



JENNIFER WEMIGWANS, Toronto, ON
Director Participant

Jennifer was born in the city of Toronto but spent her childhood summers and Christmas holidays Up North, on her reserve, Wikwemikong, also known as WIKY. She has gained over 10 years of experience as a front line worker in the First Nations community while pursuing her MFA from York University's Graduate Film & Video Programme. Upon completion of her degree, Jennifer pursued venture capital from Aboriginal Business Canada where she was successful in founding her company, Invert Media.

INVERT MEDIA is multi-media production company intent on inverting the media by creating work that is dedicated to perceiving stories from an anti colonial and Indigenous angle.

In 2001 Jennifer interned at SNAP Media where she was the on line video content producer for DEGRASSI THE NEXT GENERATION. It was here that she began to envision an Indigenous website project called FOUR DIRECTIONS. Following that internship she was an Associate Producer for two half-hour shows for the GREAT CANADIAN RIVERS SERIES (2002 - Discovery/ APTN). And then moved on to research an historical dramatic series for the BUFFALO FILM COMPANY.

Her first spec script CODE OF CONDUCT garnered much interest from the Canadian media industry and got her, her first writing gig at CTV where she wrote a Movie of the Week (2003) In that same year, Jennifer produced SEVEN FIRES (2003) an educational video for a high-profile Aboriginal learning press and then was awarded a CTV Fellowship to attend the Banff International Television Festival.

Since then she has attended the Banff New Media Institute's Interactive Screen and Accelerator Workshops where she was invited to develop FOUR DIRECTIONS (2004) an interactive project that explores Aboriginal knowledge and philosophy. More recently she has just completed her independently produced and financed 1hour documentary, LESBIAN PORN LESSONS: BECAUSE THERE'S NO BUSINESS LIKE SHOW BUSINESS! (2004) A tongue cheek look at the business of Canadian filmmaking.

Currently, Jennifer is pursuing Festival distribution for LESBIAN PORN LESSONS and is eagerly waiting to attend the Aboriginal Screenwriter's Program at Banff. Following the WIDC, Jennifer hopes to direct her first two dramatic shorts. In the meantime, she is pursuing funding for her feature documentary HOLLYWOOD INDIANS and is currently working on two dramatic feature length scripts and a new documentary project.