



**TOMMY ATTACHIE AT MADÁTS'ATL'OJE (SNARE HILL)**  
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**DESCRIPTION OF CONTENTS:** Tommy Attachie, sitting in front of an oil well in the Madáts'atl'oje (Snare Hill) area, talks about how the landscape has changed since he spent time here as a boy in 1958. He describes the impact that the forestry and oil and gas industries have had on the Dane-zaa landscape and Dane-zaa culture. The footage of oil wells and industrial damage to Dane-zaa lands was filmed by Stacy Shaak, Robin Ridington, and Kate Hennessy between 2001 and 2006. The piece was edited by Kate Hennessy and Malcolm Levy, 2006.

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**RECORDED BY:** Youth Documentation Team: Brittany and Charmayne Brinkworth, Robin and Starr Acko. VMC Mentors: Kate Hennessy, Peter Biella, Pat Moore, Amber Ridington, Robin Ridington, Stacy Shaak.

**TRANSCRIPTION:** Kate Hennessy and Amber Ridington, 2006.

**KEY:** 00:00 indicates time in minutes and seconds; [ ] Indicates transcriber's note.

00:00

I was, ah, forty-seven years ago, I was in here. Today I sitting here, July one, year 2005.

00:12

Forty-seven years ago, I see different things up there. Everything quiet. Maybe once in a while you see a plane go through. And there's nothing here. Nice and peace.

00:30

And I was in here, you know. Today is July one. This land at Snaring Hill, highways all around it; west, northwest, and south, northeast. And I'm straight west from Lady[fern], that Snaring Hill [area], now.

00:53

And today, forty-seven years ago, seems, seems not too long. Talk just what we see here. They turned everything upside-down. All these thing we see. Nothing left.

1:16

And [once] they finish on top of this earth, they start under it. They're gonna' fly from Alaska, they're gonna' take a big pipeline, right to Chicago somewhere.

1:32

All this, even this beside me here, oil well, is gonna' go to Chicago. 'Cause uh, all these little ones [oil wells] join together, they're gonna' empty under [the land], you know. That's where the money is.

1:53

They take it under from our back, and they take 'em to Chicago. After they finish everything, what about these girls? They're growing. Now look, they help us in here [as video crew]. It's for them I talk.

2:12

After they get everything, empty this under [under the ground]. Some of them already got enough money, too much money; they just go to Hawaii or elsewhere. They just live nice life.

2:31

And us, in little reserves, still struggling. What about these younger ones, and my age, maybe thirties? Be nothing left. Everything, come highways through.

2:48

No gas. If then we buy, these younger ones growing up, buy gas; maybe be five dollars a gallon, a liter! They take it now, you know. Forty-seven years ago, I was here; look what, what happened now.

3:06

They open our eyes. Then uh, that's a real thing, you know. Then uh, I think for the future. It's starting heading that way, that's why we gotta' put the brakes. Stay there, hold 'em back.

3:27

We gotta' negotiate it, everything. Tell them what we want and then, you know, then everything will come in place. Where the big space there [at Doig's Cultural and Administrative Centre], you know, some good ones [leaders], falling in place like that, all become one. That's what, that's what I want.

3:48

Before, uh. Us Native people are forgiving people. What people do to us, we, we don't care. We pray for them, we just keep going. 'Till now, they open our eyes. These younger people will, will live. It is for them I talk. I am only Grade Three, but I can talk.

4:19

For end of story.