

**Nukum Mani Shan School  
Davis Inlet  
presents**

**“Orphan Boy, An Innu Legend”**

**Cast**

<b>Orphan Boy.....</b>	<b>Tommy Poker</b>
<b>Elder.....</b>	<b>Patricia Andrew</b>
<b>Young Husband.....</b>	<b>Mary Madeline Rich</b>
<b>Young Wife.....</b>	<b>Desiree Andrew</b>
<b>Narrator.....</b>	<b>Chris Igloliorte</b>

**Teacher Advisor**

**Scott Follett**

Narrator: There was once a boy who lived with his elders. He would work for them and do work that any man could do; He fetched water, gathered wood but he was too small to go hunting yet. He would go into the woods just to be by himself. He sometimes just sits and watches the other boys treated very good by their parents . He watches the other men teaching their sons with everything like making arrows, He would watch, not moving, then the man would hug his son because he learns very quickly. That's when the boy runs into the woods and covers his face with his hands and cries. He longed to be with his father, but his father has gone home to the spirit world. His mother too has gone home to the spirit world. That left him alone and very lonely. He went home to the elders who would scream at him and say where have you been. I want you to get wood, get water but you are too lazy to do anything. They would hit him on the head. He would sit far away from them. He would not cry because he's been treated like this for a long time. In the mornings he would get up early because if he didn't get up when the elders are up he would get another beating. They live in a teepee with a younger couple. Whenever the elders beat him the young man feels sorry for him, but can't say anything to the elders. He learns to respect them. One day it started snowing and the men in the camp find it very hard to travel on the land because the snow is getting deep. Some men went hunting and they sometimes bring only one rabbit or partridge home and that's not enough to feed the other people. Then the food became less and less. People go around the camp sharing what they can with the others and the boy gets less and less food from the elders. They only give him food when they are finished eating. Sometimes they would throw bones at him saying "you don't deserve to live". The boy would stay hungry. He often goes to sleep hungry. Then the whole camp got nothing to eat. People were hungry. Then one night there is a silence and everyone is sleeping. The boy is lying awake. He listens to the drum beat far away. The drum beat sounds closer and closer. Suddenly he sat up and said "I can hear the drum, They are dancing." The elder got up and took a stick and hit him with it, saying how can anyone be dancing when we are starving here. He said go back to sleep. Then they all did but the boy stays awake. He hears the drum again. He said "listen, I hear the drum again and the people dancing. It sounded so close. Then again the elder took the stick and hit him again. He said stop this and go to sleep. When the boy went back to sleep the young couple who live with them hears what he was saying. Then the man said to his wife "Go and gather some clothing and moccasins for the boy. When he gets up again just dress him up and I will take him to where he hears the dancing. That night the woman listens for the boy to get up. Then finally when everyone is sleeping the boy got up. Then the woman quickly went to him and said "here let me dress you up and you can go where you hear the dancing." The boy was very excited. When he got dressed the man was already dressed to go. Then he put things in his bag what he needed for the trip. He took his knife and a rope. Then they were ready to go. He took snowshoes with them. One for him and one for the boy. While they are walking he says to the boy "Do you hear the drum?" The boy says "Yes and it comes very close." They walk very far. The man kept asking the boy if he still hears it and the boy always says yes. Then they walk towards the mountain and the boy said the drum beat comes from up there pointing at the mountain. Then they started climbing. When they are at the top it was dawn. The boy looked down and said "There. That's where they are dancing." The man looked at the lake below. He was surprised to see that there are a lot of caribou sitting on the ice. By then the sun was making its way up. Then they went down and the man started to prepare the trap for the caribou. Then

when he was finished he said to the boy "Now you have to scream at the caribou so they can run into my trap." The boy looks at the man for a sign and to get ready to scream. The man said to the boy "Now!" The boy screamed and the man was surprised at the boy's voice because he hears it all around the lake. The caribou were confused and they all ran towards the trap. They caught a lot of caribou. Then the man hugged the boy and said he did good today. The boy was very happy. Then the man started making a fire and he cooked some meat for the boy. When they were full the man said "Now it's time to go home. Go cut the small piece of that meat and when we reach home if the elder says anything to you just throw that meat inside his teepee and see what he says next." They started walking home. When they reached home the boy took off his snowshoes and when the elder hears the other people shouting saying that they returned home, the boy hears the elder saying with an angry voice now what did he bring. The one who hears drums. The boy throws in the meat and the elder looked at the meat. he couldn't say anything. That was the last time the boy ever got hit. The young couple raised him as their own. The boy grew up to be a great hunter and was greatly respected by the people for he saved the people from starvation. In this story, caribou master was the one saving the people. He picked the boy who was poor and who is not respected . Only the animals knew that the boy had no parents and that he was not treated very good. That is why the animals don't give themselves to the hunters. Even the weather is bad and it's snowing. The mother also knows what we did and that they don't prove our actions towards each other and sometimes we have to pay the price. In this story we learn respect, to respect the elders and the youth also, the animals and the earth. This story I am telling you is true.