

SPOTLIGHT ON FILM



Back in September I had the privilege of watching Shayla Howell's documentary *End of the Ice Age: The Last Winter of the Inuvik – Tuktoyaktuk Ice Road* at the YK Film Festival. Now I am even more pleased to announce that we have added the film to Yellowknife Public Library's DVD collection.

Not having been to either community before, I have long wanted to make the trek (ever since Metallica and Hole visited Tuk back in 1995), and while I may never get the chance to do so by ice road again, I can now drive there year round. In the meantime, I feel that I really got a sense of the communities, the people, and the landscape from Howell's film, despite the short runtime of only 25 minutes.

This is accomplished with superb cinematography and insightful, often funny, stories from those working on the very last ice road and those who traveled the ice road year after year. Howell also keeps the tone balanced. There's nostalgia for a way of life that is ending, but optimism for the change ahead.

End of the Ice Age is an essential record of a monumental change for these two communities and the territory as a whole; it's also an entirely pleasurable viewing experience.

John Mutford, Library Manager

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