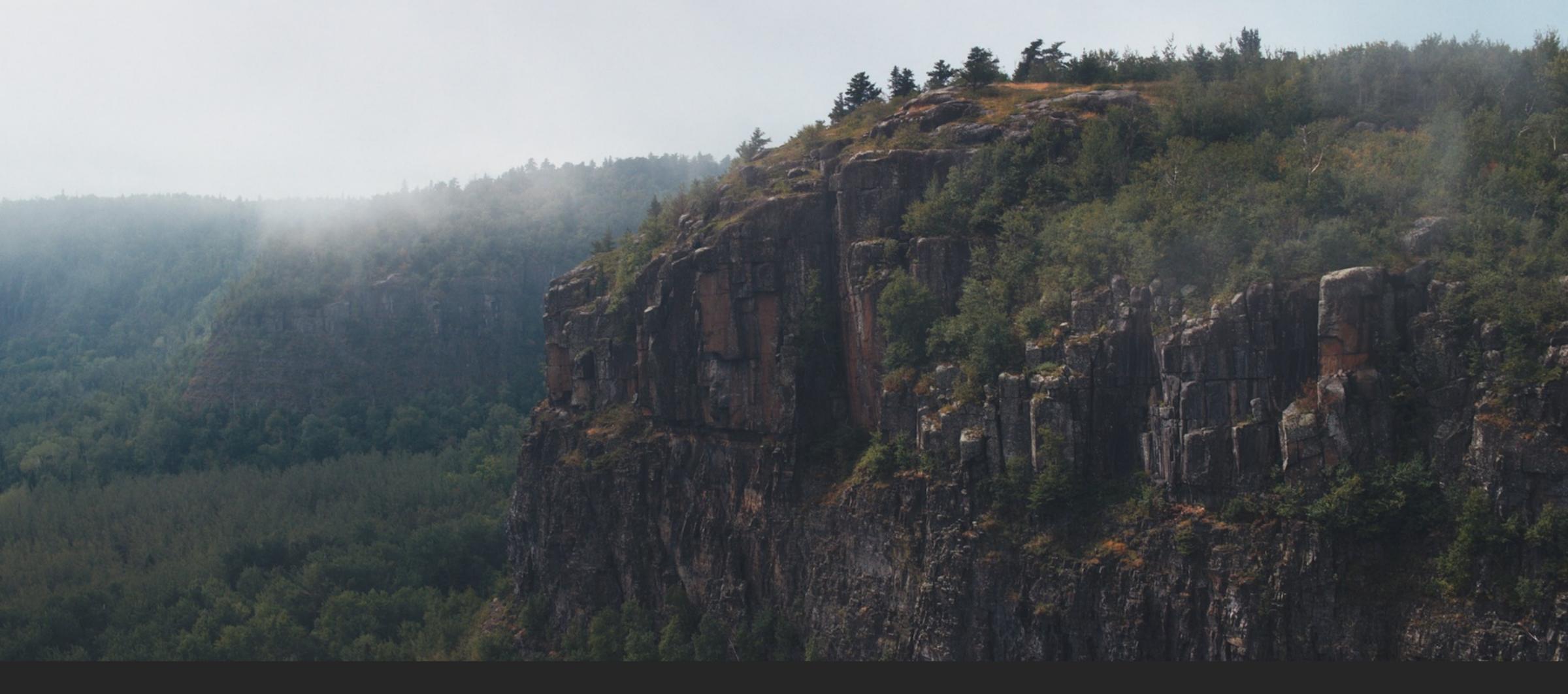


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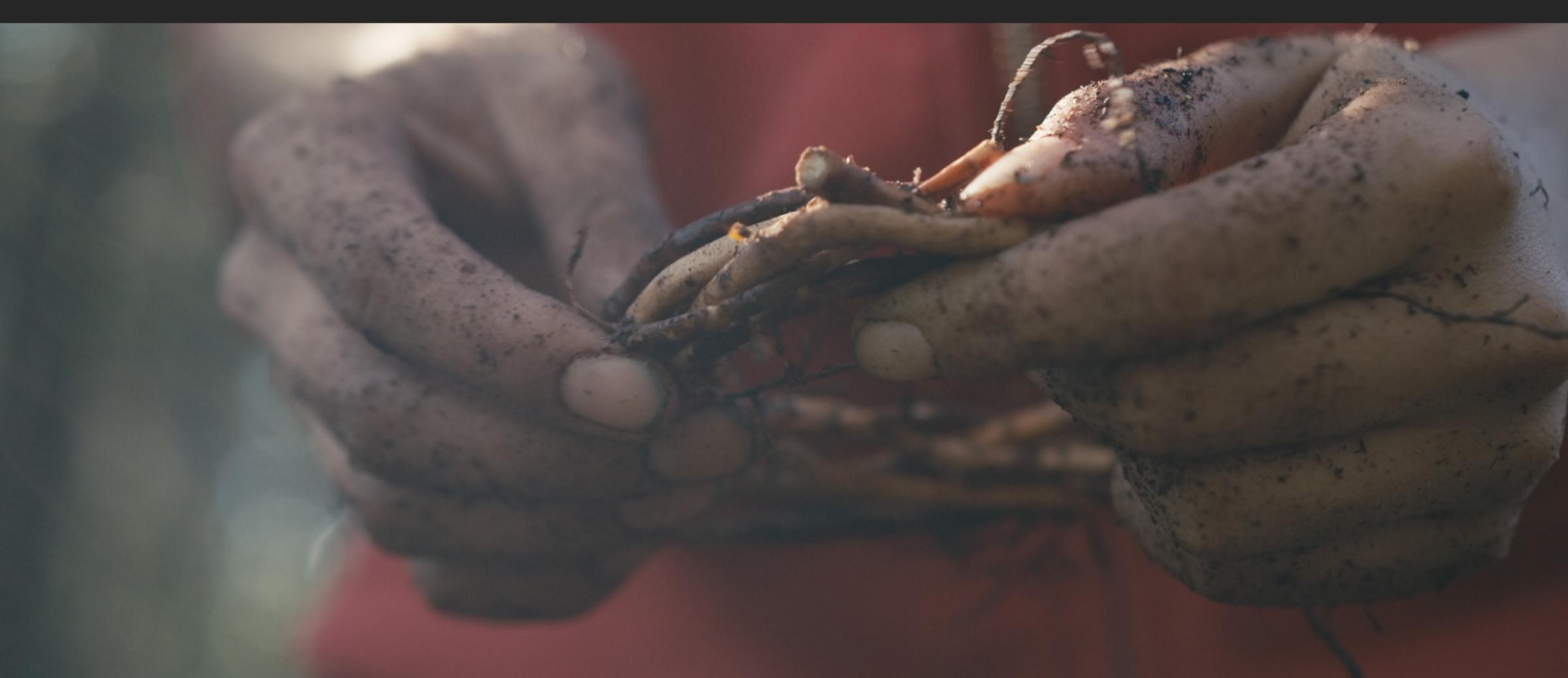


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For adventure travel stories about: Connection, Challenge, Landscapes, Newcomers, and Indigenous Culture

> Please visit: ontariotravel.net/paddle



The CANA MADE

A FILM BY GOH IROMOTO

FILM DESCRIPTION

"If it is love that binds people to places in this nation of rivers and in this river of nations then one enduring expression of that simple truth, is surely the canoe." - <u>James Raffan</u>, adventurer, acclaimed author and Director Emeritus of the <u>Canadian Canoe Museum</u>.

This evocative short documentary film by <u>Goh Iromoto</u> captures the human connection and the remarkable bond created by Canada's well-known craft and national symbol, the canoe. By illustrating the stories of five paddling enthusiasts across the province of Ontario, Canada—a majestic background both in landscape and history—viewers can envision how the canoe has allowed different people to connect with their families, their inner selves, their landscapes, their homes and new and traditional Canadian cultures.

The film underscores the strength of the canoe and the human spirit and how the canoe can be a vessel for creating deep and meaningful connections. This film is a true reflection of what Canadian canoe culture looks like today.

Trailer Link: <u>https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=lFlnZsS6sUk</u> Full Film Link: <u>https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=x9b8iOjXZWE&t=16s</u>



MEDIA DOWNLOAD

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STORIES ABOUT THE CANADIAN CANOE CULTURE

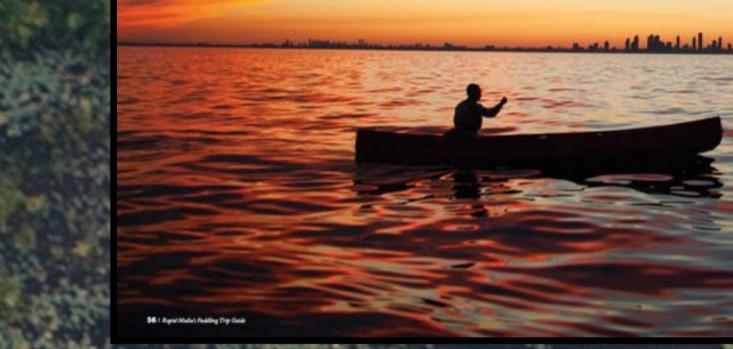
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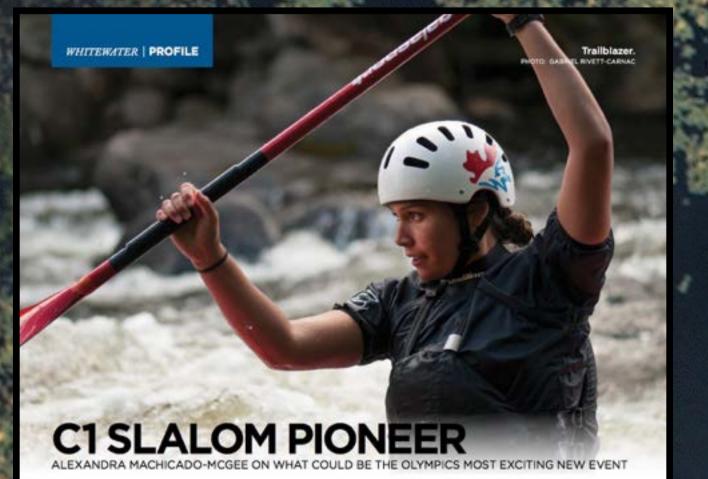


It's a cool, misty morning at the powworc grounds on Anomki Wajico, which overlook the City of Thunder Bay on Fort William First Nation on Lake Superior's north shore. A group of four young men and women are prepping the workspace and materials to build a hirobbark cance. They've already gathered the bark, spruce roots, cedar and spruce gum from the land, following traditions of their ancestors. Their work is part of a resurgence of Ojibwe culture at Fort William, but what appears to be a leson about craftsmanubip is actually about respect-for the land, culture and each other.



Birchbark Dreams by Michelle McChristie

New Life by Hannah Griffin



In 2009, Alexandra Machicado-McGee was the first and only woman invited buzz for the 2020 games in Tokyo centered on the new sports that will be competitor on the world stage.

the Madawaska and Gull rivers.

most memorable moment came at the 2013 International Canoe Federation then be 28 years old-practically an old-timer by Olympic standards—and (ICF) U-23 C1 championships, where she placed sixth.

life this past summer. As the 2016 Rio Olympics wrapped up, much of the

to complete an undergraduate degree in preparation for law school. She says women's C1 slalom is accepted in the 2020 Olympics, McGee expects that she was ready to hang up her paddle professionally. "There needs to be a life after you finish living the dream, "she says, adding For a girl who chose the canoe because she could see the waterlines clearer, that she was ready to focus her energies elsewhere.

to the Canadian national team trials in whitewater C1 slalom racing. There included, such as climbing and surfing. Lost in the mainstream media hype she then completed the required number of gates to qualify for the national was the news that for the first time ever, female C1 paddlers may get the team. The national team trials would not only change McGee's life but the chance to compete for Olympic gold. course of history for female C1 paddlers. At 17 years old, McGee came in third last in that national event. However from the moment she crossed the finish the men's and women's sprint and slalom disciplines, though this has yet to

line, she was hooked and would go on to become an accomplished slalom be ratified by the International Olympic Committee (IOC). To go from C1 pioneer to Olympian is a chance McGee dreams about.

McGee grew up near the whitewater mecca of the Ottawa River in "The future is promising with word that national funding could be coming Ontario, Canada. She began paddling at eight years old. It wasn't long before from the federal government for female competitors for the first time," says she was soloing a hand-me-down Esquif Detonator. As her skills increased, McGee. "Without women's C1 being included in the Olympics, corporations she cut her on teeth at paddling fostivals and open cance slalom events on have not been on board to provide funding or sponsorship because there is no media exposure."

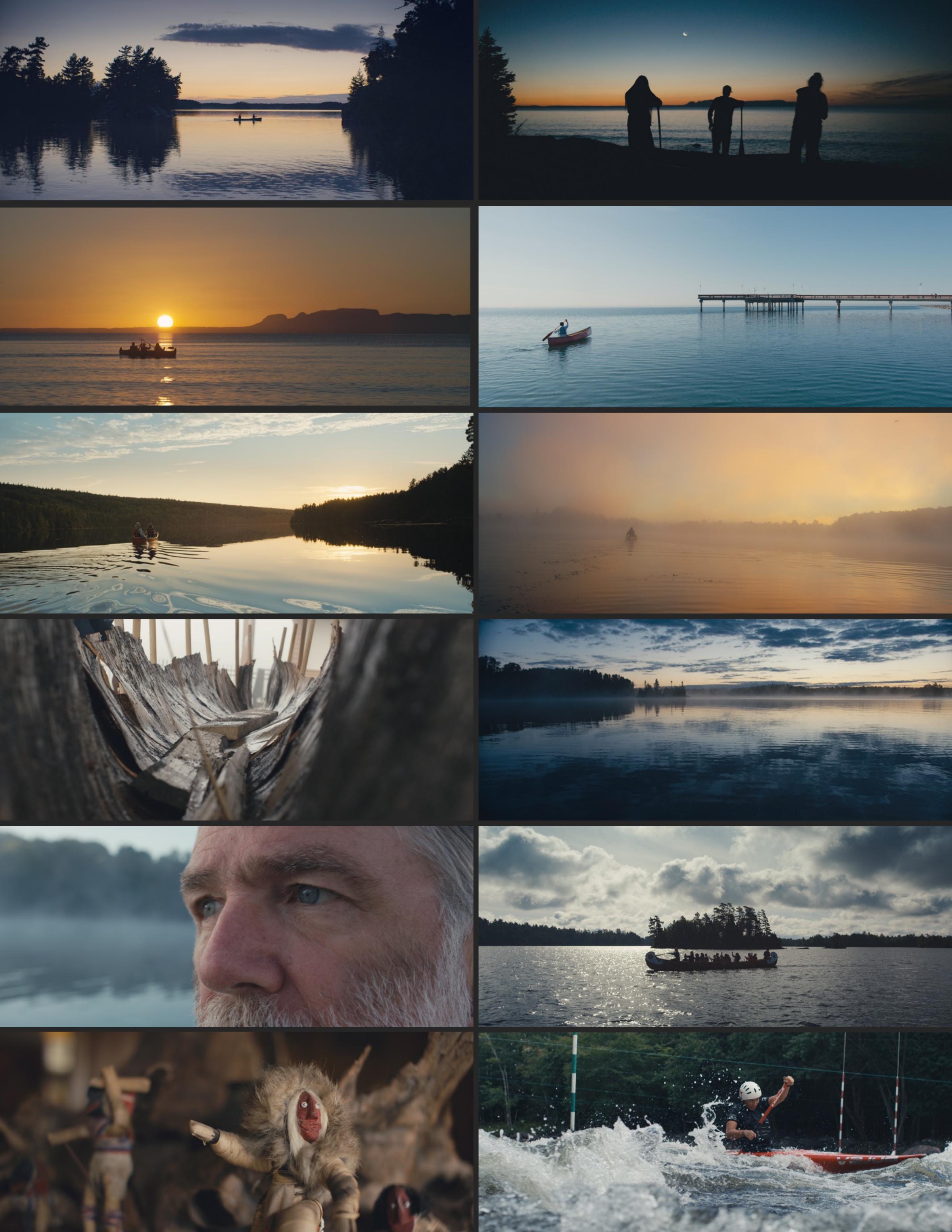
McGee has represented Canada all over the world for the last six years. Her If women's C1 slalom is included in the Tokyo Olympics, McGee will a 10-year veteran of the sport. Since first competing in 2009, the number of McGee took the last year off from the international competition circuit countries that boast female race training development has grown to 40. If

number will only grow.

hat she was ready to focus her energies elsewhere. However, her dream of competing in the Olympics came roaring back to to a woman possibly representing her country in a first-ever Olympic event, the future is bright. —Gabriel Rivert-Carnac

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C1 Slalom Pioneer by Gabriel Rivett-Carnac







#PADDLEON

