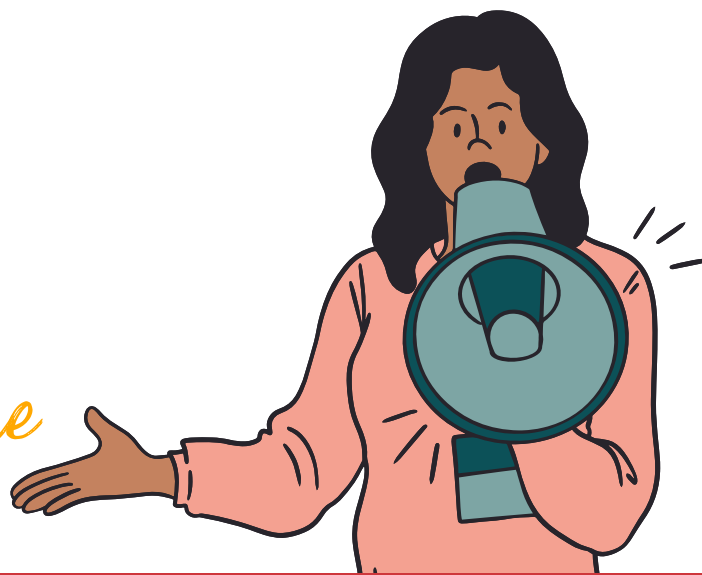


**Storytelling through  
journalism  
with**  
*Jenessa Joy  
and  
Mike Graeme*



MOOSE HIDE  
CAMPAIGN  
CAMPAGNE  
MOOSE HIDE

***Reccomended for grades 7-12***

Mike Graeme (he/him) is a cis white settler photojournalist whose work amplifying decolonial movements has been published in outlets across Turtle Island. Aware that his privileges are directly tied to a system built on colonialism, racism, sexism, and other related forms of violence and oppression, Mike seeks to use his discipline in the fight to dismantle these structures and uplift the stories of those at the center of struggles for justice.

Jenessa Joy Klukas is an Indigenous (Xaxli'p First Nation and Metis) journalist and storyteller. She grew up on the land of the Haisla Nation in Kitimat, BC. Jenessa Joy writes on Indigenous topics, childcare, child-welfare, and education, with works in The Tye, IndigiNews, and Watershed Sentinel among others. Jenessa Joy describes herself as a storyteller "by passion and by profession."

Storytelling through a Journalistic Lens helps students learn more about the power of storytelling through journalism and photojournalism, as taught by Mike Graeme (journalist and photojournalist) and Jenessa Joy Klukas (journalist and storyteller). With different backgrounds come different approaches – this workshop explores how Mike (Scottish, English, and Irish descent) and Jenessa Joy (from Xaxli'p First Nation, with Métis and Dutch ancestry) came to be storytellers, as well as some of the lessons they've learned along the way that have shaped their approaches to storytelling.

Videography and photography by:

Derrick LaMere, Nabidu Taylor, Diego Ramdeen, Talia Woodin, and Mike Graeme

Find Mike and Jenessa Joy on social media to follow more of their stories!

- Jenessa Joy Klukas: Instagram @creativityandjoy / Twitter @jenessajoyk
- Mike Graeme: Instagram @mikegraeme / Twitter @mikegraemephoto

## Discussion questions:

- What do you think of when you think of journalism?
- How do you relate to either Jenessa Joy or Mike's stories about their life, their heritage, and their stories?
- Why do you think journalism is important?
- How has social media changed the world of journalism?
- Jenessa Joy speaks about storytelling in a lot of different forms; what are some of the most impactful forms of storytelling to you? Why do you think that is?
- Jenessa Joy shares how in journalism you are taught not to add your own bias or opinions or voice, but that it is also about telling the stories from your communities; how do you think this effects some of the journalism we read or see?
- Mike tells us about the power of photography to draw people in to wanting to learn more; how do you think photos are impactful in journalism?
- Mike uses photography to help amplify voices that have been and continue to be oppressed; can you think of other journalism stories in recent years that have done this?
- Jenessa Joy reminds us these stories can be traumatic and therefore require "trauma informed journalism," what does this mean to you? Why do you think it is important?
- Both Jenessa Joy and Mike speak to protocols and being aware of what the community and individuals want recorded, photographed, and written. How is this different from other journalism tactics or articles you have seen in our society?

## Group activity:

In groups of 3-4 find a current article on [CBC Indigenous](#). In your groups, discuss the article - what it is about? Summarize 5-8 key points the article is trying to convey.

Answer the following questions:

- 1) Did the writer seem to have a personal bias or opinion during the story?
- 2) Was photography or video used to enhance the story?
- 3) Did the story use a trauma-informed approach?
- 4) Did the community or individual give permission for this story to be told; do you think it was told in the way they would have wanted?
- 5) Do you think this story was an important story to be told? Why or why not?