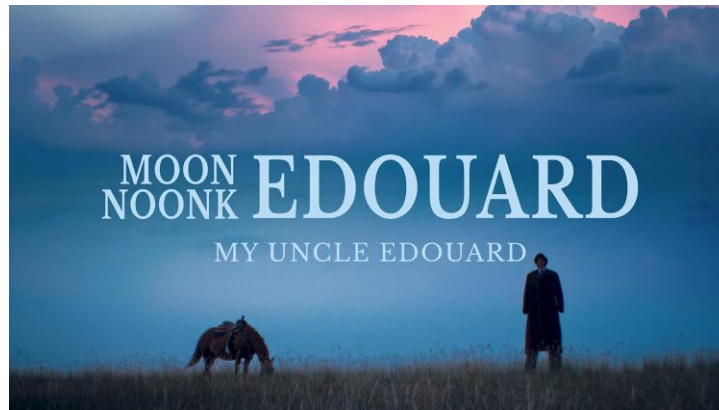


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Family of Edouard Beupré—the “Willow Bunch Giant”—seeks to restore his identity and reclaim his Michif heritage

Jessie Ray Short’s NFB documentary *Moon Noonk Edouard* premieres June 4 at imagineNATIVE



(Image provided by the NFB)

May 15, 2026 – Toronto – National Film Board of Canada (NFB)

Jessie Ray Short’s [National Film Board of Canada](#) (NFB) documentary *Moon Noonk Edouard* ([My Uncle Edouard](#)) will have its **world premiere** at the [2026 imagineNATIVE Film + Media Arts Festival](#), which takes place June 2–7, 2026 (Toronto), and June 8–14, 2026 (online).

Moon Noonk Edouard is written and directed by Short, the **great-grandniece of Edouard Beupré** (1881–1904)—also known as the “**Willow Bunch Giant**” and one of the **tallest men in recorded history**. This **intimate and poetic documentary** follows the family’s efforts to **reclaim the identity** and **Michif heritage** of the **legendary strongman and circus performer**, who died at the age of just 23 from complications of tuberculosis.

The 35-minute film will screen as part of the **Legendary Lineages** short program in-person on **Thursday, June 4, 2026, at 11:30 a.m.** at **TIFF Lightbox (Cinema 2)**—and will also stream online as part of imagineNATIVE’s **Virtual Festival**.

A family that never forgot its giant

In this **intimate portrait** blending archival footage and dreamlike reenactments, **Jessie Ray Short** retraces her **great-granduncle’s journey** from his hometown in **Saskatchewan** to his tragic death at the **St. Louis World’s Fair**, and his bizarre **posthumous voyage**.

Produced by **Marie-France Guerrette**, *Moon Noonk Edouard* is an **act of healing** in which Beupré’s loved ones share **emotional memories and stories** to take back ownership of his **giant-sized legacy**.

About the filmmaker

Jessie Ray Short’s artistic process explores a variety of themes to examine the history and memories of Michif communities on the Prairies. Based in Regina, Short is a bilingual filmmaker descended from Michif lineage in Willow Bunch, Saskatchewan, and the great-grandniece of Edouard Beupré. Drawing on accounts from her/their

family and the Michif community, ***Moon Noonk Edouard*** is the filmmaker's attempt to mend the damage caused by dehumanizing stories about Beauré that have been told and retold over the past century.

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