



FORMATS

Educational Package: Vision Quest 2001 Healing Our Communities :

Length: 45 min

Formats: mini-DV; CDRom; VHS, DVD, Web

Film Distribution Fee & formats (includes press kit, education, video)

DVD/DV Individual=\$30\$ Institutional=\$110

VHS/CDROM Individual=\$20\$ Institutional=\$100

SYNOPSIS

Vision Quest 2001 offers viewers a glimpse of hope in a documentary account of a Traditional Vision Quest held amidst the pain and abuse created within an urban community. The five-day fast unfolds in the core of Vancouver's notorious poverty area downtown east side-- Hastings and Main, Pigeon Park, and Victory Square. A small group of women, children and men pitched their tents at Oppenheimer Park and began a fast culminating in a day of feasting, drumming, singing and feeding of the homeless. The food arrives in the silence of midnight moving participants into the fifth day. Salmon and halibut give their lives to feed the community. The raising of a tepee painted with images of orca fin and bear claws softens the harshness of the City skyline. It is a dream world of Grouse Mountain and grandfather sun.

The smell of the sea permeates the exhaust of cars, buses, trucks, and the cry of the eagle soars over the noise of the city while the rain stills the violence. This multilayered sense of place is juxtaposed to stories of murdered women, Residential School abuse, missing women, adoptions, prostitution, violence, and to a stream of drug drops, needles, and the pungent odour of alcohol from breath and sweat. Out of urban despair the documentary captures a spirit of change. Moving from day one to day five viewers enter ceremonies and feel the pulse of the drum, poems, songs and stories. Within urban images of this ancient practice of a Fast and Vision Quest, the film offers a view of the future; a dance of change to the rhythms of a poetry of hope for the next generation. vision quest 2001: healing our communities embodies the heart beat of survivance and renewal.

ABOUT THE FILM

The Premier of the film was held on December 6, 2002 at Museum London--Art Gallery, London Ontario. It was featured in a programme commemorating the Montreal Massacre of December 6th and the National Day of Remembrance & Action on Violence Against Women and was supported by At^lohsa Native Family Healing Services Incorporated and Museum London. In Vancouver on April 24, 2003 a screening took place at Video In 1965 Main Street Vancouver, British Columbia. Filmmaker Tracy Jack, from Vancouver has included the film in Young Spirits Rising a IASO festival held in the Northwest, February 2004. The film was screened at The Woodland Cultural Centre on March 21 2004 in Brantford Ontario on UN day against racial discrimination day. The focus of the film is on empowerment and action to address of issues concerning poverty racism genocide and the missing and murdered women from Vancouver and across North America.

Producers/Directors include Videographer and Editor Chantelle Tucker (BAA), Victoria, B.C.; Director, Editor, Photographer, and Poet Gloria Alvernaz Mulcahy (PhD. CPsych.)