

A 13-part documentary series Produced by Rezolution Pictures for APTN

Watch the Trailer: **HERE**

Directed by: Ernest Webb and Greg Lawrence **Director Trainee:** Heather Condo

Executive Producers: Catherine Bainbridge, Chrstina Fon, Linda Ludwick,

Ernest Webb & Greg Lawrence Produced by: Lisa M. Roth

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Facebook: www.facebook.com/LastlandTV

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Youtube: series channel here
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Broadcast Premiere:

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GESPE'GEWA'GI THE LAST LAND

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PROMOTIONAL IMAGES

Available here:

https://www.dropbox.com/sh/cr49jjdd87e398k/AAALLgrO_VC0o9qEBEp5ELWua?dl=0

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SYNOPSES

ONE LINER:

A fun and exciting look at a Mi'gmaq commercial fishery and its connection to the people, their traditions, and their homeland.

SHORT SYNOPSIS:

GESPE'GEWA'GI: The Last Land is a 13-part, half-hour documentary series about the Indigenous fishers of Listuguj, Quebec who make their living on the nearby rivers and ocean harvesting salmon, crab, lobster, and shrimp. Following larger-than-life characters, we experience the fun and excitement of their lives on and off the water. We also get a First Nations perspective on how a commercial fishing industry – one that was born out of violence and defiance – grew to be a key economic and cultural support for the community, helping to preserve Mi'gmaq language and traditions that were almost lost.

FULL SYNOPSIS

Set against the beautiful backdrop of Canada's world-renowned Gaspe Peninsula region in Quebec, *GESPE'GEWA'GI: The Last Land* is a 13 x 30 documentary series about a Mi'gmaq community and the people who make their living fishing for crab, lobster, shrimp and salmon.

Fast paced, funny and intimate, it's a ride along with the fishers through long days and nights on the water and connect their work back to the community, Listuguj, a small but feisty reserve on the border of Quebec and New Brunswick. Their success has been hard won over the years, clashes with police, raids and court cases all played a role in the birth and development of the fishery that began humbly but has emerged years later as a multi-million-dollar enterprise with a progressive attitude and a keen eye on the future.

Character driven throughout, *GESPE'GEWA'GI: The Last Land* extends beyond life on the water, bringing us home to Listuguj and going in depth to see how the success of the fishery has driven the success of a community. Everything here has a connection to fishing, from self-governance and environmental sustainability, to bringing back the annual Pow Wow and the Mi'gmaq language to younger generations.

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EPISODE DESCRIPTIONS

Ep 101:

WAITING FOR ICE-BREAK

Logline: The end of winter is here and the community of Listuguj is getting antsy for the opening of the Spring fishing season.

Description: After a long winter, the community of Listuguj is excited for the opening of the 2019 fishing season but they are stuck waiting for ice out and the winds to die down. This episode is an introduction to the people, the land, the history of the fishery, the stand-off and the court case that paved the way for self-governance and a commercial fishery.



Ep 102:

HAIL OUT ON THE SNOW CRAB SEASON

Logline: After days of waiting, Rodney and Peter's snow crab boats are finally ready to hail out for the 2019 season.

Description: It's the first trip of the season and we follow two crab vessels that are finally sailing out to sea to catch their crab quota.. Rodney's trip goes off without a hitch and he is the first to return to port with his catch, but Peter has mechanical problems and what should have been a 30-hour trip stretches into three days and the prospect of lost revenue.



Ep 103:

MI'GWITE'TM: REMEMBERING 1981

Logline: It's June 11th, Mi'gwite'tm, the day to remember the raid of 1981, an event that changed everything in Listuguj.

Description: Mi'gwite'tm is a community event commemorating the anniversary of the 1981 raid. It occurs during the middle of the salmon season while the fishers of Listuguj are hard at work on the river. Elders like Madeleine and Gordon are our eyes as we look back on life before and after the raid and the emotional toll it took on the community.



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Ep 104:

BACK TO THE RIVER WITH PAM

Logline: In Listuguj, where salmon are an integral part of Mi'gmaq tradition, Pam brings her signature enthusiasm to the efforts to save them.

Description: We follow Pam Isaac, one of Listuguj`s most lively characters who has been with the aquaculture team from its inception. Through Pam we find out about the efforts being taken to save the salmon and protect the rivers, and how, much like her, they may travel far away from the Restigouche River but always come home.



Ep 105:

SNOW CRAB FISHING: NOT ALWAYS FUN AND GAMES

Logline: Blayze decides to spice up the crab season with a fun competition for his crew, while Walter spends his time dealing with mechanical troubles.

Description: It's mid-season and Blayze decides to have a fun competition for his crew to see who can pick the best fishing spot. Meanwhile, first year captain Walter Jacques gets the worst vessel in the fleet and struggles to keep it running through a series of mechanical problems. Complicating life for both – the protected Right Whales are moving into the fishing area, forcing fishers to pull their traps from the water and threatening to cut the season short.



Ep 106:

SALMON TRADITION: PASSING IT ON

Logline: A family of salmon fishers Jill, Ricky and Oakley explore how traditional fishing—and the Mi'gmaq language—are both key to the survival of the community.

Description: Jill and Ricky are out on the Restigouche River almost every morning and afternoon during the salmon season. Together, they are passing traditional practices on to a younger generation: Jill's son Oakley. In a parallel story we get a glimpse of the efforts being made to pass on the Mi`gmaq language, which, much like the tradition of salmon fishing, had waned but is now being resurrected.



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Ep 107: THE RANGERS

Logline: The Listuguj Rangers are patrolling the river and putting safety and sustainability first.

Description: In this episode we meet some of the Listuguj rangers who patrol the river and the Baie des Chaleurs, like mother-daughter team June and Ashley, ex-military Don Leo, and supervisor Sonny. Today, the waters are calm but as elders like Peter Metallic tell us, it wasn't always so. From gunshots at night to clashes with the police, the establishment of the community's own fully Indigenous force came about only after a long fight towards self-governance.



Ep 108:

JOSH: FROM HELM TO DECK

Logline: Josh is determined to work his way back up to captain after being demoted to deck hand.

Description: On Captain Timmy Wysote's boat, former captain Joshua Barnaby is back to working as a deck hand. Having been demoted prior to the season for an infraction against a policy of the fishery, he is determined to work his way back to his old position. Meanwhile, back in the community we meet the people who run the Beautification team and Community Garden, direct results of the money that comes from the fishery.



Ep 109:

THE KEDGWICK SALMON LODGE

Logline: 100km away from Listuguj, Mi'gmaq guides are welcoming veterans to a salmon fishing retreat at the Kedgwick Lodge.

Description: Herbie is from a long lineage (133 years) of Indigenous fishing guides at the exclusive Kedgwick Lodge, where the rich and famous have come to fish for over a century. He and the other guides prepare for the 2019 salmon season and ready to welcome their first guests, a group of military veterans. Fishing can be a little slower these days. The Kedgwick River used to be abundant with salmon, but today, the stocks have diminished significantly. We'll find out what the Listuguj science team is doing to try and increase the population of salmon in the river.



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Ep 110:

LITA AND THE POW WOW CREW

Logline: The fishing season takes a mid-summer pause, but Lita and her Pow Wow crew are in full swing – rain or shine.

Description: It's mid-summer, snow crab, lobster and salmon seasons are over, rock crab will start soon and the shrimp fishers are the only ones out on the water. It's the perfect time for the community pow wow We'll follow pow wow organizer Lita Isaac and her pow wow "family" as the weekend unfolds, to some surprise weather and surprise help. We also get the chance to check in with our fishers from other episodes.



Ep 111:

SHRIMP FISHING: THE LONG HAUL

Logline: Steven and the crew of the GC Macdonald hail out for an 8-day journey to net thousands of pounds of shrimp.

Description: We follow Steven Clement and his crew on a shrimp vessel that goes out for 8-9 days at a time in the gulf of St. Lawrence. We find out what it's like to be away for that long, from April to November, and how personalities aboard have to learn to get along. Long, long hours at sea, intense weather, bursts of backbreaking work interspersed with hours of mind-numbing boredom. Away from family and friends, no cell reception, just the sea, the shrimp, the seagulls and the other crew members.



Ep 112:

FATHER & SON ROCK CRAB TEAM

Logline: Father-son rock crab fishing team Albert and Chris must do some creative problem-solving to finish their day on the water.

Description: Father-son team Albert and Chris go out on a mid-summer fishing trip together. The waters are calm and it looks like just another day on the water when suddenly, the boats hydraulics start acting up. They need to rely on each other, and some creative problem solving to continue fishing. Albert, Listuguj's first commercial lobster fisher reminisces about the early days of the fishery, the struggles and politics that he and his friends went through to get to where they are today.



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Ep 113: THE FALL LOBSTER FISHERY

Logline: Despite conflict with the DFO, Listuguj launches its Fall commercial Lobster fishery, looking toward a future of increased selfgovernance and economic success.

Description: Marcus is the youngest captain in the Listuguj fleet. Running a boat since his early teens he is now a 10-year veteran behind the wheel at age 23. We follow his crew during the communal fall Lobster season. But this year there are new tensions as Listuguj incorporates a commercial aspect to the fall fishery that puts them at odds with the DFO and the government.

Meanwhile, indefatigable Pam her aquaculture team are working hard to get the lobster cooked and bagged to give away to the community and elders.



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CHARACTER AND SUBJECT BIOS

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Listuguj - Located on the shores of the Restigouche River the community of Listuguj is part of Gespe'gewa'gi (The Last land), the 7th largest district of Mi'gma'gi. The area has always been Mi'gmaq and Listugujiewag territory including what is now known as the Gaspe Peninsula, parts of mainland Quebec and Maine, and North eastern New Brunswick.

Dr. Fred Metallic – Dr. Fred Metallic is a lifetime citizen of Gespe'gewa'gi, and a resident of Listuguj, where he works as the Director of Natural Resources for the Listuguj Mi'gmaq government. In addition to his work as a researcher, community organizer, and educator, Dr. Fred is a Gept'n (delegate) on the traditional governing body of the Mi'gmaq, the *Sante Wawiomi* (Grand Council). Dr. Fred holds a PhD from York University, where he delivered the first PhD dissertation in Canada to be written and defended in an indigenous language.

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Rodney Barnaby – A quiet and steady force on the water, Rodney Barnaby is the patriarch of the snow crab fishers. A family man who has ushered his sons into the fishery, he works alongside his wife Tracy. He approaches snow crab fishing the same way he approaches everything, with a slow and measured calmness that puts safety, family and community first.

Peter Martin – With a heart as big as his personality, Peter is brash, optimistic and a bit of a cowboy. He may have the smallest boat but he produces as much as anyone which is a good thing when you have nine kids. He loves the water, loves his life and isn't shy about sharing any of that.

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Mi'gwite'tm - Mi'gwite'tm is an annual community march and salmon feast commemorating the anniversary of the 1981 raid where a violent raid by the Quebec Police and Wardens. The aftermath of the clash rekindled community pride and the fight for self-determination and rights helped spawn the commercial fishery.

Gary Metallic Sr. – A respected elder, a Seventh District Tribal Chief and a mainstay in the community, Gary has spent his entire adult life fighting for the rights of the Mi'qmaq people. One of the driving forces behind the establishment of the commercial fishery, Gary remains relentless in his ongoing push for treaty rights.

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Pam Isaac - The heart of Listuguj, Pam is a driving force in the community, endlessly cheerful and seemingly tireless, she fills every moment of every day with a purpose. From her work as a

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lead Aquaculture Technician for the Listuguj science team and volunteering for everything under the sun, she is one of the engines that keeps the community running always with joy, laughter and a smile. She is self-deprecating and has charm for miles.

The Listuguj Mi'qmaq Government (LMG) - Listuguj is not an individual community in isolation, but rather an integral part of Gespe'gewa'gi and Mi'gma'gi focused on the assertion of Mi'gmaq nationhood on traditional lands by providing a Community Vision and a course of action that supports self-reliance, cooperation, and self-governance locally in Listuguj, regionally in Gespe'gewa'gi, and nationally in Mi'gma'gi.

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Blayze Isaac – Known to his fellow snow crab fishers as the crab whisperer, Blayze is a quiet presence on the water who runs a tight ship, demands a lot of his crew and gives a lot in return. A man of few words, he consistently brings in the highest yields of snow crab. Blayze takes an analytical approach to catching crab and runs his boat with clockwork efficiency.

Walter Jaques – First year captain Walter Jacques, saddled with the vessel that has a long history of mechanical problems, guides his cobbled-together crew through the crab season and comes out the other side a little wiser, with the well earned respect of the other captains and his quota met.

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Ricky, Jill & Oakley - The family that fishes together, stays together. When Jill met avid fisher and hunter Ricky a little over a decade ago, she didn't imagine she would fall this much in love with salmon fishing. It is an important connection to her Mi'qmaq heritage and one she is proud to pass down to her son Oakley, one of the youngest fishers on the river.

Lillian Germain - As a teacher, Lillian spent the last few decades educating the children of Listuguj. Most recently, her love of teaching combined with her passion to return the language to the community. She authored a children's book in Mi'qmaq that has now become a core part of the Listuguj primary school curriculum.

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Don Leo Arsenault – A former Marine who has returned home to Listuguj, Don Leo is one of the senior Rangers patrolling the waters of the Restigouche River. A stickler for the rules but always respectful of others, he is a quiet force at work and a loud force in his basement with one of his many guitars blasts through one of the several hundred custom guitar pedals he makes in his spare time.

Ashley Barnaby – Connected to the water through her father Donny Germain -- one of them men who pled not guilty after the raid in 1981 -- Ashley now works as a Riparian, patrolling the river for the Listuguj Rangers, and following in the footsteps of her mother June who also works

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as a Listuguj Ranger. Her other passion in life is being a spokesperson for organ donation, a job she came to out of necessity when her second son was born with kidney disease and needed an organ donation to save his life.

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Josh Barnaby - Josh's easy-going take life at it comes motto is put to the test during a trying fishing season. After losing his job as a captain, Josh has to return to the deck and begin the process of working his way back up. With unwavering optimism and a good natured approach, Josh tackles the task with his usual laugh and work ethic. You can't keep a good man down.

Anna Wysote – As the director of the Listuguj Community Garden , Anna has helped implement and oversee the new initiative for the community. More than just a job creation program, the community garden also works to reconnect with traditional practices while fulfilling a vital role in sustainability. Open to all members of the community, the garden also keeps the shelves of the local food bank stocked and provides produce to close to 170 elders.

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Herbie Martin – Beginning his 53rd season as a guide at the world famous Kedgwick Salmon Lodge (A job he took over from his father who also guided for more than half a century), Herbie is a genial, soft-spoken man and a member of the all-Indigenous guiding staff. He is eternally patient and gentle and has an endless supply of jokes and smiles. Like the river he has spent his life on, Herbie goes with the flow.

Tommy Larocque – Even though he is one of the newer guides with only a couple of decades of experience, Tommy has an in-depth knowledge of the river and salmon fishing. His optimism is infectious and when he's not on the river he spends his time being a dad and grandfather to his kids and foster kids. He is also an accomplished guitar player and singer, and member of the local band The Mi'gmaw Boys.

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Lita Isaac – Close to 30 years ago, someone in Listuguj had the idea to resurrect the traditional powwow. Lita Isaac took the job to head it up and she's never left. From humble beginnings, the powwow has grown to one of the largest in Eastern Canada thanks in large part to Lita's determination and tireless work ethic. Communities often run because of the hard work of people behind the scenes and Listuguj is no different, made better and closer connected to its cultural traditions because of women like Lita.

Powwow history – The raids of 1981 sparked a renewed passion for Listuguj to reconnect with their traditions. This led to the resurrection of the powwow and over the past 28 years it has grown from humble beginnings to a four day exposition of drumming, songs, and dances – along with Indigenous crafts and foods and of course, a sacred fire for prayer and ceremony. A

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feast is provided for thousands with salmon caught from the river, fiddleheads picked over the course of weeks by community members and moose meat provided by Listuguj hunters.

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Steven Clement – A blended family, six kids, months away at sea shrimp fishing, yet Stephen makes it all work. Quick with a laugh and always with a story ready, Stephen spends 7 months a year chasing shrimp with a few short breaks at home to reconnect with his wife and kids. Life on the shrimp boat is a tough go, each trip lasting 9 days and spent clustered in tight quarters on the open water, pulling shrimp nets every 4 to six hours, around the clock, for days on end.

Syllis Swasson – Syllis approaches shrimp fishing like he approaches life, calculated, head down and working hard through the ups and downs. When he's not pulling nets, he can usually be found in the galley cooking for the rest of the crew. What little free time is left is usually spent quietly with a book. Syllis has a love-hate relationship with shrimp fishing but the excitement and unpredictable nature of the job keeps pulling him back onto the water and at the end of the day, he can't imagine doing anything else.

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Chris Wilmot – Few people fill a day like Chris Wilmot. He captains his own lobster boat during the commercial season and for rock crab fishing he teams up with the man who taught him how to fish, his father Albert. Chris has one speed – fast. It's how he talks and how he works. Up with the sun, on the water for the morning pulling traps, then home, then several hours cooking lobster, cram in a meal when he remembers, then off to the rink for his other passion – hockey, back home, shower, set the alarm, ready to do it all again the next day.

Albert Wilmot – Albert is the polar opposite to his son Chris. He's quiet and measured and has enough experience on the water that few things surprise him. Leaving his job as an iron worker, he became one of the first Indigenous commercial fishers from Listuguj. The early days were rough, bullying and racism at the docks and on the water were common. Albert plowed ahead despite it all. His son Chris and the other commercial fishers of Listuguj walk an easier path now because of men like Albert.

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Marcus Wysote- Despite being the youngest commercial Captain in Listuguj at 24 years old, lobster fisherman Marcus already has over a decade of experience on the water. Serious beyond his years, his quiet confidence serves him well as he guides his crew. Despite getting seasick during the early years, he loved the job and stuck with it. It's something he hopes to pass along to his two young sons.

The Fall Fishery – As part of their lobster law, the people of Listuguj have a 2-week fishing season during the fall to catch and provide lobster for the community. A percentage of the catch is cooked daily in a makeshift kitchen and provided to community members and elders. The

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2019 fall lobster fishery is the first time Listuguj has set out to incorporate a small commercial aspect to the fishery to cover the costs of crews, running the boats and bait. The Department of Fisheries and Oceans is against the commercial aspect and tensions begin to rise.

LISTUGUJ NATURAL RESOURCES

As the hub of the commercial fishery, NR oversees all aspects of the budget, boats, crew and the quota of a multi-million-dollar fishery. Their approach aggressively protects the rights of Mi'qmaq fishers while always being mindful of sustainability and maintaining a healthy fishery for generations to come.

Denny Isaac – Newly promoted to Fisheries Manager, Denny is fully immersed in all aspects of the fishery from the water to the boardroom. A lifelong Listuguj resident, his easy-going nature never gets in the way of his determination to fight for the rights of the fishery and the community. Denny can often be found acting as the emcee for various community events and posting reports from the community on Facebook.

James Metallic-Sloan – James stepped into Denny's old job as the fisheries coordinator and it's a steep learning curve. With some past experience working on the boats, James is now seeing the other side of the commercial fishery – boardrooms, budgets and schedules. Juggling contracts, the needs of the fishers and trying to find the right balance to make everyone happy.

Meredith Bernard– Meredith is the Fisheries Assistant manager, mother to snow crab fisher J.D. and a tireless worker when it comes to the nuts & bolts of making the fishery run. Constantly reacting to conditions and changes she stays on top of the overall schedule, quotas and maintenance needs of the fleet of Listuguj boats.

SCIENCE & RESEARCH TEAM

Listuguj has always based their fishery on science and sustainability and remain one of the leading fisheries in this regard. To the Mi'qmaq, the right to fish is intrinsically tied with the need to protect all of the species so their populations remain healthy and bountiful for generations to come.

Carole-Anne Gillis - a biologist tasked with study the migration patterns and health of the salmon in the Restigouche watershed. She has also helped initiate a new program to breed and stock salmon fry in tributaries along the Restigouche to increase the salmon population.

Krista Ransier– A marine biologist, Krista works alongside the lobster fishers collecting data and studying the molt patterns of the lobster to ensure the population is healthy and to establish when best to schedule the lobster fishing season to best protect the species.

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COMMUNITY AND HISTORY

The Community Garden – A new initiative to provide fresh organic food for the community. It is part work initiative and part reconnecting with traditional practices. The garden provides for the local foodbank, the community at large and for the elders.

The Beautification Team – Partially funded by the commercial fishery, the beautification team addresses landscaping and maintenance for community buildings, especially for the homes of the elders. They also step in and help where needed with everything from helping with the powwow to setting up chairs for feasts at the bingo hall.

Salmon Law & Lobster Law – As part of their self-governing approach. Listuguj has created and implemented their own set of salmon and lobster laws to set the quotas and terms of their fisheries. These laws have now been recognized provincially and federally. One key aspect of both laws is the strict adherence to environmental concerns, making them world leaders in sustainability and species protection while maintaining a commercially viable fishery.

The 1981 Raid – In the summer of 1981 over 300 Quebec police officers and game wardens descended on Listuguj. Their goal was to stop the Mi'qmaq from practicing their traditional rights to net for salmon on the Restigouche River. Quick and violent, the initial raid led to a stand-off and lit the spark for what would eventually become a court ruling recognizing their rights and the fledging launch of a commercial fishery that has grown in present day to become a multispecies, multi-million dollar a year industry.

Donny Germain – An iconic figure in Listuguj and to all Mi'qmaq people in Eastern Canada, Donny was one of the men arrested and beaten during the raid in 1981 for refusing to kneel for the police. He went on to plead not guilty to the charges levelled against him and is revered as a key figure in the fight to establish Indigenous fishing rights in Eastern Canada.

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BACKGROUND

WHERE DID THE IDEA FOR THE SHOW COME FROM?

In late 2017, Ernest Webb was poking around for new documentary series ideas to propose to APTN. Katrina Metallic, who worked with Ernest at one of Rezolution's sister companies, Beesum Communications and Minority Media in Montreal, told him about the community she comes from, Listuguj, a Mi'gmaq reserve in Eastern Quebec. She told him how Listuguj was a strong, tight, proud community with a commercial fishing industry. He was immediately intrigued.

Katrina connected us with key people in the community, including her father Gary Metallic Sr. (hereditary chief), and helped us organize a "casting" interview session with fishermen. Ernest, Greg, and Lisa took a road trip to Listuguj to research and film a demo video for APTN. Heather came in from Gesgapegiag (1 hour away) to join the team. What they found was that this Mi'gmaq community wanted their stories to be seen and heard, they wanted the rest of Canada know who they are. The rest is history!

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Production Company Bio:

Rezolution Pictures Inc. is an award-winning film, television and interactive media production company, founded by Ernest Webb and Catherine Bainbridge, which plays a vital role in bringing cultural diversity to the North American broadcasting landscape. Since 2001 it has built itself a reputation for creating acclaimed series and one-of-a-kind productions, working with many of Canada's best new and established Indigenous talents to create unique comedy, dramatic, and documentary films and television series. In addition to the Emmy-nominated, Sundance, Hot Docs, and Canadian Screen Award winner, feature documentary RUMBLE: The Indians Who Rocked the World, the company produced the multiple-Gemini and Peabody Award-winning film Reel Injun, as well as the dramatic comedy series Mohawk Girls, several other award-winning documentaries including The Oka Legacy, Smoke Traders, The Last Explorer, and Club Native. Rezolution has been producing content in for APTN for over a decade, creating successful programming in English and Indigenous languages such as Down the Mighty River, Working it Out Together, Dream Big, Indians + Aliens, Dreamcatcher Bios, and Gespe'gewa'gi: The Last Land.

KEY CREATIVE PERSONNEL LIST:

Executive Producer / Co-Writer / Co-Director

Greq Lawrence

Executive Producer / Co-Director

Lisa M. Roth

Producer

Heather Condo (Mi'gmaq)

Trainee Director

Catherine Bainbridge

Executive Producer / Producer

Christina Fon

Executive Producer / Producer

Linda Ludwick

Executive Producer/Producer

Gary Metallic Sr. (Mi'gmaq)

Consultant

Joe Wilmot (Mi'gmag)

Narrator (Mi'gmaq) & Language Supervisor

Justin Caldwell

Narrator (English)

Diane Mitchell (Mi'gmaq)

Language Supervisor

Carl Freed

Editor / Co-Writer

Rebecca Lessard

Editor / Co-Writer

Julian Morelli

Editor / Co-Writer

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BIOS

Ernest Webb (Cree)

Executive Producer / Writer / Co-Director

Born in Moose Factory, ON, and raised in the Cree community of Chisasibi, QC, Ernest Webb has devoted his life to telling the stories of Canada's Indigenous peoples across all media. In 2001 he and his wife Catherine Bainbridge co-founded Rezolution Pictures.

Ernest's credits include Executive Producer on RUMBLE: The Indians Who Rocked the World, a Sundance, HotDocs and Canadian Screen Awards winner, comedy series Mohawk Girls and the Peabody Award winning feature documentary Reel Injun, co-produced with the NFB and the CBC. Ernest was Co-director and Co-writer on the Gemini-nominated Down the Mighty River, and also on two seasons of the documentary series Indians + Aliens for APTN.

Ernest is also a founding member of Beesum Communications, an independent Cree majorityowned and operated communications company and publisher of The Nation, the news source for the James Bay Cree territory in Quebec and Ontario.

Greg Lawrence

Executive Producer / Co-Director

Greg Lawrence began partnering with Ernest Webb and the team at Rezolution Pictures in 2014, for "Indians + Aliens, Season 2". Greg's background in the entertainment world includes being stand-up comic, which eventually transitioned into script writing. He has 25+ years of experience in the television industry as a director / writer /showrunner, and has written and produced 350+ episodes of series television. Greg's work has been featured in Canada and abroad, and he has been nominated for two CSA's and seven Canadian Comedy Awards. Greg shares a passion for Indigenous content and storytelling, and his unique perspective helps to bring these stories to the screen for a wide audience.

Lisa M. Roth

Producer

Lisa M. Roth has been one of the key forces behind documentary productions at Rezolution Pictures since 2007. She is passionate about bringing Indigenous stories to mainstream media with respect, integrity, and a healthy dose of humour -- while still challenging perceptions and creating a dialogue about Native identity.

Lisa's talent and skills as a producer have contributed to the success of almost twenty television and film productions with Rezolution Pictures – many of them for APTN. In addition to Gespe'gewa'gi: The Last Land, her credits include the Emmy-nominated, Sundance, Hot Docs, and Canadian Screen award-winning feature documentaries RUMBLE: The Indians Who Rocked the World, and Gemini & Peabody winner Reel Injun; documentary series Dreamcatcher Bios, Indians + Aliens, Down the Mighty River (as co-writer and co-director), and Working It Out Together; one-offs The Last Explorer, The Oka Legacy, and Smoke Traders.

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Heather Condo (Mi'gmaq)

Trainee Director

Heather Condo is a Mi'gmaq filmmaker from Gesgapegiag. Heather's partner is Stephen Jerome Sr., a traditional Mi'gmaq basket maker. It was one of Heather's dreams to make a film about her husband's gift and it only came to fruition when her son Zach encouraged her to make one with Wapikoni Mobile. That film, "My Father's Tools", not only made it to the Sundance Film Festival but it was chosen by Robert Redford himself to be screened before his own feature. Heather's insight and storytelling ability made her a natural fit to work with the Rezolution film crew on Gespe'gewa'gi: The Last Land, a series so close to her heart and her community.

Catherine Bainbridge

Executive Producer / Producer

Catherine Bainbridge brings her trademark energy and enthusiasm to a range of key roles. She's adept at shaping innovative business strategies, bringing together talented creators, and applying her expertise in powerful character-based storytelling.

Co-founder of Rezolution Pictures with Ernest Webb in 2001, she's led the way as Rezolution has expanded beyond its documentary roots into comedy and drama programming. Catherine has co-directed the Peabody Award-winning Documentary Reel Injun, and wrote and directed RUMBLE: The Indians Who Rocked the World, an Emmy-nominated, Sundance, HotDocs and Canadian Screen Awards winner. Her recent documentary credits include the APTN series Mohawk Girls, Working It Out Together, and Indians & Aliens, and Dreamcatcher Bios.

Christina Fon

Vice-President/Executive Producer

With over 27 years of sales, financing and production experience, a 2020 Emmy Nominated producer and Sundance and Peabody Award winner Christina Fon has built an exceptional international reputation for herself in the global entertainment industry. Currently an executive producer for Rezolution Pictures International, Christina has been recognized for her success with multiple Canadian Screen, Hot Docs, and Gemini Awards and most recently a 2020 Emmy nomination for Outstanding Arts and Culture Documentary. Continuing to focus on an international scale, Christina is committed to telling stories meant to inspire, impact and entertain audiences the globe over.

Linda Ludwick

Executive Producer/Producer

An invaluable member of the Rezolution Pictures International team, Linda Ludwick offers a rare mix of financial and production expertise. She's been responsible for financial management since the company's inception. Her production credits include the Peabody Award-winning Reel Injun, the Emmy-nominated Sundance, Canadian Screen, Hot Docs award winning feature

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documentary Rumble: The Indians Who Rocked the World, . Linda was also at the helm for the dramatic comedy series Mohawk Girls for APTN and OMNI, nominated for 4 Canadian Screen Awards in 2016. Linda is also a founding member of Beesum Communications, an independent Cree majority-owned and operated communications company and publisher of The Nation, where she has been Director of Finance for 25 years.

Gary Metallic Sr. (Mi'gmaq) Consultant

Gary Metallic Sr., Hereditary Chief of Gespe'gewa'gi, the seventh district tribal council of the Mi'gmaq, is a father of five who has lived in the community of Listuguj, Quebec for most of his life. Gary attended Indian day school from 1958 to 1967. He worked as a laborer until 1975 and became a union ironworker for 42 years. Appointed as 7th District Chief in 1990, he still holds that position and is currently involved in protecting Ml'gmaq original and treaty rights and Mi'gmaq jurisdiction within the 7th District.

Gary is an avid hunter, fisherman and community supporter. He is passionate about history and spends most of his time researching & compiling historical facts and events. He is highly solicited by community elders, politicians, youth and other nations for his advice and support. He recently built a community hunting lodge with a co-member of the Tribal Council, Mr. Frank Sorbey. Gary is an advocate for the preservation of the Mi'gmaq culture, language and rights.

Joe Wilmot

Narrator (Mi'gmag version) & Language Supervisor

Listuguj-born Joe Wilmot comes from a long family history of interests with the Mi'gmaq language. By trade a construction worker, Joe, a fluent Mi'gmaq speaker, was hired as a Mi'gmaq language teacher in 2000 at the Listuguj Education Directorate. He has been working with the language ever since. Projects he has contributed to include the Mi'gmaq Online Dictionary, Mi'gmaq CAN 8, and the Language Focus Group. When Joe finds spare time he enjoys canoeing, playing music, and camping. On Sundays he entertains the elders at the nursing home across the river in Cambelton, NB, with his guitar, and a little 50s and 60s country and bluegrass music that they all enjoy.

Diane Mitchell

Language Supervisor, Mi'gmaq

Diane Mitchell is a teacher and translator from Listuguj. She is one of the creators of Mi'gmaq-Mi'kmaq Online, a talking online dictionary and resource designed to retain and promote the language. She tweets a Mi'gmaw word of the day from the dictionary via Pemaptoq. Diane lived in Ontario for many years before returning to her home community where she continues as a Mi'gmaw language teacher. Earlier she worked in theatre production. In her spare time she enjoys digging through archives for historic Mi'gmaw material and getting out on the land to breathing in the clean fresh air of her home territory.

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Justin Caldwell

Narrator (English version)

Justin hails from the small salmon-fishing community of Matapedia, Quebec. Since 2001, has worked as a radio announcer at CHRQ 106.9, in the First Nations community of Listuguj. Justin DJ's and hosts everything from the Friday Night All-Request Country Show to Sunday bingo draws. He also sells advertising, writes and produces commercials, records voice-over, and helps with the program direction. In his free time, he watches YouTube with his cat.

Carl Freed

Editor / Co-Writer

Carl Freed is a filmmaker, writer, film editor, and story consultant from Montreal. Carl works as an editor in television, both fiction and documentary genres that feature such diverse characters as a young trans-man fighting for LGBT youth, and Henry Kissinger. Carl has edited several Rezolution Pictures documentaries, including Tracey Deer's NFB feature, Club Native which won two Gemini awards, including the Canada Award, as well as APTN documentary series Indians + Aliens 1, Working It Out Together 2, and Dreamcatcher Bios. He was also the editor and co-writer on Bunbury Films' The Lady in Number 6, which won an Oscar for best documentary short in 2014.

Rebecca Lessard

Editor / Co-Writer

Rebecca Lessard has worked as an editor on multiple television, documentary, short film and digital projects, including Gespe'gewa'gi: The Last Land , Working it Out Together, and Dreamcatcher Bios for APTN. A member of the Visual Researcher's Society, Rebecca is credited as visual researcher on RUMBLE: The Indians Who Rocked the World, the Sundance, Hot Docs and Canadian Screen award-winning documentary feature. She is also a musician, the creator/director of Dishing Up the Past, a web series which aims to collect recipes and kitchen stories from first- and second-generation immigrants in Montreal, and has facilitated digital storytelling workshops with refugee youth and other marginalized populations.

Julian Morelli

Editor / Co-Writer

Julian loves telling a good story... even better when the stories are real. Over the past 15 years, he has edited countless hours of documentary and factual television. Digging into the footage, Julian excels at finding those precious bits of reality needed to craft authentic and gripping storylines. Some of his editing experience can be seen on Hellfire Heroes (Discovery) Interrupt this Program (CBC) and most recently Gespe'gewa'gi: The Last Land (APTN). His work has earned him a Gémaux nomination for best editing in a lifestyle show. Julian is a freelance television editor based in Montreal, working in both English and French content.