(Jaimie Kechego - narrator) Today we are here with Kat Pasquach, Founder of Culture Shock Jewelry and Cultural Shock Bead Company, Windsor, Ontario, and her mother, Mary Ann Pasquach. We will be hearing how Kat feels regarding the popular question. "What is the difference between cultural appreciation of an artist's work versus cultural appropriation for one's own benefit"? (Kat Pasquach) In terms of appreciation for the craft that I think in Western society we've kind of got swept away and after the Industrial Revolution and everything being able to be mass-produced, making things much more affordable. And so there was, there was a definitely a push away from craftwork and trades in the 1920s and 1930s. And so when everybody was able to afford multiple things at a cheaper price, that really fueled a lot of consumerism. And then we started to see the effects on a global scale of what consumerism was doing in the waste that we were creating. And I know that that is part of reason why people are going back into small crafting and it's wanting to support makers and artists because you want something of quality product that's going to last multiple generations that you can, you can pass down. And that's one of the reasons why people are so drawn to the moccasins that we make. But in addition to that, there's also the cultural piece. Being able to take a piece of leather and some fur from an animal and make something wearable. It's an art and as a part of our culture and it keeps us connected. And so I take a lot of pride in that. It's a skill that not everybody has and it's something that I want to be able to share with other people. It's a great talking point for me when people come up to me and be like, "Oh, are you Indigenous? Did you make these? Is this authentic"? I get to share a bit about my culture at that point, which is what ties into that cultural appropriation versus appreciation. I have been asked many times, "Is it appropriate for me to be buying this"? And my first response is I would never sell something that was not meant for non-Indigenous people. If it was a sacred item, if it was something very spiritual, I would not be making that accessible to the public. So that's the first piece and that I am creating these things or we are creating this things because we want them to be shared with other people. That's why we're making them available. Now where you get into appropriation is when you start, when people want to do this themselves and then benefit from it. Because then you're taking away from Indigenous people. You're taking away from a lot of people's way of sustaining themselves and making a living. And so that's when I often think about my grandmother who was doing crafting, not only out of enjoyment but out of necessity, you know, for income. And I saw the same thing with my mom growing up, you know, that was one of the ways we generated income. It's going around to the Pow wows and getting to be a part of community, which was like a huge bonus to that, but you know, ultimately, making a living and paying bills.