

A SORRY STATE

Meet the most apologized-to family in the country.
Maybe the world.



PANACEA ENTERTAINMENT AND UP & AWAY PRODUCTIONS PRESENT

A FILM BY MITCH MIYAGAWA "A SORRY STATE"

EXECUTIVE PRODUCER JOSH MILLER PRODUCERS LISA BYRNE, MITCH MIYAGAWA COMMISSIONING EDITOR, TVO JANE JANKOVIC
STORY EDITOR MANFRED BECKER EDITED BY SIMON MORGAN, JAYDEN SOROKA, MICHAEL VERNON, ROLEY WIGHT
DIRECTOR OF PHOTOGRAPHY RANDY TOMIUK COMPOSER KEIKO DEVAUX WRITTEN AND DIRECTED BY MITCH MIYAGAWA

Is saying "sorry" enough?

Can a word fix past atrocities and heal victims' pain, or is talk cheap?

In 1988, Mitch Miyagawa's Japanese-Canadian family received an apology from Prime Minister Brian Mulroney for the internment of Japanese Canadians during WWII.

Mitch's stepmother Etheline was a young victim of residential schools for Aboriginal children. His stepfather, Harvey, is the son of Chinese immigrants who were burdened with a racist head tax. Both also received official apologies from the Canadian government.

Mitch has the most apologized-to family in the country—maybe the world. But what do these apologies mean, to his parents, his young children and to his country?

Motivated by a desire to pass down the family story to his young children, Mitch travels across Canada and revisits those painful pasts—from old residential schools to the fields of southern Alberta. He sees how his parents, stepparents and others have each chosen different paths: to ignore, to forgive, or to remain bitter.

Along the way, he discovers a worldwide wave of official government apologies, and delves into Canada's latest attempts at reconciliation for other past wrongs.

A wry, honest and emotionally powerful film, **A Sorry State** investigates how we deal with past government-perpetrated trauma, explores our sense of nationhood and identity and witnesses the different ways we pass this dark legacy down to future generations.



Up and Away Productions
710 Alexander Street
Whitehorse, YT Y1A 2M5
t. 867.334.3388
miyagawa@upandaway.ca
www.upandaway.ca



Panacea Entertainment
9876A-33 Avenue, 2nd Floor
Edmonton, AB T6N 1C6
t: 780.490.1220
jmiller@panaceaentertainment.com
www.panaceaentertainment.com

A Sorry State

Written and Directed by Mitch Miyagawa

Executive Producer Josh Miller

Produced by Lisa Byrne and Mitch Miyagawa

47:10 English POV Documentary
HD / Closed Captioning / Described Video / 5.1 Surround Sound

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