Canada 150 – A Portrait in Documentary Film

Saturday April 29, 2017

10:00am – 12:00pm  On Guard For Thee (Canada during the War)
1:00pm –  3:00pm  Native Land (Canada’s indigenous peoples)
4:00pm –  6:00pm  Glowing Hearts (Canadian pride and culture)
7:00pm –  9:00pm  Far and Wide (The length and breadth of our nation)

Sunday April 30, 2017

10:00am – 12:00pm  Terre de nos aïeux, (French Canada)
1:00pm –  3:00pm  Glorious and Free (Struggle for equal rights)
4:00pm –  6:00pm  See Thee Rise (Canada’s influence in the world)
7:00pm –  9:00pm  O Canada! (Celebrating our unique identity)
Saturday April 29, 2017
10:00am – 12:00pm  On Guard For Thee (Canada during the War)

1. **Trans-Canada Express** (1944, 19 minutes, NFB)
   *Celebrating the contribution of Canada’s railroads to the war effort. The film includes a sequence from Buster Keaton's 1926 silent comedy *The General*, as well as a re-enactment of Lord Strathcona driving the final spike into the Canadian Pacific Railway Line.*

2. **Children from Overseas** (1940, 10 minutes, NFB)
   *A WWII film about children evacuated from Britain and sent to Canada for their safety. The closing sequence shows them learning to ski and skate and preparing for Christmas in their new homes.*

3. **Canada Remembers Part One: Turning the Tide** (1995, 53 minutes, NFB)
   *Documents the years between the outbreak of WWII in September 1939 and June 1944. It focuses on both the Canadian soldiers, sailors and airmen who fought in the war and the women who became part of the war effort, either by enlisting or by going to work in the factories and shipyards.*

4. **Front Lines - Nurses at the Front** (2008, 8 minutes, NFB)
   *Looks at the role of nurses and health workers during wartime. More than 600,000 men and women crossed the Atlantic with the Canadian Expeditionary Force, and more than 60,000 of them never returned.*

5. **Letter from Overseas** (1943, 14 minutes, NFB)
   *A letter from a soldier stationed in Britain during World War II is sent home to his parents in Canada. The letter is illustrated with scenes of military life - training, assault courses and recreation along with combat scenes from the Dieppe and Bruneval raids.*

6. **Churchill's Island** (1941, 21 minutes, NFB)
   *This film won the NFB its first Oscar® and was also the first documentary to win this coveted award.*

7. **O Canada: Glowing Hearts** (1979, 2 minutes, NFB)
   *A rousing rendition of our National Anthem.*
Saturday April 29, 2017
1:00pm – 3:00pm   Native Land (Canada’s indigenous peoples)

1. **The Owl Who Married a Goose: An Eskimo Legend** (1974, 7 minutes, NFB)
   This short animation is based on an Inuit legend: a goose captures the fancy of an owl, a weakness for which he will pay dearly. The sound effects and voices are Inuktitut, but the animation leaves no doubt as to the unfolding action.

2. **The Ballad of Crowfoot** (1968, 10 minutes, NFB)
   Examines the situation of Aboriginal people in North America through the figure of Crowfoot, the legendary 19th-century Blackfoot leader of the Plains. A rapid montage is married to the words and music of an impassioned ballad written by Mi’kmaq singer and songwriter Willie Dunn.

3. **Tuktu and The Ten Thousand Fishes** (1967, 14 minutes, NFB)
   Tells the story of young Tuktu, who is taken on a fishing trip to an ancient stone weir where his father and other hunters spear fish in great numbers, and make fire with an Inuit fire drill.

4. **Niigaanibatowaad: Front Runners** (2007, 47 minutes, NFB)
   This film is about the segregation of Aboriginal athletes during the 1967 Olympics and the despair they suffered in the school system. It is a story of survival, hope, reconciliation and a dream for a new beginning that transcends hatred and racism.

5. **If You Want to Get Married...You Have To Learn How To Build an Igloo** (2011, 5 minutes, NFB)
   Records Dean Ittukarjuat efforts as he constructs the traditional Inuit home. From the first cut of the snow knife to the last block of snow has been placed on the roof, this is an inside-and-out look at the entire fascinating process.

6. **Circle of the Sun** (1969, 29 minutes, NFB)
   At a gathering of the Blood Indians of Alberta, the Sun Dance is captured on film for the first time and reflects the predicament of the young generation who have relinquished their ties with their own culture but have not yet found a firm place in a changing world.

7. **As I Am** (2010, 4 minutes, NFB)
   A film that challenges stereotypes about Aboriginal people in the workplace and celebrates their pride in their work and culture.

8. **O Canada** (1997, 2 minutes, NFB)
   A wonderful rendition of our national anthem that reflects our multiculturalism.
1. **Shipbuilder** (1985, 6 minutes, NFB)
   This film recreates the true story of Tom Sukanen, an eccentric Finnish immigrant who homesteaded in Saskatchewan in the 1920s and spent ten years building and moving overland a huge iron ship that was to carry him back to his native Finland.

2. **Strange & Familiar: Architecture on Fogo Island** (2015, 52 minutes, McNabb & Connoly)
   This award-winning film documents a bold architecture project on remote Fogo Island, Newfoundland that embraces the excitement of living on the edge in relation to nature and contemporary design.

3. **Speak It! From The Heart of Black Nova Scotia** (1992, 28 minutes, NFB)
   In their predominantly white high school in Halifax, a group of black students face daily reminders of racism, yet they work to establish a Cultural Awareness Youth Group, a vehicle for building pride and self-esteem through educational and cultural programs.

4. **Source** (2011, 6 minutes, NFB)
   Margie Gillis becomes the very embodiment of modern dance as she steps into the light, lifts her arms and unleashes her extraordinary mane into the air. Watch as high-speed cameras capture the delicate and savage joy of Canada's own Isadora Duncan.

5. **The National Scream** (1980, 27 minutes, NFB)
   This satire uses animation and a pseudo-documentary style to depict Canada's search for a national identity. The National Scream explains, amongst other elements of Canadiana, how and why the beaver became the country's symbol.

6. **O Canada: Glowing Hearts** (1979, 2 minutes, NFB)
   A rousing rendition of our national anthem.
1. **The Railrodder** (1965, 25 minutes, NFB)
   Starring Buster Keaton in one of the last films of his long career, "the railrodder" crosses Canada from east to west on a railway track speeder. Not a word is spoken throughout, and Keaton is as spry and ingenious at fetching laughs as he was in the old days of the silent slapsticks.

2. **Paddle to the Sea** (1966, 28 minutes, NFB)
   The classic tale of an Indian boy who sets out to carve a miniature man and a canoe is told as we follow the adventures that befall the canoe on its long odyssey from Lake Superior to the sea.

3. **City of Gold** (1957, 22 minutes, NFB)
   Pierre Berton depicts the Klondike gold rush at its peak. Using a collection of still photographs, the film juxtaposes the Dawson City at the height of the gold rush with its bustling taverns and dance halls with the more tranquil Dawson City of the present (i.e., 1957).

4. **Catapult Canada** (1985, 1 minutes, NFB)
   This short stop-motion animation takes a humorous look at the theme of transportation. Forget trains and planes—the best way to get across the country is by catapult!

5. **Canada Calling** (1949, 17 minutes, NFB)
   This film looks at the state of radio in Canada. Focusing on the CBC, it illustrates the variety of radio fare available at the time by featuring snatches of favourite programs.

6. **First Winter** (1981, 26 minutes, NFB)
   The film graphically illustrates the enormous hardships endured by the first settlers in 1830 who had to cope with a climate with which they were unfamiliar. A beautiful, moving film.

7. **O Canada** (1997, 2 minutes, NFB)
   A wonderful rendition of our national anthem that reflect multiculturalism.
Sunday April 30, 2017
10:00am – 12:00pm
Terre de nos aïeux, (French Canada)

1. **Twice Upon a Time** (1979, 10 minutes, NFB)
   In Stereoville, each speaker of one language is tied to a speaker of the other, back-to-back. Into this two-stepping society stumbles a character whose very existence causes considerable consternation among locals: an unattached individual with command of both languages.

2. **Samuel de Champlain 1604** (1964, 14 minutes, NFB)
   Québec City locations and the artwork of well-known Quebec animator Frédéric Back are used to tell the tale of Champlain’s life in New France.

3. **OK…Camera** (1972, 27 minutes, NFB)
   An exploration of Québec’s feature film industry, looking at the people who have succeeded in this unique milieu (Geneviève Bujold is one) or failed.

4. **Infusion** (2010, 17 minutes, NFB)
   In Acadie, the only “real” tea is King Cole, blended in New Brunswick for the past 100 years. Traditionally drunk with a spot of Carnation condensed milk, it recalls simpler days when people would take the time to stop and smell… the tea.

5. **Canada Vignettes: Instant French** (1979, 1 minute, NFB)
   An animated take on the K-Tel ads of yesteryear that tries to sell an electronic device that allows one to speak fluent, effortless French.

6. **Artist in Montreal** (1954, 29 minutes, NFB)
   This short film introduces us to the "automatistes," followers of an abstract art form that developed in Montreal.

7. **Vive La Rose** (2009, 6 minutes, NFB)
   Based on the last recording by one of Newfoundland’s foremost traditional music performers, Emile Benoit's tender delivery of the 18th century French song is the heart of Vive la rose.

8. **Canada Vignettes: The Performer** (1978, 3 minutes, NFB)
   Relive Roger Doucet’s operatic rendition of our national anthem before a hockey game at the Montreal forum.
Sunday April 30, 2017
1:00pm – 3:00pm Glorious and Free (Struggle for tolerance and equal rights)

1. **Vistas: Boxed In** (2009, 4 minutes, NFB)
   A young woman of mixed ancestry struggles with an Equal Opportunity Form that requires her to respond to the dilemma: Ethnicity - Choose One.

2. **Making Movie History: The Women** (2014, 11 minutes, NFB)
   Profiles a selection of pioneering French female filmmakers from the history of the NFB who speak frankly of the challenges and joys of making films for, by, and about women.

3. **In the Shadow of Gold Mountain** (2004, 43 minutes, NFB)
   Stories from the last survivors of the Chinese Head Tax and Exclusion Act, a set of laws imposed to single out the Chinese as unwanted immigrants to Canada from 1885 to 1947.

4. **Doctors Without Residency** (2010, 10 minutes, NFB)
   Highlights how discrimination prevents foreign-trained doctors from practising in Canada – even after they've received their Canadian qualifications.

5. **Every Child** (1979, 6 minute, NFB)
   This film illustrates one of the ten principles of the Declaration of Children's Rights: every child is entitled to a name and a nationality. The film took home an Oscar® for Best Animated Short Film.

6. **Tragic Story With a Happy Ending** (2005, 7 minutes, NFB)
   A little girl finds acceptance in embracing her own difference.

7. **Before They Are Six** (1949, 17 minutes, NFB)
   As women entered the workforce in greater numbers during WWII, their young children were cared for by others. An intriguing portrait of the nascent mid-20th century world of work for women and their families.

8. **Making It** (2006, 10 minutes, NFB)
   An inspiring portrait of Black youth who have made their ambitious dreams come true through willpower.

9. **Careers and Cradles** (1947, 10 minutes, NFB)
   A snapshot of the revolutionary change in status enjoyed by women between the turn of the 20th century and 1947.

10. **O Canada** (1997, 2 minutes, NFB)
    A rousing rendition of our national anthem.
See Thee Rise (Canada’s influence in the world)

1. **The Jolifou Inn** (1955, 10 minutes, NFB)
   Depicting Canada as it was a hundred years ago, as seen through the paintings of artist and adventurer Cornelius Krieghoff, the changing seasons, the Quebec countryside, village life — all were an unending source of inspiration.

2. **Canada Vignettes: Bluenose 1921 - 1946** (1979, 2 minutes, NFB)
   A short history of the Bluenose schooner, a celebrated racing ship and hard-working fishing vessel that became a provincial icon for Nova Scotia and an important Canadian symbol in the 1930s.

3. **Bethune** (1964, 59 minutes, NFB)
   A biography of Dr. Norman Bethune, the Canadian doctor who served with the loyalists during the Spanish Civil War and with the North Chinese Army during the Sino-Japanese War. In Spain he pioneered the world's first mobile blood-transfusion service; in China his work behind battle lines to save the wounded has made him a legendary figure.

4. **Flash Williams** (1978, 19 minutes, NFB)
   Flash William Shewchuck is a one-man movie industry operating in the Canadian wilderness. Combining the roles of film producer, director, cameraman, actor, promoter, projectionist and ticket taker, Flash finances his company by working on road gangs in the Yukon, or in the oil fields and pulp mills between projects.

5. **Notman’s World** (1989, 29 minute, NFB)
   A portrait of Canadian photographer William Notman who opened his first studio in Montreal in the late 1850s and within 5 years he was appointed Photographer to the Queen. This film is by Albert Kish, a distinguished producer and director of films for the NFB. Later in life, Albert and his wife moved to Cobourg.

6. **O Canada** (1997, 2 minutes, NFB)
   A rousing rendition of our national anthem.
Sunday April 30, 2017
7:00pm – 9:00pm   O Canada! (Celebrating our unique identity)

1. **Talking Canadian** (2004, 44 minutes, CBC)
   This film takes an amusing look at our accent, intonation and vocabulary – how Canadians speak today, and how we will talk in the future.

2. **Helicopter Canada** (1966, 40 minutes, NFB)
   *A narrated tour—from a helicopter—of the ten Canadian provinces in 1966, this film is a big, beautiful and engrossing bird's-eye portrait of the country*

3. **Impression of Expo 67** (1967, 8 minutes, NFB)
   *This short film served as an invitation to the World's Fair that was held in Montreal in 1967. It was largely considered to be the most successful World's Fair of the 20th century with over 50 million visitors.*

4. **Momentum** (1997, 19 minutes, NFB)
   *A sweeping, moving tribute to Canada's stunning geography and rich cultural heritage, Momentum leaps off your screen—and touches your heart. This film wowed audiences from around the world when it premiered at Seville, the greatest world's fair of the last quarter century.*

5. **O Canada** (1997, 2 minutes, NFB)
   *A rousing rendition of our national anthem.*