

Biography of Producers, Definitive Lines:

Marilyn James was given the responsibilities and title of Appointed Spokesperson for Sinixt Nation in 1991 by a traditional Elders council. She and her daughter, Taress Alexis, have hosted a radio program called "Sinixt Radio" for 15 years, with the help of Catherine Fisher (who is not Sinixt).

Sinixt are a trans-border people who were declared extinct "for the purposes of the Indian Act" in 1956.

Note about "Definitive Lines"

Definitive Lines is a 4-part radio series produced by Sinixt Nation in partnership with Kootenay Co-op Radio for the NCRA's Resonating Reconciliation project.

Part one of the project discusses the history of the Sinixt extinction; residential schools; violence and murder of Sinixt people; impacts of the border, past and present; and various past and present colonial policies and practices, such as the Indian Act, Residential Schools, treaty processes, the Columbia River Treaty, and how the lack of legal recognition of Sinixt due to their supposed "extinction" have impacted on Sinixt peoples' ability to uphold their cultural responsibilities.

We have submitted five short clips excerpted from part one of the series. The five segments are pasted together with a five to ten second space placed in between, so as to give the jurors a sense of some of the themes in the program. We hope this will not be confusing.

Clip One: Introduction to the documentary mentions some important themes of the documentary, and background for the listener.

Clip Two: Marilyn James speaks about how Canada's "Indian Problem" was created by the colonial process.

Clip Three: Marilyn James and Catherine Fisher speak about the early contact period in the Columbia Basin.

Clip Four: Marilyn James speaks about the Indian Act

Clip Five: Marilyn James speaks about the importance of "definitive lines" to the Sinixt.

Incidental music in the documentary is by Alberta musician Kathleen Yearwood.