

The NAKODA AV CLUB PRESENTS

# REZ DOG



Rez Dog illuminates relationships between people and animals on reserve - bound in respect + culture + poverty.





Indigenous people have been interacting with animals on this land for centuries. Only recently have our ways begun to change...



As our culture and lifeways were stripped away, so too were our traditional relationships with animals. Even though we have lost so much, we keep parts of our culture alive. We continue to respect our cousins the Suga, or dog people.

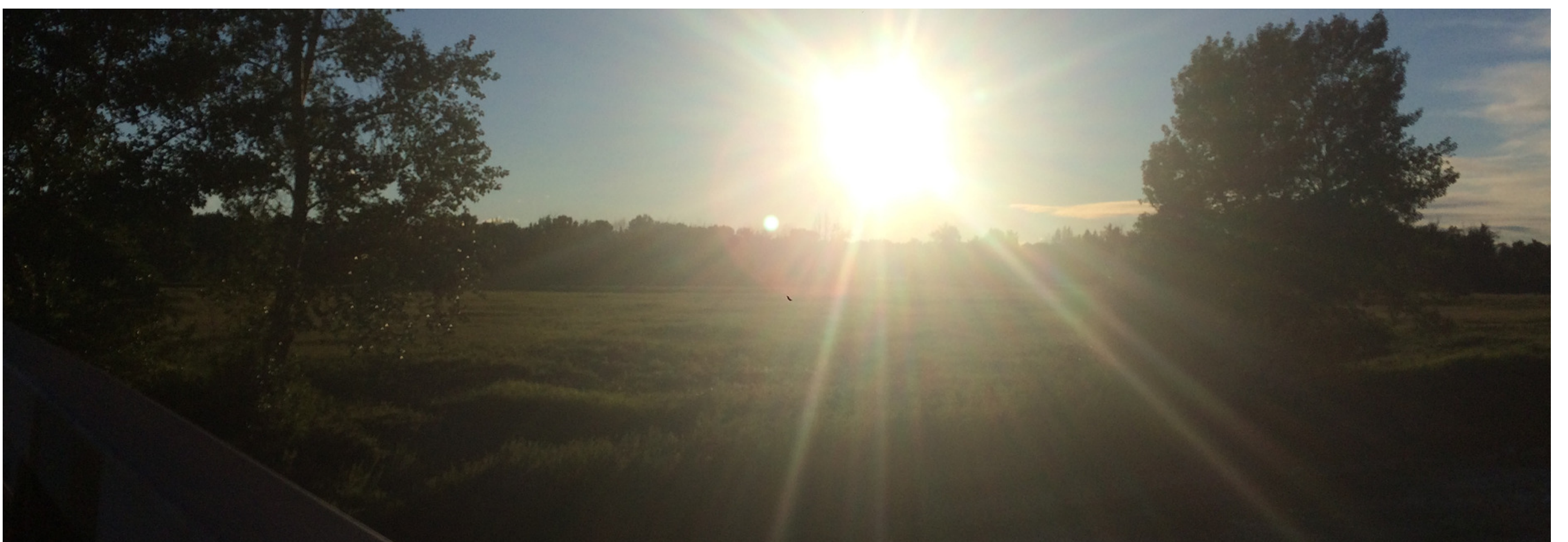


...our neighbors have a very different relationship with their animals, and your relationship with your pets is one more thing you would like to force upon us.



We are told that our ways are wrong. Your desire for us to change, comes from a place of kindness, you want what is best for the animals.

**We do what we think is best for animals too... our ways of deciding what is best are just different.**





Exploring the issues... What does good animal care look like? What do dogs need to be healthy? Interviews with Elders who share traditional knowledge & Western scientists in animal behavior & care



What kinds of relationships do people and dogs have? How are these different in different cultures? Interviews with Modern storytellers from Morley, Non-natives who are concerned with animals on reserve, and youth from different communities



How do we learn  
about care and  
respect for animals?  
Who teaches these  
things and how are  
they shared?  
Interviews with  
non-natives who are  
concerned with  
animals on reserve &  
modern storytellers  
from Morley



Who cares about animals  
on reserve and why? Who  
cares about dogs in cities  
and why? How is this care  
expressed? Interviews  
with people who work in  
systems related to animal  
care, and storytellers who  
understand sociology and  
our colonial history.







What problems exist on reserves that prevent the best animal care? What problems exist in cities that prevent the best animal care? Illuminated through the interviews, and illustrated through narration from the Nakoda AV Club.



**Promoting understanding, teaching good care, working together.**



Shooting digital  
Canon Rebel T5i  
Photography & in situ  
recordings from youth &  
participants



Shoot locations in Morley  
Inside homes, residence yards, council  
chambers, school, near the river

Shoot locations in Calgary  
Rescue agencies, inside homes and  
yards, dog parks, Calgary zoo, vets

Other shoot locations  
Tsuu T'ina Police station  
Yamnuska Animal Rescue  
Cochrane SPCA

Language is primarily English, but  
Nakoda is used wherever possible, with  
subtitles in English



This movie is honest about the lives animals live in cities and on reserves.

It showcases the beauty of human animal relationships and links both people and animals to the land and their places in the animal kingdom through expansive wide angle photography. The focus is often the animal in the shot



The tone is serious, and there are sad moments. The feel of the doc is different than the trailer. The music for the doc is more soulful and less playful. There are funny aspects of stories but the feel is dignified. Different sides are presented but the Indigenous perspective is centered because it represents the alternative.



The message is subtle in some ways - we are explicit about the challenge - but the doc doesn't "name call" or make the metaphor for larger issues overt. The viewer is given much credit & responsibility. The visuals are hopeful & forward looking.