

Laura Milliken Biography

Laura J. Milliken is an accomplished producer and entrepreneur and a member of the Kettle and Stony Point First Nation. She is President and CEO of Toronto-based Big Soul Productions and is co-creator and co-executive producer of the Gemini-nominated dramatic television series, *Moccasin Flats*. Since establishing Big Soul Productions over twenty years ago, Laura has co-created, and produced numerous award-winning programs, including a debut feature film, *Fire Song*, 32 episodes of *Guilt Free Zone* (APTN), 22 episodes of *Moccasin Flats* (Showcase/APTN), a *Moccasin Flats* television movie entitled *Redemption*, 20 episodes of the animated comedy series, *By The Rapids* (APTN), 39 episodes of *The Seventh Generation* (APTN), and numerous short films, television specials, documentaries, music videos, PSA's and corporate videos.

Laura began producing television at the age of 26 when she worked as an Associate Producer for the National Aboriginal Achievement Awards. She has since garnered numerous acknowledgments and awards since then, including the *2007 CFTPA Mentor of the Year*, *2003 Female Entrepreneur of the Year* from the Southern First Nations Secretariat, *Youth Entrepreneur of the Year* from *Miziwe Biik Employment and Training in 2004*, the *Toronto 1 Executive Mentorship Award* from Women in Film and Television in 2004, the *Ross Charles Award* in 2001 to attend the Aboriginal Screenwriters Workshop at the Banff Centre and two Sundance Producers Fellowships to attend the 2002 and 2004 Sundance Independent Producers Conference at the Sundance Institute. In 2015 she was nominated as one of the top five finalists for the CMPA Feature Film Producer's Award.

Big Soul Productions is a content creator and producer with a passion for expressing Indigenous voices and perspectives. At the heart of that passionate mission is a fierce determination to discover talent, unearth incredible stories and craft them in collaboration with funders, talent and stakeholders to generate a new and exciting movement in storytelling for screen-based media in Canada and around the world.