



REEL CANADA Content Advisory

NIGHT RAIDERS

REEL CANADA is excited to feature *Night Raiders* as the RCTV 2022 spotlight film for high schools. Cree/Métis writer and director Danis Goulet's feature-film debut, *Night Raiders* has received numerous accolades, including 11 nominations at this year's Canadian Screen Awards. This compelling and propulsive dystopian thriller follows a Cree mother as she travels across a war-torn Turtle Island (North America) in a desperate attempt to save her daughter from a forced re-education camp.

Night Raiders includes some strong language, brief violence, and a tense setting depicting a repressive state engaged in the apprehension and indoctrination of children.

While *Night Raiders* presents complex issues with visual and narrative intensity, it does so in the service of addressing extremely relevant themes and topics, and is fundamentally a film celebrating the enduring fight for self-determination among Indigenous peoples worldwide.

Our NCFD Spotlight is co-presented this year with imagineNATIVE Film & Media Arts Festival, the world's largest presenter of Indigenous screen content. In announcing the spotlight partnership, imagineNATIVE executive director Naomi Johnson (Kanyen'kehà:ka/Mohawk) spoke of "Indigenous narrative sovereignty" and the importance of working "toward a future of authentic representation on our screens." For a long time, the prevailing narratives have been content to ignore or distort authentic representation. REEL CANADA believes in the necessity of having Indigenous storytellers at the forefront of the national conversation.

We also ask that specific consideration be given to your Indigenous students – some of whom may be affected by intergenerational trauma – as this material may be particularly upsetting. It is important to ensure that their viewing experience is a safe one. This should involve whatever supports your school has in place for such instances, whether it be counsellors who specialize in Indigenous cultural sensitivities, or the option for Indigenous students to opt out of the screening, or other measures.

We ask that you ensure the availability of whatever counselling services your school normally provides when sensitive material is being dealt with.



Since viewing any sensitive material may lead to disclosures by children or youth in your classroom or group, it may be prudent to familiarize yourself with the mandatory and legal steps within your province, organization or school regarding your duty to report.

Adults organizing screenings of *Night Raiders* should be prepared to talk with their students about colonialism, Canada’s residential school system, violence, sovereignty and civil strife. We advise teachers whose students are in grade 9 to preview the film and use their discretion as to its appropriateness. Teachers of older grades are also welcome to do so if they would like.

FILM RATINGS from each provincial film review board: (NR indicates that the film was not rated in this province.)												
AB	BC	MB	NB	NL	NT	NS	NU	ON	PE	QC	SK	YT
14A	PG	PG	NR	NR	14A	NR	14A	PG	NR	13+	PG	NR

For teachers who are not comfortable screening *Night Raiders* for their students, but would still like to participate in the livestream, we will be providing access to an alternative short film programme to accompany the livestream.

Frequency Content	One Occurrence	Rare	Occasional	Frequent	Context/Notes
ALCOHOL/DRUGS					
Implied Alcohol Use		✓			Recreational drinking referenced; flask and bottle are depicted, implying alcohol consumption, but no one is depicted drinking or intoxicated.
Tobacco Use	✓				One occurrence of an adult smoking a cigarette.
LANGUAGE					
Coarse Language			✓		“Fucking shit hole!”; “oh fuck”; “assholes”
Racial Slurs	✓				“The savage cheated”

Content \ Frequency	One Occurrence	Rare	Occasional	Frequent	Context/Notes
VIOLENCE					
Fighting/physical assault			✓		Mother Niska punches a man, who then captures her and takes her to a camp against her will. Waseese attacks a classmate, pins her down and punches her repeatedly. A man stabs a guard in the neck. These scenes are violent but not gory.
Graphic Imagery			✓		Waseese's ankle is depicted after having been caught in a metal trap. Niska is shot in the arm. The blood in these scenes is minimal and muted. A woman is found dead, with her face visible and eyes closed, while other corpses are depicted nearby, covered in shrouds.
Gun violence				✓	Guards and soldiers maintain coercive control of the population with guns. A soldier shoots and kills a woman. Gun training is depicted (assembling rifles for militaristic purposes). Niska and her daughter Waseese arm themselves with guns as they escape the academy.