184 Mohawk Street Brantford, Ontario Tel: (519) 759-2650 woodlandculturalcentre.ca



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

"Residential School is the only school you're considered a survivor and not a graduate." WCC to premiere screenings of *Silent No More*

The Woodland Cultural Centre is presenting several showings of *Silent No More*, a dramatic, new, Indigenous-produced film that tells the story of the Mohawk Institute. More than just a virtual tour, *Silent No More* bears witness to the experiences of the survivors of the former residential school.

The former Mohawk Institute Residential School (Mush Hole) was the longest-operating residential school in Canada. A building originally created to destroy Indigenous identity and heritage, it is now the home of the Woodland Cultural Centre, a site dedicated to the revitalization of Hodinohsho:ni cultures and languages.

When talking about the film, Heather George, Executive Director of the Centre, notes that "Nothing about us, without us' is often used in relation to Indigenous stories and it's all the more poignant when used in relation to Survivor stories. This film is an opportunity for people who haven't heard from Survivors of residential schools, to bear witness to their experiences and to better understand the ongoing impacts of residential schools on Indigenous communities today."

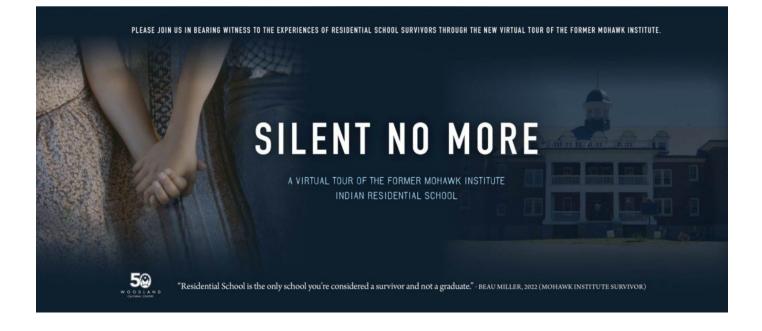
Silent No More was produced by Indigenous Filmmakers Sally Kewayosh and Lydell Mitchell of Achimowin Films. WCC thanks the Educational Enhancement Project, Inspirit, Brant Community Foundations, McLean Foundation, The Slaight Family Foundation, CIBC Foundation, and TD Bank Foundation for their generous support in bringing this project to life.

There are several showings already confirmed: Saturday, June 17 at 6:30PM Woodland Cultural Centre 184 Mohawk St, Brantford, ON

Friday, June 23 at 6:30PM Hamilton Museum of Steam and Technology 900 Woodward Ave, Hamilton, ON

For further information about the film, future showings, and to order tickets, please visit: woodlandculturalcentre.ca/silent-no-more.

This film is rated PG-13, parents strongly cautioned. Some material may not be suited for children under age 13 (verbal descriptions of violence and sexual assault towards children).



Other Opportunities for Viewing

Beyond these premiere events, screenings of *Silent No More* are also available for private bookings. Ideal for organizations and schools, these bookings feature a shorter version of the film, one that is appropriate for grades 6 and above. To book a screening, contact Woodland's Education Department at <u>tours@woodlandculturalcentre.ca</u>.

Throughout the year, Woodland also offers a virtual tour of the Institute. Created with local production company Thru the RedDoor, it follows guide Lorrie Gallant as she gives a tour of the former Mohawk Institute Residential School. Viewers will get to see the different rooms in the school, from the girls' and boys' dormitories, the cafeteria, laundry room, and other rooms throughout the building, as well as hear interviews from five Survivors of the Mohawk Institute. Visit woodlandculturalcentre.ca/upcoming-events/ for dates and times.

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