

Lloyd Salomone  
DOCTalks Presents  
26 September 2023

Dear Lloyd,

I am writing to express my interest in screening the documentary *The Case of Luke Elwood* on CHCO-TV and CIMC-TV as part of the documentary initiative between DOCTalks and these broadcasters.

I am an Atlantic Canadian Filmmaker, Associate Professor in the Faculty of Education at the University of New Brunswick, and one of the three filmmakers behind Frictive Pictures Inc. (a New Brunswick-based production company). *The Case of Luke Elwood* is a research and documentary collaboration I coordinated with Dr. Lynn Aylward of Acadia University. We feel this film exemplifies the spirit of the knowledge-based media that DOCTalks strives to support, and we would love to be a part of this new broadcast venture.

The film documents the 1987 Luke Elwood case, which was a constitutional challenge on the right to education for disabled youth. Luke Elwood was an elementary student with an intellectual disability in The Halifax County Bedford District School Board. His family challenged his placement in a Special Education class rather than a placement with his grade-level peers at his neighborhood school. The Charter of Rights and Freedoms case was settled by injunction and Luke was permitted an integrated educational experience. The Luke Elwood case was one of the first Charter of Rights and Freedoms challenges of Section 15: discrimination based on mental disability and is often cited as a precursor to movements for educational equity and inclusion.

The film is 22 minutes and features Luke, Elwood family members, and one of the lawyers involved in the case. The interviews, documents and archival donations from family members and those involved directly in the case are compelling and bring the history to life. These artifacts and resources are also a part of another project focused on creating a digital archive that will ensure that the Elwood case and Luke's story will no longer be a hidden piece of Canadian history. The goal is to make this knowledge accessible to a wide audience for educational and interdisciplinary research purposes. The opportunity to screen this film to other audiences through the DOCTalks Film Series would give us a chance to expand the reach of this important story in our region's, and Canada's, educational history.

Please do not hesitate to contact me for any reason regarding this film.

Link: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=FVgEJSkKDpY>

Best wishes,

Matt Rogers  
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