

# BLACKSTONE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

## **BLACKSTONE IS BACK!** **Award-winning drama begins shooting season 2 on July 18**

Edmonton, Alberta (July 13, 2011) -- **Prairie Dog Film + Television** is pleased to announce that the second season of **Blackstone** will begin production in Edmonton and rural Alberta on July 18.

Following the first season's cliffhanger finale, Season 2 picks up after the strip club shooting, and continues to delve into the tumultuous lives of the residents on the fictional Blackstone First Nation Reserve. Returning to the screen are cast members **Carmen Moore, Eric Schweig, Michelle Thrush, Nathaniel Arcand, Roseanne Supernault, Steven Cree Molison** and **Andrea Menard**. Season 2 will see the addition of the acclaimed **Gary Farmer** and **Tantoo Cardinal** to the cast.

"We have tremendous talent in *Blackstone* who bring to life the universal themes and conflicts that so many can relate to," says **Ron E. Scott**, who is executive producer, writer and director of *Blackstone*. "The first season earned a very loyal audience and garnered significant media acclaim, and we expect the second season to be even more riveting and uncompromising."

Intense, compelling and confrontational, *Blackstone* is an unmuted exploration of power, politics and relationships on a First Nation reserve. The one-hour television drama, which has already won five awards, is unlike any other show in Canadian television.

***"Occasionally, TV shows come along that make us ponder philosophies of entertainment and the new Canadian series Blackstone falls into that category."*** --  
**Toronto Sun**

***"Riveting in-your-face and as smart as Canadian dramatic TV gets."*** --**Playback**

### **AUTOGRAPH SIGNING**

To celebrate the start of Season 2 production, an autograph signing will take place in West Edmonton Mall (Newcap Stage) on Saturday July 23 at 1:00pm. Fans will have the opportunity to meet-and-greet *Blackstone* cast members, and enter to win prizes.

### **WIN A ROLE IN BLACKSTONE**

During the autograph signing session at West Edmonton Mall, a video booth will be set up for participants to 'audition' for a part in *Blackstone*. Script pages will be provided, and the top ten auditions will be posted online. Ultimately, fans will decide who will win a role in Season 2 that will be written into the series specifically for them.

*More on page 2...*

## **ABOUT THE PRODUCTION**

*Blackstone* is produced by Edmonton's Prairie Dog Film + Television, with **Ron E. Scott** as executive producer, writer and director, **Jesse Szymanski** as producer, **Damon Vignale** as producer and writer, and **Gil Cardinal** as writer. It's produced in association with Aboriginal Peoples Television Network, with the assistance of the Government of Alberta, Alberta Media Fund, with the participation of the Canada Media Fund and with the assistance of The Canadian Film or Video Production Tax Credit.

## **ABOUT PRAIRIE DOG FILM + TELEVISION**

Founded in 1993 by Metis Executive Producer, Director and Writer Ron E. Scott, Prairie Dog Film + Television is an independent film and television production company with a proven track record in international television series, prime time television specials, feature films, and major live audience productions.

## **ABOUT APTN**

September 1, 2010 marked the 11-year anniversary of the launch of the first national Aboriginal television network in the world with programming by, for and about Aboriginal Peoples to share with all Canadians and viewers around the world. APTN is available in approximately 10 million Canadian households and commercial establishments with cable, direct-to-home satellite (DTH), telco-delivered and fixed wireless television service providers. The network launched its high definition channel APTNHD in the spring of 2008. APTN does not receive government funding for operations but generates revenue through subscriber fees, advertising sales and strategic partnerships. APTN broadcasts programming with 56% offered in English, 16% in French and 28% in Aboriginal languages. For program schedule or for more information, please contact APTN at (204) 947-9331 or toll-free at 1-888-278-8862, or visit the website at [www.aptn.ca](http://www.aptn.ca).

[www.prairiedog.ca](http://www.prairiedog.ca)  
[www.blackstonetheseries.com](http://www.blackstonetheseries.com)

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## **AVAILABLE FOR MEDIA:**

- *Set visits & photo ops*
- *Interviews with cast & crew*
- *Hi-res jpegs for publishing*
- *Season 1 press kit with bios & notes*
- *Season 1 screeners*
- *Season 1 music*

## **CONTACT FOR MEDIA INQUIRIES:**

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