjit wakes up to find that his 13-year-old daughter has not returned home from a family wedding. She was raped by three men, all of whom are known to the family. Ranjit and his wife go to the police, and the men are arrested. But the family's relief is short-lived when the villagers and their leaders launch a sustained campaign to force Ranjit to drop the charges. They demand the girl marry one of her rapists—a tried and true community solution.

To Kill a Tiger follows Ranjit's uphill battle to find justice for his child. In India, where a rape is reported every 20 minutes and conviction rates are less than 30 percent, Ranjit's decision to support his daughter is virtually unheard of, and his journey unprecedented.



WORK DIFFERENT

JULIEN CAPRARO | 2023 | 51 MIN | IN FRENCH AND ENGLISH WITH ENGLISH SUBTITLES

How has working remotely reshaped not just our professional lives but our personal lives as well? The notion of “nine-to-five” that summarized the working world of millions from about the mid-twentieth century onward has undergone a radical shift in recent years.

Looking closely at a work model whose roots go back to the 1960s, *Work Different* examines the origins, impacts, upsides and uncertainties of remote work.

With humour (and a touch of retrofuturist nostalgia!), the documentary reframes a host of social issues by talking to experts, managers, researchers and workers across Canada and beyond.

The multiple viewpoints expressed put such notions as freedom of choice, family values, governance and corporate culture right back into the heart of the conversation.

FEATURE-LENGTH DOCUMENTARIES AND SERIES



MAISONNEUVE

**JEAN-MARTIN GAGNON | 2023 | DOCUMENTARY SERIES - 175 MIN TOTAL
IN FRENCH WITH ENGLISH SUBTITLES**

Filed over several years, **Maisonneuve** drops us into the culturally pluralistic college as it picks up the pieces after a traumatic turn of events.

2015. Eleven students at Montreal's Collège de Maisonneuve are arrested as they prepare to leave for Syria, where they plan to become Islamic State fighters. The student body—more than 50 percent of which is composed of Muslims of Arab descent—is deeply shocked. Over six episodes, **Maisonneuve** looks at the repercussions of this event and

the questions it continues to raise, introducing us to five young adults who are trying to find their way in an environment where mistrust of the “other” is the norm.

With its humanistic approach, **Maisonneuve** highlights both the importance and the fragility of living together in harmony in Quebec.



IN FULL VOICE

SAÏDA OUCHAOU-OZAROWSKI | 2021 | 52 MIN | IN ENGLISH, FRENCH

Filmmaker Saïda Ouchaou-Ozarowski sat down with six Muslim-Canadian women who were eager to talk about what shapes their identities. **In Full Voice** offers an intimate perspective on the journey taken by these women, all of whom share a desire to convey their vision of Islam.

From Montreal to Toronto, New York City and Canada's West Coast, Sonia, Kenza, Asmaa, Loubna, Eman and Farheen open up about their experiences

with poise and sensitivity, discussing their relationship to freedom, religion and culture, and revealing their hopes and doubts in the process. Their individual quests for identity reflect our own, reminding us that ultimately, we are not so different.



MALARTIC

NICOLAS PAQUET | 2024 | 88 MIN | IN FRENCH WITH ENGLISH SUBTITLES

Ten years after Canada's largest open-pit gold mine began operations in Malartic, has the promised economic miracle turned out to be merely a mirage? Having previously documented the local community's hopes for prosperity in *The Golden Rule* (2010), filmmaker Nicolas Paquet returns to this town in Quebec's Abitibi region to explore the glaring contrast between its decline and the staggering wealth of its new "tenant." Blending macro analysis with personal accounts, he reveals broken promises and the mechanisms of a disturbingly opaque system.

Malartic scrutinizes a web of links between private corporations, public authorities and the judiciary, a decision-making space in which ordinary people have little say. This documentary about legal failings and democratic deficit addresses the fundamental issue of sustainable and fair management of land and resources.



VOICES ACROSS THE WATER

FRITZ MUELLER, TERESA EARLE | 84 MIN | 2022 | IN ENGLISH

There is a moment during the construction of a canoe when its true form is revealed. A similar process sometimes occurs in life, when a person finally discovers their true path.

Fritz Mueller and Teresa Earle's feature documentary *Voices Across the Water* follows two master boat builders as they practise their art and find a way back to balance and healing.

For Alaskan Tlingit carver Wayne Price and young apprentice Violet, fashioning a dugout canoe from a single massive red cedar tree is a way to reconnect to the Ancestral Knowledge of Indigenous craftspeople. Francophone artist Halin de Repentigny's handmade birchbark canoes recall the vessels once used by the voyageurs. Connected by their devotion to craft and the critical importance of succession, they carry forward the ancient art of navigating life's unexpected currents.

FEATURE-LENGTH DOCUMENTARIES AND SERIES



ANY OTHER WAY: JACKIE SHANE

(available in 2025)

MICHAEL MABBOTT, LUCAH ROSENBERG-LEE | 2024 | 99 MIN | IN ENGLISH

A star is reborn. With an outsize stage presence that eclipsed R&B greats like Etta James and Little Richard, Black trans soul singer Jackie Shane was the real deal. After mysteriously vanishing from public view for almost 40 years, this little-known icon is given her ultimate due in this documentary portrait executive produced by Elliot Page.

In an era when voices like hers were silenced and marginalized, Jackie blazed an incandescent trail from her native Nashville to the top of the

charts in 1960s Toronto, where she ruled the nightclub scene. This film brings Jackie to life in her own words, through never-before-heard phone conversations and a newly released song, part of an incredible soundtrack that seals Jackie's place as one of the greatest soul performers of the 20th century.



7 BEATS PER MINUTE

(available in 2025)

YUQI KANG | 2024 | 100 MIN | IN ENGLISH AND MANDARIN WITH ENGLISH SUBTITLES

In the world of competitive freediving, Jessea Lu (Lu Wenjie) is a legendary figure. The Chinese freediving champion came late to the sport, vaulting into the top tier of talent with remarkable ability and a compulsive drive to challenge her limitations.

During a world-record attempt in 2018, Jessea blacked out and was lifeless for four minutes.

As the boundaries between award-winning director Yuqi Kang and her subject grow more fluid, the two return to the site of Jessea's near-death experience to face the traumas of her past and find a way back to light, air and, ultimately, connection. **7 Beats Per Minute** parallels Jessea's physical and mental journey back from the depths, with intimate cinéma vérité camerawork, astonishing underwater imagery and raw personal interviews.



BEYOND PAPER

OANA SUTU KHINTIRIAN | 2022 | 130 MIN | IN ENGLISH, FRENCH, ROMANIAN, ITALIAN, ARABIC AND SPANISH

In the era of the digital revolution, the transmission of knowledge is going through a profound upheaval as humanity's archives migrate from paper to the cloud. Filmmaker Oana Suteu Khintirian embarks on a journey to understand how she can preserve her cultural history and share it with her son. This poetic and inspiring film essay introduces us to various "guides" across the globe while freely navigating the continuum between the physical and virtual worlds.

From the hot colours of the Sahara to the shelves of a legendary bookstore in Buenos Aires, and from the delicate grain of centuries-old manuscripts to the blinking servers of new digital libraries, **Beyond Paper** blends reflection and emotion, reminding us that human knowledge is above all an affair of the soul and the spirit.



THE SECRET ORDER

PHIL COMEAU | 2022 | 84 MIN | IN FRENCH WITH ENGLISH SUBTITLES

Founded in 1926 to defend the interests of French Canadians, the Ordre de Jacques-Cartier had more than 72,000 members. Over nearly 40 years, this secret society infiltrated the machinery of the state and the private sector. Having learned that his father was a commander in the Order, filmmaker Phil Comeau launches a fascinating investigation into the group.

In **The Secret Order**, former members of the organization step out of the shadows for the first time, witnesses tell their stories and experts offer context and explanation. By retracing his own father's secret journey, Phil Comeau shines a spotlight on the Ordre de Jacques-Cartier and paints a gripping portrait of the social and political struggles faced by Canadian francophone-minority communities during the 20th century.



KOROMOUSO: BIG SISTER

HABIBATA OUARME, JIM DONOVAN | 2023 | 77 MIN | IN FRENCH, ENGLISH
WITH ENGLISH SUBTITLES

With candour, humour and courage, a group of African-Canadian women challenge cultural taboos surrounding female sexuality and fight to take back ownership of their bodies. By interweaving personal accounts, **KOROMOUSO: Big Sister** explores the phenomenon of female genital mutilation (FGM) from the perspective of those who've experienced it. In their quest for individual and collective healing, the film's main characters support each other in a journey that helps them to overcome the trauma of FGM and rebuild their self-esteem.

With great sensitivity, the film examines the shame felt by women who've been subjected to FGM and now live in Canada, a country largely unresponsive to their experience, because while it has banned the practice, it does not offer the reconstructive surgery that could lead to better sexual health.



UNSPOKEN TEARS

HÉLÈNE MAGNY | 2022 | 75 MIN | IN FRENCH WITH ENGLISH SUBTITLES

Despite their young age, some Quebec schoolchildren have already experienced unspeakable horrors. Like their classmates, they're learning to read and write, but, as refugees who've fled war and violence in their homelands, they must also readjust to normal life.

Garine Papazian-Zohrabian, a psychologist specializing in conflict-related trauma, carries the memory of the Armenian genocide and the Lebanese Civil War, which she experienced for 15 years. Today, she trains Quebec

schoolteachers to address the psychosocial issues of refugees arriving in their classrooms.

Unspoken Tears pays tribute to the admirable resilience and survival strategies of these "small adults," whose spirit the bombs and camps have not completely crushed, at a time when it is vital to raise awareness in Western societies of migration-related issues and children's rights.



UNDERTAKER FOR LIFE!

GEORGES HANNAN | 2022 | 52 MIN | IN FRENCH, ENGLISH

Despite their somewhat frightening job title, undertakers are actually charming philosophers and keen observers of life. We only see their sombre side, but away from the funeral rites and on camera, they turn out to be amazingly insightful. Their love of life and the living, their dark humour and comforting wisdom are the best remedies against existential despair.

In *Undertaker for Life!*, Georges Hannan tackles a taboo subject and lifts the veil on an under-appreciated world: that of the artisans of bereavement. By providing behind-the-scenes access to the funeral industry, he demystifies a profession we tend to view as grim. But undertakers are anything but gloomy—they're funny, generous and dedicated. Subtle, moving and often hilarious, *Undertaker for Life!* shows us the flip side of death.



ANYTHING FOR FAME

TYLER FUNK | 2022 | 84 MIN | IN ENGLISH

As the Internet upends traditional notions of celebrity, *Anything for Fame* journeys into the virtual Wild West to profile an ambitious and reckless breed of content creator. Hungry for notoriety, they venture to unprecedented highs—and lows—in pursuit of that white-hot commodity, clout.

Amateur stuntman Peter routinely defies death, leaping between urban rooftops, while suburban prankster Jake stages hair-raising hijinks inspired by the *Jackass* franchise. And Ava now brands herself “New Jersey Trash,”

having parlayed a toilet seat stunt into a lucrative career producing content on OnlyFans.

Only a few will strike it rich. Most find themselves dodging multiple pitfalls as they navigate a ruthless “attention economy.” Online fame can exact a devastating price. While stars rise with meteoric and disorienting speed, they can plummet just as fast—with heartbreaking results.

FEATURE-LENGTH DOCUMENTARIES AND SERIES



NORTH STAR

PATRICK BOSSÉ | 2023 | DOCUMENTARY SERIES - 73 MIN TOTAL | IN FRENCH WITH ENGLISH SUBTITLES

North Star follows the inspiring journey of Laurie Rousseau-Nepton, a resident astronomer at the Canada-France-Hawaii Telescope. As principal investigator for the facility's SIGNALS project, she heads a team of some 60 researchers.

The documentary series chronicles the remarkable daily life of this Quebec-born Innu scientist. From the summit of Hawaii's Mauna Kea volcano, Laurie

scans the skies using state-of-the-art instruments. In five short episodes that combine human interest and science, we meet a determined young woman who excels in what has traditionally been a male-dominated field. A first-rate science communicator, Laurie conveys her passion for celestial objects and the importance of understanding where we come from to gain a better grasp of where we're headed.



UNARCHIVED

HAYLEY GRAY, ELAD TZADOK | 2022 | 85 MIN IN ENGLISH

In community archives across BC, local Knowledge Keepers are hand-fashioning a more inclusive history. Through a collage of personal interviews, archival footage and deeply rooted memories, the past, present and future come together, fighting for a space where everyone is seen and everyone belongs. History is what we all make of it.



THE COLOUR OF INK

BRIAN D. JOHNSON | 2022 | 110 MIN IN ENGLISH, SPANISH AND JAPANESE WITH ENGLISH SUBTITLES

The Colour of Ink uncovers the mystery and power of our oldest medium through the eyes of Jason Logan, a Toronto inkmaker. Harvesting colours from the natural world—weeds, berries, bark, flowers, rocks, rust—he makes ink from just about anything.

FEATURE-LENGTH DOCUMENTARIES AND SERIES



THE MAGNITUDE OF ALL THINGS

JENNIFER ABBOTT | 2020 | 86 MIN
IN ENGLISH AND SPANISH WITH
ENGLISH SUBTITLES

When Jennifer Abbott lost her sister to cancer, her sorrow opened her up to the profound gravity of climate breakdown. Abbott's documentary *The Magnitude of All Things* draws intimate parallels between the experiences of grief—both personal and planetary.



JOHN WARE RECLAIMED

CHERYL FOGGO | 2020 | 72 MIN | IN ENGLISH

John Ware Reclaimed follows Cheryl Foggo on her quest to re-examine the mythology surrounding John Ware, the Black cowboy who settled in Alberta before the turn of the 20th century. Foggo's research uncovers who this iconic figure might have been, and what his legacy means in terms of anti-Black racism.



DEAR AUDREY

JEREMIAH HAYES | 2021 | 89 MIN | IN ENGLISH

Acclaimed activist-filmmaker Martin Duckworth has devoted his life to peace and justice. But now he's put down his camera to fight for the most important cause he's ever faced. While caring for his wife through the final stages of Alzheimer's disease, Martin's love deepens as he looks back on an epic life and career.



INCONVENIENT INDIAN

2020 | 90 MIN | IN ENGLISH, INUKTITUT,
CREE, ANISHINAABEMOWIN WITH
ENGLISH SUBTITLES

In this time of radical change and essential re-examination, *Inconvenient Indian* brings to life Thomas King's brilliant dismantling of North America's colonial narrative, reframing this history with the powerful voices of those continuing the tradition of Indigenous resistance. A crucial part of the conversation between Indigenous Peoples and those of us who have settled, uninvited, on these lands.

SHORT DOCUMENTARIES



LOSING BLUE

LEANNE ALLISON | 2023 | 72 MIN | IN ENGLISH

Losing Blue is a cinematic poem about losing the otherworldly blues of ancient mountain lakes, now fading due to climate change. This short doc immerses the viewer in the magnificence of these rare lakes, pulling us in to stand on their rocky shores, witness their power and understand what their loss would mean.



MODERN GOOSE

KARSTEN WALL | 2023 | 22 MIN 41 S
WITHOUT WORDS

Able to navigate by reading the Earth's magnetic field, at home on land, air and water, geese straddle the territory between ancient instincts and the contemporary world. Combining beauty, humour and profound empathy, Karsten Wall's exquisitely observed film essay embeds in the daily life of these iconic animals to reveal a deeper message of continuity and connection.



AFTERWARDS

ROMANE GARANT CHARTRAND | 2023
24 MIN 51 S | IN FRENCH WITH
ENGLISH SUBTITLES

Inside a shelter, participants in a talking circle share their experiences of intimate partner violence as a way to regain their dignity and strength to act. Powerfully empathetic, *Afterwards* creates a space of sisterhood and solidarity—a chorus of voices breaking down the walls of silence.



FRENCH ENOUGH

ALEXIS NORMAND | 2022 | 18 MIN |
IN ENGLISH AND FRENCH WITH
ENGLISH SUBTITLES

At her family's cabin on Wakaw Lake, Saskatchewan, renowned Fransaskois singer-songwriter Alexis Normand invites audiences into a series of candid exchanges about belonging and bilingualism on the Prairies. Weaving together old home movies with current conversations, *French Enough* illuminates the struggle and triumph of reclaiming francophone Canadian identity.

SHORT DOCUMENTARIES



A PASSAGE BEYOND FORTUNE

WEIYE SU | 2022 | 16 MIN | IN ENGLISH AND CANTONESE WITH ENGLISH SUBTITLES

Within Moose Jaw's warm sepia landscape, *A Passage Beyond Fortune* follows the Chow family as they reflect on the popular but untrue myth surrounding the city's underground tunnels. Weiyue Su brings us an archive containing the buried histories of those whose lasting cultural imprints have offered new ways of connecting with ourselves and our communities.



A MOTORCYCLE SAVED MY LIFE

LORI LOZINSKI | 2022 | 12 MIN | IN ENGLISH

In *A Motorcycle Saved My Life*, the open road presents a point of departure for director Lori Lozinski to process deep-seated grief. Lozinski examines the influence of her parents in the present light of day, in this ode to the complexities of how we sit with our history after loved ones have passed.



LOVE, AMMA

PRAJWALA DIXIT | 2022 | 15 MIN | IN ENGLISH AND KANNADA WITH ENGLISH SUBTITLES

Wanting to demonstrate the courage in vulnerability and the strength in speaking one's truth, a young mother, newly diagnosed with borderline personality disorder, writes her daughter a letter to help her navigate an uncertain future. *love, amma* is a brave and candid attempt to depict mental illness from a new angle.



LOVE, THE LAST CHAPTER

DOMINIQUE KELLER | 2021 | 78 MIN | IN ENGLISH

Inside a seniors' facility, director Dominique Keller follows three couples as they navigate the complexities of late-in-life relationships. Revealing the importance of intimate connections, this observational film builds fully embodied portraits of each individual, in all of their indelible humanity.



WAAPAKE (TOMORROW)

JULES ARITA KOOSTACHIN, PH.D. | 2023 | 80 MIN | IN ENGLISH WITH THE OPTION OF CREE AND FRENCH SUBTITLES

Dr. Jules Arita Koostachin's deeply personal documentary **WaaPaKe (Tomorrow)** asks the difficult question: "Who are we without our pain?"

For generations, the suffering of residential school Survivors has radiated outward, impacting Indigenous families and communities. Children, parents and grandparents have contended with the unspoken trauma, manifested in the lingering effects of colonialism: addiction, emotional abuse and broken relationships.

In her efforts to help the children of Survivors, including herself and her family, Koostachin makes the difficult decision to step in front of the camera and participate in the circle of truth. Moving beyond burying inter-generational trauma, **WaaPaKe (Tomorrow)** is an invitation to unravel the tangled threads of silence and unite in collective freedom and power.



WILFRED BUCK

(availability varies; contact us for information)

LISA JACKSON | 2024 | 96 MIN | IN ENGLISH AND CREE

His name is He Has Dreamt a Dream and Keeps It, but most know him as Wilfred Buck, the Star Man. In his own words, he is "of the fresh-out-of-the-bush, partly civilized, colonized, displaced people." A charismatic Cree Elder with a sly wit, Wilfred is known for collecting the knowledge of Cree astronomy and sharing it across generations. His teachings have taken him from lecture halls to sweat lodges, transcending the boundaries of Western science.

Intimate yet expansive, **Wilfred Buck** is a time-travelling road trip through a harrowing history of displacement and racism, from growing up in 1960s Northern Manitoba to Wilfred's reconnection with the cosmological wisdom of his people. His mission is sharing these life-changing teachings, always guided by ceremony and anchored in the land.



NINAN AUASSAT: WE THE CHILDREN

(available in 2025)

KIM O'BOMSAWIN | 2024 | 91 MIN | IN FRENCH WITH ENGLISH SUBTITLES

Known for her intimate and riveting films, director Kim O'Bomsawin now invites us to experience the vibrant universe of *Ninan Auassat: We the Children*.

Shot over more than six years, the film brings us the moving stories of three groups of children from three different Indigenous nations: Atikamekw, Eeyou Cree and Innu. In following these young people through the crucial

milestones of childhood, right to the threshold of adulthood, we witness their daily lives and aspirations, along with the challenges they face.

Filmed from “a child’s eye-view” and presenting a groundbreaking vision of contemporary Indigenous youth, this documentary is notable for the complete absence of adult voices and “experts on young people”—holding space instead for a new generation with a burning desire to be heard.



KIMMAPIIYIPITSSINI: THE MEANING OF EMPATHY

**ELLE-MÁIJÁ TAILFEATHERS | 2021 | 124 MIN
IN ENGLISH AND BLACKFOOT WITH ENGLISH
SUBTITLES**

Follow filmmaker Elle-Máijá Tailfeathers as she creates an intimate portrait of her community and the impacts of the substance use and overdose epidemic. Witness the change brought by community members with substance-use disorder, first responders and medical professionals as they strive for harm reduction in the Kainai First Nation.

NĪPAWISTAMÂSOWIN: WE WILL STAND UP

TASHA HUBBARD | 2019 | 98 MIN | IN ENGLISH

On August 9, 2016, a young Cree man named Colten Boushie died from a gunshot after entering Gerald Stanley’s rural property. The jury’s subsequent acquittal of Stanley captured international attention, raising questions about racism embedded within Canada’s legal system. This sensitively directed film follows Colten’s family in their pursuit of justice.



LAY DOWN YOUR HEART

MARIE CLEMENTS | 2022 | 70 MIN | IN ENGLISH

An accomplished artist, a lifelong performer and a person with Down syndrome, Niall McNeil has built a unique family tree of blood and chosen relations made up of his closest friends and collaborators. In **Lay Down Your Heart**, Niall introduces his “family members,” his multiple “children” (some twice his age!), his renowned “ex-wife” and director of the film Marie Clements, and more. Bonded together by shared creative passion

and their relationships with Niall, his family includes some of Canada’s most outstanding theatrical and artistic talent.

By exploring his unconventional family histories—sometimes factual, sometimes infused with fantasy, but always deeply felt—Niall’s limitless imagination drives him toward the heart of human connection.



THE ROAD FORWARD

MARIE CLEMENTS | 2017 | 101 MIN
IN ENGLISH

In this inspired musical documentary, writer/director Marie Clements connects a major turning point in Canada’s civil rights history—the beginnings of Indian Nationalism in the 1930s—with the powerful momentum of First Nations activism today. **The Road Forward** is a tribute to the fighters for First Nations rights, a soul-resounding historical experience, and a visceral call to action.



EVER DEADLY

CHELSEA MCMULLAN & TANYA TAGAQ
2022 | 89 MIN | IN ENGLISH AND INUKTITUT
WITH ENGLISH SUBTITLES

Ever Deadly weaves concert footage with stunning sequences filmed on location in Nunavut, seamlessly bridging landscapes, stories and songs with pain, anger and triumph—all through the expressions of Tanya Tagaq, one of the most innovative musical performers of our time.



OUR MATERNAL HOME

JANINE WINDOLPH | 2023 | 27 MIN | IN ENGLISH, CREE

At the suggestion of her inquisitive teen, filmmaker and educator Janine Windolph ventures from Saskatchewan to Quebec with her two children and younger sister, tracing their familial origins to the Cree First Nation of Waswanipi.

As the family embraces time-honoured ways of seeing the land, chooses to hear and sit with stories of the past, and gathers to prepare and share a meal together, their individual perspectives mesh to forge a path of deep and necessary truth telling.

Our Maternal Home lovingly establishes a heart-centred form of resistance to confront and heal from the impacts of cultural disconnection, making space for what comes next. In her latest offering, Windolph once again cultivates sacred connections, just as she did in her 2019 short documentary, *Stories Are in Our Bones*.



STORIES ARE IN OUR BONES

JANINE WINDOLPH | 2019 | 11 MIN | IN ENGLISH

Filmmaker, educator and community worker Janine Windolph left her Cree community in La Ronge, Saskatchewan, as a child, and for many years wasn't sure she would ever return to the land that held her family's stories and memories. But the birth of her two sons led to a powerful desire to reconnect with her homeland and give the boys access to traditional knowledge, kinship and ways of life.

In this layered short film, Janine and her mother, a residential school Survivor, take the city-raised boys fishing. Through the act of connecting themselves and the children to the land, the women embody resistance, demonstrating how a seemingly simple act can be a form of decolonization and food sovereignty for current and future generations.



**MARY TWO-AXE EARLEY:
I AM INDIAN AGAIN**

**COURTNEY MONTOUR | 2020 | 34 MIN
IN ENGLISH, FRENCH**

Mary Two-Axe Earley: I Am Indian Again shares the powerful story of Mary Two-Axe Earley, who fought for more than two decades to challenge sex discrimination against First Nations women embedded in Canada’s *Indian Act* and became a key figure in Canada’s women’s rights movement.



**HONOUR TO SENATOR
MURRAY SINCLAIR**

**ALANIS OBOMSAWIN | 2021 | 29 MIN
IN ENGLISH**

Senator Murray Sinclair was a key figure in raising global awareness of the atrocities of Canada’s residential school system. Alanis Obomsawin shares the powerful speech the Senator gave when he accepted the WFM-Canada World Peace Award, interspersing the heartbreaking testimonies of former students imprisoned at residential schools..



HEARTBEAT OF A NATION

ERIC JANVIER | 2022 | 20 MIN | IN ENGLISH

In the Northern Alberta community of Chipewyan Prairie Dene First Nation, a father teaches his child how to create a caribou drum. In this short documentary, cultural reclamation and traditional knowledge are celebrated and passed down from one generation to the next, inspiring renewed hope for the future.



THE TOURNAMENT

SAM VINT | 2020 | 22 MIN | IN ENGLISH

Over the course of a weekend tournament, youth sled hockey teams from the US and Canada battle for supremacy. Designed for players who have a physical challenge, the fundamentals of the sport—passing, shooting, trash talking your opponents—remain the same. Director Sam Vint captures the end-to-end action as the Manitoba Sledgehammers do it all.



MISS CAMPBELL: INUK TEACHER

HEATHER CAMPBELL | 2023 | 15 MIN
IN ENGLISH, WITH THE OPTION OF
FRENCH OR INUKTITUT SUBTITLES

Part oral history and part visual poem, *Miss Campbell: Inuk Teacher* combines director Heather Campbell's exquisite water-colour paintings of narwals, polar bears, seals and birds with home movies, family photos and lively animation to capture the spirit of an extraordinary woman.



HEBRON RELOCATION

HOLLY ANDERSEN | 2022 | 15 MIN
IN ENGLISH, WITH THE OPTION OF
FRENCH OR INUKTITUT SUBTITLES

Filmmaker Holly Andersen of Makkovik, Nunatsiavut, always knew that the house she lives in carries within its frame the echoes of the forced displacement of northern Labrador Inuit. In *Hebron Relocation*, Andersen explores what makes a place a home as she speaks with friends and family about how the relocation impacted several generations.



NALUJUK NIGHT

JENNIE WILLIAMS | 2021 | 13 MIN
IN ENGLISH, WITH THE OPTION OF
FRENCH OR INUKTITUT SUBTITLES

Run as fast as you can, the *Nalujuit* are here! *Nalujuk Night* is an up-close look at an exhilarating, and sometimes terrifying, Labrador Inuit tradition. Every January 6, from the dark of the Nunatsiavut night, the *Nalujuit* appear on the sea ice.



EVAN'S DRUM

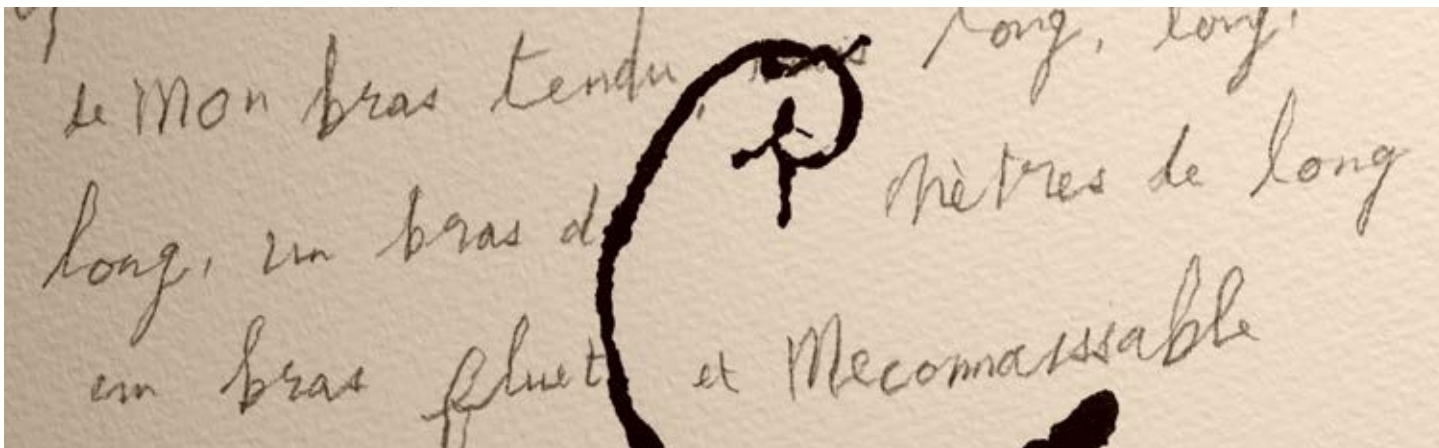
OSSIE MICHELIN | 2021 | 14 MIN
IN ENGLISH, WITH THE OPTION OF
FRENCH OR INUKTITUT SUBTITLES

An adventurous young boy and his determined mother share a passion for Inuit drum dancing in Happy Valley-Goose Bay. After generations of silence, the rhythm of the traditional Inuit drum has returned to Labrador, and seven-year-old Evan is part of the new generation that will keep its heartbeat strong.

DETOURS OF DESTINY – NFB NEW RELEASES



AVAILABLE STARTING SEPTEMBER 1, 2024 (ONE 68-MIN COMPILATION, OR FILMS FROM THE COMPILATION – 16+)



MISERABLE MIRACLE

RYO ORIKASA | 2023 | 8 MIN | IN ENGLISH

Directed by Japanese filmmaker Ryo Orikasa, the animated short **Miserable Miracle** was inspired by Henri Michaux's book of poetry and drawings of the same name. Masterful in both vision and execution, the film explores the limits of language and perception, creating dazzling connections between sound, meaning, shapes and movement. Propelling viewers beyond the page, the poems map the human psyche to the very edges of alienation and transcendence.

Born in Ibaraki, Japan, in 1986, Ryo Orikasa first came to prominence in 2015 with his animated short *Datum Point*, whose long list of awards includes the Golden Zagreb Award (Animafest Zagreb 2016) and Best Experimental or Abstract Animation (Ottawa International Animation Festival 2016). Orikasa is fascinated by great literary works and adapts them into animation with immense sensitivity and originality.



ZEB'S SPIDER

ALICIA EISEN, SOPHIE JARVIS | 2022 | 10 MIN | WITHOUT WORDS

An eight-legged force of fate comes to bear in Alicia Eisen and Sophie Jarvis's new stop-motion film, **Zeb's Spider**.

Inside the safe space of their basement apartment, Zeb fends off the bad luck of the outside world with an assortment of ritualized behaviours. But even in the most insular existence, destiny can unexpectedly drop in. What

begins as a way of coping with an uninvited arachnid soon takes on a monstrous life of its own.

Spinning darkness and humour into a complex emotional web, **Zeb's Spider** offers up a crucial lesson: face your fears, or they just might eat you alive.

DETOURS OF DESTINY – NFB NEW RELEASES



AVAILABLE STARTING SEPTEMBER 1, 2024 (ONE 68-MIN COMPILATION, OR FILMS FROM THE COMPILATION – 16+)



THE HANGMAN AT HOME

MICHELLE AND URI KRANOT 2021 | 14 MIN | WITHOUT WORDS

“What does the hangman think about when he goes home at night from work?”

Inspired by the 1922 Carl Sandburg poem of the same title, *The Hangman at Home* explores themes of acknowledgement and participation. The animated film invites you into five interwoven stories featuring people caught in a pivotal moment: they are fragile, playful, terrified, contemplative, confused,

curious. We watch their intimate deeds in a reflective state, and they gaze back, transforming us from spectators to witnesses. The film is not about hanging people, but about the awkward intimacy that comes with being human, and the connection between spectator, witness and accomplice. *The Hangman at Home* reveals that we are all alike in these moments, while also raising questions of responsibility.



BOAT PEOPLE

THAO LAM, KJELL BOERSMA | 2023 | 9 MIN 59 S | IN ENGLISH

As a little girl in Vietnam, Thao’s mother would rescue ants from bowls of sugar water. The tiny creatures would later return the favour, leading her desperate family through darkness—and pointing the way to safety.

With *Boat People*, illustrator and author Thao Lam undertakes a creative rescue mission of her own, joining forces with animator Kjell Boersma to recount her family’s dramatic trajectory across the turbulent waters of history. They were among over 1.6 million refugees who fled the chaotic aftermath of the

Vietnam War, venturing across the South China Sea in precarious open boats.

A sharply etched personal story, exquisite in its specificity, *Boat People* resonates with universal themes, speaking across time and culture to anyone who’s ever fought to protect the people they love.

DETOURS OF DESTINY – NFB NEW RELEASES



AVAILABLE STARTING SEPTEMBER 1, 2024 (ONE 68-MIN COMPILATION, OR FILMS FROM THE COMPILATION – 16+)



HARVEY

JANICE NADEAU | 2023 | 9 MIN | IN ENGLISH

HARVEY, a short film adapted from the graphic novel of the same name, is a poetic tale about bereavement and coping with the loss of a parent, told through the eyes of a child with an overflowing imagination.

With a child's candour, Harvey recalls the spring day when his world turned upside down. After an exciting afternoon playing outside with his friends, watching toothpicks race along swift-flowing waters in the gutter, Harvey

heads home, rosy-cheeked and with sodden feet. When he gets there, he's shocked to find a crowd gathered, and an ambulance. All he can see of his father is the objects he has left behind. To fill the void created by his departed dad, Harvey will need to rely on his imagination.



TWO APPLES

BAHRAM JAVAHERY | 2022 | 9 MIN
WITHOUT WORDS

When a young woman leaves her homeland in search of a better future, she brings with her a single memento from her past: a ripe apple studded with fragrant cloves. A true labour of love, Bahram Javahery's animated film is infused with longing and the tender perfume of hope.



THE FLYING SAILOR

WENDY TILBY, AMANDA FORBIS | 2022 | 8 MIN
WITHOUT WORDS

Two ships collide in a harbour, an explosion shatters a city, and a sailor is blasted skyward. With ears ringing and guts heaving, he soars high above the mayhem and towards the great unknown. A bold blend of comedy, suspense and philosophy, *The Flying Sailor* is an exhilarating contemplation of the wonder and fragility of existence.

HOTHOUSE 14 | TO SPACE AND BACK



HOTHOUSE 14

AKASH JONES, BIANCA SHONEE ARROYO-KREIMES, CAMERON KLETKE, JENNY YUJIA SHI, MOCHI LIN AND MICHELLE KU | 2024 | 6 FILMS X 1 MIN

In *Amma*, Akash Jones honours the mother who raised him, instilling habits that guide him to this day. In Bianca Shonee Arroyo-Kreimes' *My World, Your Melody*, a choir of tropical frogs performs infectious pop. In *Not Enough Womb for the Two of Us*, Cameron Kletke uses spacious hand-drawn animation to depict an in utero skirmish between twins. In Jenny Yujia Shi's *Red Star Alley*, a vine takes root in old Beijing, witnessing

the passage of time in a traditional hutong. Mochi Lin works with diaphanous stockings and acetate to depict courtship in the insect world in *The Last Tango*. For people living with structural dissociation, falling asleep can be a challenge: Michelle Ku draws on her own personal experience with somatic healing to create *Unblending*.



TO SPACE AND BACK

(57-min compilation – 8+)

This selection of animated films and documentaries takes us on a journey of discovery into astronomy, space and the Milky Way.

First, we meet Innu-born Quebec astrophysicist Laurie Rousseau-Nepton in the opening episode of the *North Star* series, entitled *Observation*. Then, get ready for *Lift Off* and *The Moon Changes*, films in the *Science Please!* series. *NFB Space School* short films *What Does It Feel Like?* and *Extracting Resources* explore the world of astronauts and their missions. *Invasion of the Space Lobsters* offers a humorous take on everything

we don't know about the universe, and *Comet* makes interstellar space accessible, while *Return*, another film from *NFB Space School*, brings us back down to Earth. Two music-filled shorts complete the cosmic journey: *Arctic Song* and *Moon Man*.



MULTI-FACETED GEMS

(36-min compilation – 8+)

It's time for mischief and imagination! In the short musical film ***The Girl with the Red Beret***, Janet Perlman takes us on a colourful underground journey. ***100 Miles*** by Louis Bodart tells the tale of a hilariously derailed holiday trip. ***Big Mouth*** by Andrea Dorfman reminds us that while honesty is a virtue, its unbridled use can lead to trouble. In ***The Girl Who Hated Books***, Jo Meuris brings us a story about an aversion that turns into a passion. ***Stormy Night*** by

Michèle Lemieux explores questions that arise during childhood, and offers some wild answers. Finally, ***Qalupalik*** by Ame Papatsie recounts the legend of the sea monster that punishes unruly children.



CATS ARE EVERYWHERE

(58-minute compilation – 6 +)

THE CAT CAME BACK (7 min)

CATUOR (3 min)

PEEP AND THE BIG WIDE WORLD

(series of three 10-minute films – 34 min)

THE GIRL WHO HATED BOOKS (7 min)

THE DINGLES (7 min)

Long a source of fascination (and adoration) for people and cultures around the world, the lovable house cat can be found in many NFB animated shorts. In this selection of films for ages six and up, sometimes the furry feline turns up as a main character with a thousand and one tricks up its sleeve, and sometimes it just appears, out of the blue, in a chance encounter with possibly serious consequences. But one thing is certain: cats are everywhere!