

SHARON A. DESJARLAIS

Film Director, Writer

First Stories is an emerging filmmaker program for Indigenous youth which produced 3 separate collections of short films from Manitoba, Saskatchewan, and Alberta. Produced in association with CBC, APTN, SCN, SaskFilm and MANITOBA FILM & SOUND.



First Stories - Two Spirited

This film features Rodney "Geeyo" Poucette, a male jingle dancer who, rather than admit his two-spirited nature, entered a jingle dance as a woman. Once found out, he lost his championship prize. He tells how a misguided elder humiliated him and did not understand his two-spiritedness. His grandmother explains that, in pre-contact days, two-spirited people were seen "as a blessing" and were prized by the tribe. Work needs to be done in the re-acceptance of the two-spirited members of the community. The dancer vows to continue with the jingle dancing and knows that time is needed for full acceptance.

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