



# ADRIAN SUTHERLAND & MIDNIGHT SHINE

*Adrian Sutherland – Attawapiskat First Nation ON (lead vocals, guitars, keys)  
 Charnelle Menow – Norway House Cree Nation MB (drums, backup vocals)  
 Stan Louttit – Moose Cree First Nation ON (bass, backup vocals)  
 Zach Tomatuk – Moose Cree First Nation ON (guitar, backup vocals)*



## MEDIA STORIES (Select List)

CBC The National with Wendy Mesley  
 CBC q with Tom Power  
 CBC News Toronto  
 CBC News Sudbury  
 CBC Unreserved  
 CTV News Winnipeg  
 CBC News Montreal  
 Huffington Post  
 Toronto Star  
 National Post  
 The Canadian Press  
 SOCAN'S Words + Music  
 Samaritanmag.com

They came together by chance. They stayed together for a shot. When **Adrian Sutherland** from the isolated Cree community of Attawapiskat was offered opening spot for a Trooper concert in Timmins, he reeled in three other musicians from the James Bay region to form **Midnight Shine**. His intention back in 2011 was to make the most of a one-off performance. Nine years, nine "Top 10" radio singles, three albums, and 300+ media stories later... you could say he has.

Turning heads with an unforgettable sound that seamlessly mixes roots, classic and modern rock with touches of Mushkegowuk Cree, **Adrian Sutherland & Midnight Shine** have been lighting up the music world all the way from Canada's Far North.

## MUSIC

*Sister Love  
 Survivor  
 High Road  
 Velocity  
 Northern Man  
 Since You Been Gone  
 James Bay  
 Cold Walker*

Crafting a musical soundscape that gives a glimpse into their remote Canadiana landscape, they continue to push musical boundaries and boldly take new strides, while staying true to who they are and where they come from. A must-see band you'll take a real shine to.



## MUSIC VIDEOS

*Lonely Boy  
 Released Sep 12, 2019  
 Heart of Gold (Cover)  
 Released Jan 8, 2019  
 I Need Angels  
 Released Nov 8, 2018  
 Bobcaygeon (Cover)  
 Released Jan 14, 2019*



## PREVIOUS SHOWS (Select List)

Reeperbahn Music Festival – Hamburg, Germany  
 Bella Coola Music Festival – Bella Coola BC  
 Vancouver Folk Music Festival – Vancouver BC  
 Indigenous Music Awards – Winnipeg MB  
 Indigenous Arts Festival – Toronto ON  
 Indigenous Day Live – Sudbury ON  
 The Port Theatre's Spotlight Series – Nanaimo BC  
 SKOOKUM Festival – Vancouver BC  
 Blue Mountain Village – Collingwood BC  
 Trakside Festival – London ON  
 It's Your Festival – Hamilton ON  
 Stars and Thunder Festival – Timmins ON  
 APTN's Indigenous Day Live – Winnipeg MB  
 CBC Music Festival – Toronto ON  
 Canadian Music Week – Toronto ON  
 ONtour Series – Kenora & Thunder Bay ON  
 Rock on the River – Timmins ON  
 The Drum is Calling Festival – Vancouver BC  
 RBC Ottawa Bluesfest – Ottawa ON  
 Summerfest – Guelph ON  
 Journalists for Human Rights – Toronto ON  
 CityFolk Festival – Ottawa ON

*"Sutherland's lyrics dance between truthfully portraying the hardship of northern life and celebrating that there's nowhere else he'd rather be... He doesn't diminish the ongoing crisis in Attawapiskat, but he wants to let some light into the picture..."*

*-- Nick Patch, Toronto Star*

*"This band's confidence has exploded. Their sound is Canada's Northern roots married to a James Bay soundscape... A band on the rise, no doubt..."*

*-- Timmins Daily Press*



## A FEW CAREER HIGHLIGHTS...

Adrian Sutherland has so far released **three studio albums** with his band Midnight Shine: *High Road* (2018), *Northern Man* (2014) and *Midnight Shine* (2013). For the latest album, *High Road*, two different producers were on board: John-Angus MacDonald (The Trews) recorded seven songs at Jukasa Studios in Ohsweken, Ontario, and Tim Vesely (Rheostatics) recorded two tracks at The Woodshed in Toronto (Blue Rodeo's studio).

Something new is adding **touches of cultural embellishment** to their music, with occasional Cree lyrics, hand-drumming, and a little creatively-placed pow wow. Lead single on *High Road* is an exceptional cover of **Neil Young's *Heart of Gold***, bringing a timely new sound to the timeless classic.

The *Heart of Gold* music video received 3k views on its first day of release, 30k the first two weeks, and media coverage from coast-to-coast. It has been called **"joyful, beautiful, important, and truly Canadian"** by music lovers around the world, and is getting spins on radio stations across North America and internationally. The video has so far received 222k views, and counting.

Debut video *I Need Angels* draws attention to the **suicide crisis**: "There are a lot of people struggling in Canada's far North. Being isolated can be tough, and I know a lot of people who suffer from depression," says Adrian Sutherland. "*I Need Angels* is about that inner struggle to not give up, and to **hang on to hope and faith** despite the darkness." Shot in Attawapiskat, the stunningly beautiful video has been labelled **"passionate and powerful"** and is resonating widely, with more than 87k views.

Four tracks (*Velocity*, *Sister Love*, *In the Midst*, *Northern Man*) **claimed #1 on the Indigenous Music Countdown (IMC)**. Debut single *Since You Been Gone* climbed to #2, *Heart*



*of Gold (Cover)* reached #3, *Lonely Boy* hit #4, *Leather Skin* peaked at #7, and *Over You* broke into the top-ten at #9.

Midnight Shine's presence at 2016 CMW **sparked a massive media buzz** netting Toronto Star's front page, CBC's The National, CTV's Canada AM, Canadian Press, Daily Vice, National Post, Metro Canada, Hamilton Spectator, Winnipeg Free Press, Calgary Herald, Edmonton Journal, Vancouver Sun, and more. Media from Victoria to Charlottetown picked up the story, quite possibly making them the first ever indie band to **gain nationwide media attention** before ever setting foot on tour.

"Quite a fascinating version of Neil's song. Love the First Nations' feel of it. Very cool..."  
-- **John Einarson, Neil Young Biographer & Music Historian**

"Putting a fresh spin on a classic is a tough task, but James Bay Indigenous roots-rockers Midnight Shine manages to do just that... Adrian Sutherland delivers a heartfelt and convincing vocal performance, and a section of the tune is sung in his Cree language. We reckon Neil would approve..."  
-- **Kerry Doole, FYI Music News**



"There is heart and fire in this band, and terrific vocal performance which at times conjures Neil Young... Singer Adrian Sutherland comes organically closer to the heart of what makes early Young so haunting than anyone else we've seen in years... A band to watch..."  
-- **Jacqueline Howell, DISARM Magazine**

A self-taught hockey player, Adrian was thrilled to play his favourite game alongside other **hockey-playing musicians and former NHL greats** in JUNO Cups in Ottawa (2017), Vancouver (2018), London (2019) and Saskatoon (2020).

In addition to making contemporary music, Adrian is a **traditional knowledge keeper** of the **Mushkegowuk Cree** of the James Bay. He speaks his language, participates in harvests, takes part in ceremonies, and is a **genuine example** of someone who lives authentically. He is a father of four, grandfather of four, hard-working husband, and respected leader, proud of who he is and where he comes from. Adrian is a real-life inspiration to Canadians everywhere, and a **positive role model** who brings hope to people in places where hope can be hard to find.

With a growing and significant voice on many issues in Canada today, Adrian **speaks from his mind and cares from his heart**. He is an insightful and resilient advocate with first-hand perspective on the challenges facing Attawapiskat and other First Nations, like contaminated water, critical housing shortages, rampant addiction, and the ongoing suicide crisis.

At this time of increasing awareness around **Reconciliation**, Adrian is hopeful for all Canadians to continue **taking steps together**.

### DIGITAL LINKS

[www.midnightshineonline.com](http://www.midnightshineonline.com)  
[www.youtube.com/midnightshineonline](https://www.youtube.com/midnightshineonline)  
[www.facebook.com/midnightshineonline](https://www.facebook.com/midnightshineonline)  
[www.twitter.com/midnightshineonline](https://www.twitter.com/midnightshineonline)  
[www.instagram.com/midnightshineonline](https://www.instagram.com/midnightshineonline)

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