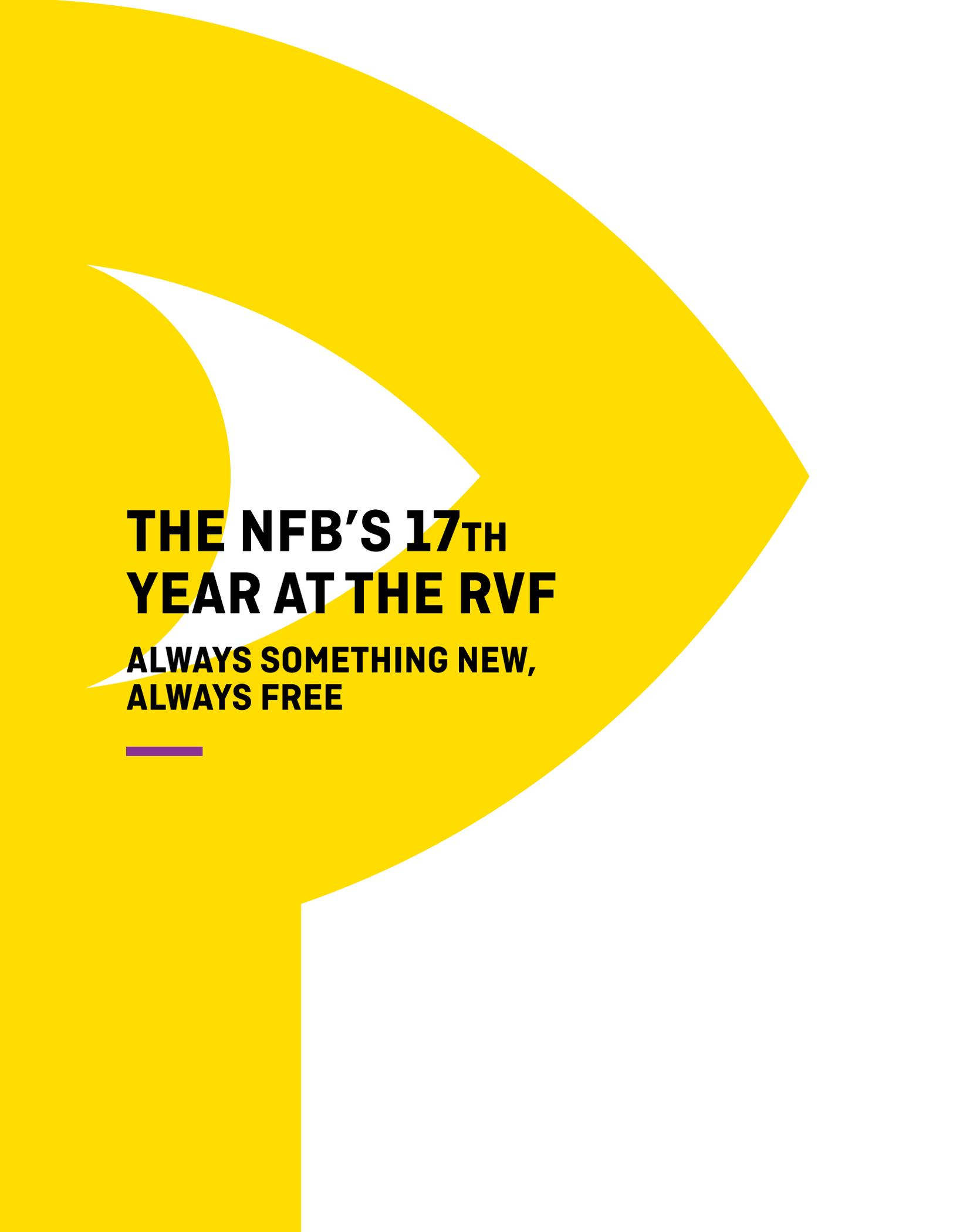


FREE NFB SCREENINGS

RENDEZ-VOUS DE
LA FRANCOPHONIE

March 1 to 31, 2022



A large, abstract yellow graphic that resembles a stylized letter 'P' or a curved shape, set against a white background. The graphic is composed of several overlapping curved segments.

**THE NFB'S 17TH
YEAR AT THE RVF**

**ALWAYS SOMETHING NEW,
ALWAYS FREE**

The 24th edition of the Rendez-vous de la Francophonie (RVF) is putting the spotlight on the vital role traditions play in our society—so crucial for building bridges between generations, cultures and communities.

For its 17th consecutive collaboration with the RVF, the National Film Board of Canada (NFB) was inspired by this theme to assemble six programs of documentary and animated films, offered free of charge to any group, organization or institution wishing to hold in-person or online screenings during this epic celebration of the Francophonie.

The NFB certainly knows a thing or two about celebrating tradition. It has its own 80-year tradition of making films and producing Canadian content. Some of the country's most talented filmmakers have cut their teeth here, and we continue to support emerging artists.

The NFB has always been a talent incubator, as demonstrated by Program 1, which is dedicated to **La courbe (The Curve)**, a collection of films produced by young filmmakers across the country at the height of the pandemic. It's a fascinating look at diverse experiences during this unprecedented time.

Program 2 reflects the vibrant tradition of innovation at the NFB, with two unique interactive works: **Plus loin que loin (Far Away From Far Away)**, a story created exclusively for smartphones by Bruce Alcock and Jeremy Mendes, inspired by the early life of visionary Zita Cobb on Fogo Island; and **J'aime les patates (I Love Potatoes)**, by Vali Fugulin, a narrative game designed to plant new ideas in young minds and harvest change.

Program 3 is inspired by the NFB's tradition of direct cinema, and features Moïse Marcoux-Chabot's recent documentary series, **Ramaillages (Gatherings)**, which offers new perspectives and takes a sensitive and illuminating look at environmental issues.

As Program 4 makes abundantly clear, traditions continue to forge identities. Whether it's the resilience and nostalgia of the immigrant experience explored in Rosana Matecki's **Samedi, la nuit (Saturday Night)**, returning to one's African and Indigenous roots in Hyacinthe Combarry's **Histoire de sable (Tales of Sand and Snow)**, or diving into one's Inuit origins with director Elisapie Isaac's **If the Weather Permits**, the subjects are approached with keen sensitivity.

The two youth programs also reflect this year's RVF theme. The always-popular topic of sports is covered in **Sports, Sports and More Sports!**, for youth aged 11 and up. The program for kids aged 6 and up, **Grandparents, Families and Fairy Tales**, is a selection of short films about the bonds between generations.

For the NFB, participating in the RVF is essential. It's an important event for the many vibrant francophone communities across Canada, and a key opportunity for the NFB to promote local culture.

Help keep the tradition alive with us!

SIX PROGRAMS IN THEATRES AND ONLINE

EACH PROGRAM MUST BE SCREENED IN ITS ENTIRETY

PROGRAM 1

CREATIVE WORKS THAT CONNECT US

50 MIN (14+)

These five documentary shorts are part of **La courbe (The Curve)**, social distancing stories that bring us together, filmed at the height of the pandemic. The program highlights the talent and creativity of artists offering their perspectives on the pandemic's multifaceted impacts in Quebec. Marie-Julie Dallaire's **L'impossible été de Jules (Jules' Impossible Summer)** charts the evolving relationship between the filmmaker and her 19-year-old son through their conversations about health restrictions. **Sòl**, by Valérie Bah and Tatiana Zinga Botao, alludes to a historical continuum of brutal labour policies and their repercussions on Black women. In Nicolas Paquet's **Chronique du bout de mon rang (Road's End Chronicle)**, a string of voices sometimes support, sometimes contradict each other, as the filmmaker moves from a sense of anxiety to optimism. **La veille (The Vigil)**, by Christine Chevarie-Lessard, takes us from the imposing landscapes of the North Shore to lockdown in a nun's quarters. And in **Avant la nuit (As Night Descends)**, filmmaker Nadine Gomez uses the downtime forced on us by the pandemic as an opportunity to rethink our ways of life, in conversations with sociologist and impassioned political thinker Jean Pichette.

L'impossible été de Jules | Marie-Julie Dallaire | 2020 | 13 min
(English version: **Jules' Impossible Summer**)

Sòl | Valérie Bah and Tatiana Zinga Botao | 2020 | 8 min
(English version: **Sòl**)

Chronique du bout de mon rang | Nicolas Paquet | 2020 | 11 min
(English version: **Road's End Chronicle**)

La veille | Christine Chevarie-Lessard | 2020 | 8 min
(English version: **The Vigil**)

Avant la nuit | Nadine Gomez | 2020 | 10 min
(English version: **As Night Descends**)

PROGRAM 2

THE TRADITION OF INNOVATION AT THE NFB

INTERACTIVE (7+ AND 14+)

The NFB has been innovating since its very beginnings in 1939. Today, the organization carries on this tradition by combining disciplines in new ways and assembling creative teams that find fresh approaches to storytelling. The interactive story for smartphones **Plus loin que loin (Far Away From Far Away)**, by Bruce Alcock and Jeremy Mendes, is inspired by the childhood of visionary Zita Cobb. Written by Michael Crummey, it tells the story of a young girl growing up on remote Fogo Island with her father during the 1960s and '70s, using simple, intuitive navigation to delve deep into rich, long-form storytelling. **J'aime les patates (I Love Potatoes)** is an adventure game that introduces social innovation and sustainable economy issues to kids, their parents and grandparents in a slightly absurd, funny and quirky manner. This playful journey covers the steps of social innovation in a way that fosters inter-generational dialogue on how we can change the world... one act at a time.

Plus loin que loin | Michael Crummey, Bruce Alcock and Jeremy Mendes | 2021
Interactive story for touchscreens and smartphones (14+)
(English version: **Far Away From Far Away**)

J'aime les patates | Vali Fugulin, Minority and Ruben Farris | 2015
Narrative game for smartphones, tablets, or computers (7+)
(English version: **I Love Potatoes**)

PROGRAM 3

FROM THE DIRECT CINEMA TRADITION TO LAND PRESERVATION

6 EPISODES, 195 MIN
(16+; CONTAINS SCENES WITH ANIMALS THAT MAY DISTURB SOME VIEWERS)

Moïse Marcoux-Chabot's six-part documentary series **Ramaillages (Gatherings)** draws on the direct cinema tradition to provide new perspectives on regional development relevant to all rural areas, offering a sensitive, insightful exploration of environmental issues. The series takes a unique look at the beauty of the people, the language and the land of Quebec's Gaspé region throughout the seasons. A stakeholder in these new initiatives himself, Marcoux-Chabot finds inspiring figures who play active roles in their community and work collectively to preserve and develop the land—ideals that are part of a worldwide movement.

Ramaillages | Moïse Marcoux-Chabot | 2020 | 6 episodes; 30 to 37 minutes each
(Two 90-minute blocks for in-theatre programming or as suggestions for online viewing)
(English version: **Gatherings**)

Episode 1 – Territoires	(English version: Territories)
Episode 2 – Semences	(English version: Seeds)
Episode 3 – Racines	(English version: Roots)
Episode 4 – Braises	(English version: Embers)
Episode 5 – Récoltes	(English version: Harvests)
Episode 6 – Communautés	(English version: Communities)

PROGRAM 4

THRIVING TRADITIONS AND VIBRANT IDENTITIES

90 MIN (14+; CONTAINS SCENES WITH ANIMALS THAT MAY DISTURB SOME VIEWERS)

This program of documentaries is a compassionate and sensitive examination of the different paths taken in search of identity. A bittersweet view of aging and solitude in the city, **Samedi, la nuit (Saturday Night)** is a short film essay, narrated in Spanish by filmmaker Rosana Matecki, in which dance serves as the pretext for a personal exploration of resilience and nostalgia. Hyacinthe Combarry's film **Histoire de sable (Tales of Sand and Snow)** makes connections between African and Indigenous cultures. In a world where values and traditions are tending to disappear, a Quebec immigrant tries to reconnect with the traditions of his own Gourmantche tribe by visiting a group of Indigenous people in Quebec. And in the personal documentary **Si le temps le permet (If the Weather Permits)**, artist Elisapie Isaac delves into her origins and takes viewers to the village of Kangiqsujuaq, located amidst the vast boreal landscape on the edge of the Arctic Ocean in Nunavik, where the traditional and modern worlds collide every day.

Samedi, la nuit | Rosana Matecki | 2021 | 15 min
(English version: **Saturday Night**)

Histoire de sable | Hyacinthe Combarry | 2004 | 48 min
(English version: **Tales of Sand and Snow**)

Si le temps le permet | Elisapie Isaac | 2003 | 27 min
(English version: **If the Weather Permits**)

PROGRAM 5

SPORTS, SPORTS AND MORE SPORTS!

63 MIN (11+)

This youth program is dedicated to an ever-popular topic that wears many different hats, caps and helmets: sports. The films cover a range of activities and subjects, from the coveted bicycle in Torill Kove's colourful and spirited film **Ma Moulton et moi (Me and My Moulton)**, to hockey in Dennis Jackson's **Wapos Bay – Jouer pour soi, c'est pas hockey (Wapos Bay: There's No "I" in Hockey)** and Sheldon Cohen's classic **Le chandail (The Sweater)**, to the charming children's games in Manon Barbeau's **Comptines** and the intense anxiety that comes from the quest for perfection in Catherine Lepage's **Le mal du siècle (The Great Malaise)**. A unique collection of shorts that will move you, make you laugh, and above all, make you think.

Ma Moulton et moi | Torill Kove | 2014 | 13 min
(English version: **Me and My Moulton**)

Le mal du siècle | Catherine Lepage | 2021 | 5 min
(English version: **The Great Malaise**)

Wapos Bay – Jouer pour soi, c'est pas hockey | Dennis Jackson | 2005 | 24 min
(English version: **Wapos Bay: There's No "I" in Hockey**)

Le chandail | Sheldon Cohen | 1980 | 10 min
(English version: **The Sweater**)

Comptines | Manon Barbeau | 1975 | 11 min
(French version only, with song lyrics available in PDF format)

PROGRAM 6

GRANDPARENTS, FAMILIES AND FAIRY TALES

42 MIN (6+)

The bonds between grandchildren and their grandparents are strong, and vital for families and society. This colourful program explores those bonds with tenderness and humour. In Theodore Ushev's *Tzaritza*, we see Bulgaria through the imaginative eyes of a six-year-old girl; in *Ma grand-mère repassait les chemises du roi (My Grandmother Ironed the King's Shirts)*, filmmaker Torill Kove embellishes a family story with a great deal of humour; in Janice Nadeau's *Mamie*, the director reaches back into her childhood memories to share a personal and touching story about a break in the tradition of "passing things on" between her and her grandmother; and in *Mamie et Mia (Granny and Mia)*, by Émilie Villeneuve, making a rainbow cake is a magical moment with the power to bring generations together. A selection of original tales rounds out this program, which is sure to delight children: *Fais bien attention! (Mind Me Good Now!)* by Chris Cormier and Derek Cummings, is a Caribbean-flavoured version of Hansel and Gretel, and *Maq et l'esprit de la forêt (Maq and the Spirit of the Woods)* by Phyllis Grant, is the story of a Mi'kmaq boy who learns the secrets of life from inconspicuous mentors.

Tzaritza | Theodore Ushev | 2006 | 7 min
(English version: *Tzaritza*)

Ma grand-mère repassait les chemises du roi | Torill Kove | 1999 | 10 min
(English version: *My Grandmother Ironed the King's Shirts*)

Fais bien attention! | Chris Cormier and Derek Cummings | 2006 | 8 min
(English version: *Mind Me Good Now!*)

Mamie | Janice Nadeau | 2016 | 6 min
(English version: *Mamie*)

Maq et l'esprit de la forêt | Phyllis Grant | 2006 | 8 min
(English version: *Maq and the Spirit of the Woods*)

Mamie et Mia | Émilie Villeneuve | 2018 | 3 min
(English version: *Granny and Mia*)

ORGANIZING PUBLIC SCREENINGS

Find more information on how to organize an NFB screening for the RVF [here](#).

PLEASE ALSO FEEL FREE TO CONTACT US:

rvf@nfb.ca