

DOWN TOWN STORIES

A Film About Community,
Love & Decolonization



Down Town Stories launches on September 30, 2021

WATCH THE EXCLUSIVE PREMIERE of *Down Town Stories: A short film about Community, Love and Decolonization*. There will also be a pre-taped panel discussion featuring the filmmakers and more.

ABOUT THE FILM

VANCOUVER'S DOWNTOWN EASTSIDE is a vibrant, resilient community that is home to many Indigenous people from all over BC and Canada. Many residents share a strong sense of connectedness to each other and to the rich history of the land. *Down Town Stories* is a short film (18 minutes) intended to highlight some of the remarkable stories of Indigenous people who have lived in this neighbourhood for many generations, and to illuminate how this community has survived and thrived in the face of colonization, criminalization, and a drug poisoning epidemic.

DOWN TOWN STORIES (runtime 17:28) • Produced by DRAWING WISDOM in collaboration with ANGEL GATES, CHRISTOPHER LIVINGSTONE, CONSTANCE BARNES, GA'AXSTSALAS, JENNA BREUER, NORM LEECH, SAMANTHA PRANTEAU, SEKANI DAKELTH Directed by JADA-GABRIELLE PAPE, Saanich & Snuneymuxw Nations • Director of Photography D'ARCY HAMILTON With funding from the CITY OF VANCOUVER and the VACPC • Filmed and produced on the unceded territories of the əsəlilwətaʔ, Xwməθkwəyəm, & Sk-w̱wú7mesh Nations

Launches September 30, 2021 • DrawingWisdom.ca

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YOU CAN VIEW THE FILM ONLINE between Thursday, September 30th at 9am to midnight Friday, October 15, 2021, as well as a BONUS pre-taped panel discussion. <https://cool.world/screenings/down-town-stories/>

We are offering the film up via the Cool.World platform with ticketing that allows for an optional donation. All money raised will support our grassroots distribution efforts, and fund opportunities for participants to be paid to be part of workshops and educational gatherings.

PRESS CONTACT Kat Dodds 604 722 3004.

VISIT THE DOWN TOWN STORIES PAGE on *Drawing Wisdom.ca*



DRAWING WISDOM creates and distributes films, campaigns, workshops & educational resources that celebrate Indigenous resilience.

COMMUNITIES LEAD. WE FOLLOW.



Hello Friends,

We are so pleased to be sharing this short film showcasing stories of resilience, strength, and community in the Downtown Eastside. This short film, *Down Town Stories* (Runtime 17:28), was birthed out of a desire to highlight some of the powerful voices of the Downtown Eastside. Community connectedness and pride are shared as a simple strategy to reduce stigma.

Our hope is that this film will be used as a pathway into conversations by City staff and social service professionals who work with Downtown Eastside community members and that the stories shared in this film will contribute to better relationships and safer services for all residents of this neighborhood.

We had hoped to be launching the film with a public gathering around this time, but in light of the COVID-19 pandemic and social distancing policies, we are sharing the film virtually as well as the voices of the participants through a pre-taped panel online. Please share this film with those in your community whom you think might benefit.

Wishing you much warmth and connection,

~ *Jada-Gabrielle Pape*, Saanich & Snuneymuxw Nations,
Director, Co-Founder Drawing Wisdom,
and the project team.

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