(Jaimie Kechego - narrator) We are excited to be on location at Culture Shock Bead Company store in Windsor, Ontario, where founder Kathryn Pasquach and her mother Mary Ann, will be sharing their thoughts on the importance of intergenerational and interrelational learning. They learned from their matriarch, Mary Ann's mom, who passed on the teachings to Mary Ann, then to Kat, and likely beyond with grandchildren in the future. Join us in this conversation around materialism, consumption, lessons of accessing supplies from the bush to the table, to the crafts you see. What is important about how you learn and pass knowledge along (Kat Pasquach) In terms of learning for myself, I never did well reading from a textbook and trying to apply that to daily life. If I were to look at a pattern like the say for even for beadwork, I think I have a very hard time processing my reading that way, and how I learned is by watching and looking at other people's work and actually being able to take apart something. and it has to be very tangible for me. That's the best way that I've learned and that's how I learned so many skills growing up. It was like watching my mom and my grandmother sew and cut things and be very precise. And I don't think that we have enough of that, those opportunities to actually sit and listen and observe. And I think that that happens in our in our communities a lot is that children are always involved in everything. They're always brought along. They're always there kind of spectating. And even if they're playing in the background, they're still being exposed to all of these different cultural elements. If we are upset, you have to put down your work because you're gonna make mistakes and it's just not going to, you don't want to put that out into the world. And ultimately.

(Mary Ann Pasquach) I would never do my craft if I'm upset, you know angry. I'm always doing it when I'm happy. And sometimes when people buy something, you can feel the energy. When you make moccasins you feel the energy. I think that's what my value anyways to when I do something I always have like a good heart and good mind. (Kat Pasquach) Just in terms of like learning the beginning of anything, I feel like we put a lot of pressure on ourselves to be as good as somebody who has been doing something for five ten twenty years. There's a big lesson in humility is that whenever you think that you are going to be creating, or achieving is never going to, it will very rarely match that expectation. So we'd need to be more forgiving of ourselves. And that humility piece comes in because sometimes when we put together just doesn't look good, it's not the expectation, but it has to take time to be able to develop those skills. But we have way too much expectations because there's so much social media is a big problem with that, right? All we see is the finished product. We don't see the headaches, the tears, the process, that hours that are spent dedicated to mastering this craft. We only see the final product. So, when we think about when you're looking at consumerism we're so detached from production and how food goes from the farm to our table. And, growing up had the opportunity to actually see what the processes like to actually go fishing, catch the fish, and learn how to cut it yourself and then cook it straight from nature into, onto your dinner plate. And then when we moved back home, Moosonee Ontario, and then watching my family go out and hunt and bring back an animal to camp to be cleaned, and learning about all of that process and lot of people don't have that connection. You can walk into a grocery store and everything's already there for you. We lose that respect and that connection to the animals that feed us, the land that grows the plants, and all the sustenance that we need in our lives. So when you actually have that opportunity to connect, you have that much more respect for things that are growing and living around you, and when we're working with these materials like these, this was once part of a living animal. And it's so important to be reciprocal in that relationship that you are giving thanks and that you're not being wasteful as much as possible because I guess the way that it is in our culture, you, there's no need for mass- you don't take vast amounts of anything. You don't take more than you need. And when we think about future generations, what's the world going to look like if we, we lose all the animals that we rely on now to continue moccasin making and sustaining ourselves, whether it's eating or creating crafts or whatnot. (Mary Ann Pasquach)

So you say that this is your learning, and let's say moccasins. And, you make another pair. It's going to be a different pattern. Like nothing is going to be the same.

Like nothing is going to be the same. Nothing. Because one day you're stitching could be small, and another day it is going to be bigger. I'm trying to follow that and pass it on to my children, my grandchildren, but they are still too young.