

# WE REMEMBER

## THE COMING OF THE WHITE MAN

### Dene Elders tell the history of their times

By Elizabeth Yakeleya & Sarah Simon et al; Ed: Sarah Stewart;

Foreword & Filmmaker: Raymond Yakeleya; Afterword: Colette Poitras



A work in progress since the 1970s, *We Remember the Coming of the White Man* chronicles the history of the Dene People in the extraordinary time of the early 20th century. Chapters are transcripts of oral histories by ten Elders about

their recollections of the early days of fur trading, guns, and flu pandemic; dismay about the way oil and uranium discoveries and pipelines were handled on their land; and the emotional and economic fallout of the signing of Treaty 11. Rich with photographs, Elders' stories are in English and Dene Gwich'in. Bundled with the book is a remastered DVD version of Raymond Yakeleya's stunning 1978 film *We Remember*, with director's commentary. The audiobook, produced by Leanne Goose and read by Dene, Métis, and Inuvialuit narrators, is also due for release soon. For more info, excerpts from the book and film clips, [https://durvile.com/books/We\\_Remember.html](https://durvile.com/books/We_Remember.html)



#### Sarah Stewart, *Editor*

Sarah Stewart is a writer who lived for many years in the Northwest Territories. She and her husband Bill Stewart were part of Raymond's team *We Remember*.



#### Raymond Yakeleya, *Foreword/Filmmaker*

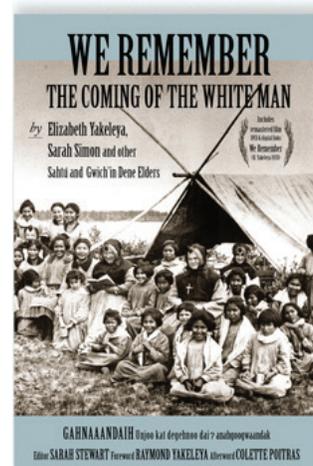
Raymond is an award-winning Dene television producer, director and writer, originally from Tulita in NWT, now residing in Edmonton. His award-winning documentary films including *We Remember* for CBC and *The Last Mooseskin Boat* for NFB have screened at festivals around the world.



#### Colette Poitras, *Afterword*

Colette is Red River Métis and Chair of the Canadian Federation of Library Associations Indigenous Matters Committee. She believes libraries have a duty and the privilege to partner with Indigenous community to preserve and revitalize Indigenous languages.”]

Dene translation is by Bella Ross and Sarah Jerome.



“Our traditional knowledge is recorded in the stories of our ancestors since time immemorial. In this book, you will read our oral history and traditions that are our Dene parables, used to guide ourselves and our People.” — Dene National Chief Norman Yakeleya

“With rare mastery of his film-making craft, Dene story-teller Raymond Yakeleya carries on in this book, bringing a former and still ever-present world of wolf, bear and raven ik'o, medicine, magic and mystery to LIFE, to modern meaning.” —Antoine Mountain, author of *From Bear Rock Mountain: The Life and Times of a Dene Residential School Survivor*

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