



Since Mindy Ward-Waye was a young child, she has dreamed of singing on 'the big stage'. Mindy grew up in New Brunswick in a small M'ikmaq community called Metepenagiag, population of 550. Melinda Rose Ward (a.k.a. Mindy) was born September 28, 1971 to Mary and Everett Ward; she was raised with her 4 brothers and 5 sisters. Mindy and her family grew up without a lot of money in a First Nation community and her parents often struggled to make ends meet. Mindy's parents knew from the time she could talk, she was going to be a 'singer'. They would sometimes tell Mindy, if they had the money they would enroll her in singing, piano and/or guitar lessons.

One November evening, she received a call from the New Brunswick Arts Board. It was person with whom she had lost contact for several years who had sung with Mindy at a Tom Jackson (of the Canadian Music Television's Huron Carol) concert in their First Nation community several years prior. Mindy had just returned from a date-night with her husband, when her 17 year-old son came running up the stairs to meet her at the door, informing her that a lady had called several times, wanting to know if she would be interested in singing at the 2010 Olympic Winter Games in Vancouver, BC. Of course, Mindy's reaction was that it was a joke her son was playing on her. It was then he gave the name and number of the person who had called. She knew instantly that it was no joke and that the little girl, who once dreamed the seemingly unattainable dream, would soon see her dream become a reality.

On February 23, 2010, Mindy Ward-Waye performed on that 'big stage' during 2010 Winter Olympics at the Atlantic Canada House on Granville Island, Vancouver BC. She represented New Brunswick as a M'ikmaq artist. She had shared the 'big stage' with a variety of artists such as Measha Brueggargosman (world-renown opera singer), Matt Anderson (East Coast music award-winning blues singer and instrumentalist), and David Myles (winner of the Folk Recording of the Year at the 2009 East Coast Music Awards).

Mindy's story is a true testament that dreams really do come true when you believe.