

Rezolution Pictures announces greenlight for second season of <u>GESPE'GEWA'GI: The Last Land</u> on APTN A documentary series set in Mi'kmaq fishing community

Half-hour series offers Indigenous perspective of First Nations commercial fishing industry –

Montreal, August 4, 2021 — Rezolution Pictures is very proud to announce that APTN has greenlit the second season of *GESPE'GEWA'GI: The Last Land* for a 10-part, half-hour episode series. Pre-production is scheduled to begin in August and shooting commences in Fall 2021, continuing into Summer 2022 in the Mi'gmaq communities of Quebec, Nova Scotia and New Brunswick.

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

GESPE'GEWA'GI: The Last Land, Season 2, is a documentary series about the Indigenous men and women of Mi'gmagi who work for Indigenous-run commercial fisheries. Following larger-than-life characters, we experience the fun and excitement of their lives on and off the water. We also get an inside perspective on how First Nations commercial fishing industries — that were born out of violence and defiance — grew to be a key economic and cultural support for the communities.

The subject is quite topical as two events have been in the news in the last year: The conflicts between Nova Scotia's Mi'kmaq and non-Indigenous commercial fishers and the British Columbia Court of Appeal's upholding of parts of a lower court ruling that Canada's regulation and management of regular commercial fisheries unjustifiably infringed on the First Nations fishers' rights to harvest and sell fish.

The first season of the documentary series about the Mi'gmaq fishers of Listuguj, Que., who make their living on the nearby waters harvesting salmon, crab, lobster and shrimp, was first broadcast in Winter 2021 and the entire season is re-running on APTN now as well as on APTN lumi.

Featuring some of the larger-than-life characters from Season One and introducing some new brave, funny, and robust fishers, biologists, Elders and community members, Season Two will be anchored in Listuguj but also travel to other Indigenous fisheries in Mi'kmaq territory, such as Gesgapegiag, Que., Eel River Bar, N.B., and Sipekne'katik, N.S. It will continue to showcase life on the water, the science and conservation efforts being put forward, and the history, culture, and community of the Mi'gmagi.

GESPE'GEWA'GI: The Last Land is co-executive produced by Ernest Webb (Cree) and Greg Lawrence, produced by Lisa M. Roth. Season 2 combines the directing talent of Ernest Webb, Greg Lawrence, and Courtney Montour (Mohawk). In season 2, Heather Condo (Mi'gmaq) returns as Director Trainee and April Maloney (Mi'kmaq) comes on board as director of photography trainee, with the support of the ISO-Netflix Indigenous Production Apprenticeship Program.

The series received support from major media during its first season, including coverage by the Globe and Mail and CTV's midday talk show, *The Social*. Over three months, the trailer garnered over 54,000 views.

Watch the Season One TRAILER HERE: https://bit.ly/3ch5xiF Photo link below.

About Rezolution Pictures

Rezolution Pictures is an award-winning production company led by Ernest Webb (Cree) and Catherine Bainbridge (co-founders and executive producers), Christina Fon (vice-president and executive producer), and Linda Ludwick (CFO and executive producer). Rezolution is best known for its original and trailblazing productions such as feature documentaries RUMBLE: The Indians Who Rocked the World, which screened worldwide and won multiple awards at Sundance. Hot Docs, and the Canadian Screen Awards, among others, and was nominated for an Emmy award; and Reel Injun, which won multiple Geminis, and a Peabody Award. Aging Well Suzuki Style, their Nature of Things feature has been nominated for 2021 Canadian Screen Award for Best Biography or Arts Documentary Program or Series. Rezolution also made its mark in scripted television with the Canadian Screen Award-nominated comedy series, Mohawk Girls, which aired for five seasons on APTN, was recently broadcast as part of Air Canada's in-flight entertainment and is now available on CBC GEM. From ground-breaking documentaries to innovative scripted series, Rezolution has helped shape Canada's film and television industry for the past two decades, working with many of the country's best new and established talents to create unique content, as well as video game and virtual reality content through its sister company, Minority Media. An effective mix of production, creative, and executive experience has positioned Rezolution for global success as it turns its focus to developing and producing premium content with international partners.

About APTN

<u>APTN</u> launched in 1999 as the world's first national Indigenous broadcaster, creating a window into the remarkably diverse mosaic of Indigenous Peoples. A respected non-profit and charitable broadcaster, it's the only one of its kind in North America. The network is Sharing Our Stories of authenticity in English, French and a variety of Indigenous languages to over 10 million Canadian subscribers. With over 80% Canadian content, APTN connects with its audiences through genuine, inspiring and engaging entertainment on multiple platforms.

Photos and press materials available here: https://bit.ly/3pebvEg

Facebook: <u>www.facebook.com/LastlandTV</u>

Instagram: @lastlandtv

YouTube clips:

https://www.youtube.com/playlist?list=PLtG7IRiTb0MPvL3vY4bJSIBKpiams4iw6

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