



## Joseph Naytowhow Biography

**Joseph Naytowhow** is a gifted Plains/Woodland Cree (nehiyaw) singer/songwriter, storyteller, and voice, stage and film actor from the Sturgeon Lake First Nation Band in Saskatchewan. As a child, Joseph was influenced by his grandfather's traditional and ceremonial chants as well as the sounds of the fiddle and guitar. Today he is renowned for his unique style of Cree/English storytelling, combined with original contemporary music and traditional First Nations drum and rattle songs.

An accomplished performer, Joseph is the recipient of the 2006 *Canadian Aboriginal Music Award's Keeper of the Tradition Award* and he 2005 **Commemorative Medal** for the *Saskatchewan Centennial*. In 2009 Joseph also received a Gemini Award **for Best Individual or Ensemble Performance in an Animated Program or Series** for his role in the *Wapos Bay* series. That same year he was also awarded **Best Emerging Male Actor** at the *Winnipeg Aboriginal Film Festival* for his role in *Run: Broken Yet Brave* and won **Best Traditional Male Dancer** at *John Arcand's Fiddlefest* in Saskatchewan. He has performed for the Prince of Wales, the Lieutenant Governor of Saskatchewan and many other notables. His demanding schedule continues to take him to conferences, symposia, forums, festivals and film sets across Canada, North America and around the world.

Fifteen years of study with a Buddhist master, combined with his Nehiyo/Cree traditional knowledge and his experience as an interdisciplinary artist, has nurtured Joseph's generosity and compassion for sharing cultural knowledge. He is a much sought after keynote speaker, counselor, and educator for children and adults alike. Joseph frequently enjoys opportunities to work as a resident artist and cultural advisor for various organizations including the University of Saskatchewan, University of Regina, and Polytechnic Institutes.

Joseph holds a Bachelor of Education degree from the University of Saskatchewan.