

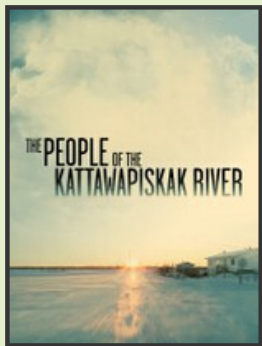
ALANIS OBOMSAWIN

American Canadian Abenaki filmmaker, singer, artist
and activist



One of the most acclaimed Indigenous directors in the world Alanis Obomsawin came to cinema from performance and storytelling. She has created an extraordinary body of work—more than 50 films and counting. The Abenaki director has received numerous international honours and in 2019 was named a Companion of the Order of Canada—its highest distinction.

The People of Kattawapiskak The people of the Attawapiskat First Nation, a Cree community in northern Ontario, were thrust into the national spotlight in 2012 when the impoverished living conditions on their reserve became an issue of national debate. With *The People of the Kattawapiskak River*, Abenaki director Alanis Obomsawin quietly attends as community members tell their own story,



shedding light on a history of dispossession and official indifference. “Obomsawin’s main objective is to make us see the people of Attawapiskat differently,” said Robert Everett-Green in *The Globe & Mail*. “The emphasis, ultimately, is not so much on looking as on listening—the first stage in changing the conversation, or in making one possible.” Winner of the 2013 Donald Brittain Award for Best Social/Political Documentary, the film is part of a cycle of films that Obomsawin has made on children’s welfare and rights.

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