

BLACKSTONE

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BLACKSTONE GETS GREEN LIGHT FOR 4TH SEASON

(February 6, 2014) – Prairie Dog Film + Television is pleased to announce that Aboriginal Peoples Television Network (APTN) has green-lit the compelling and entertaining television series **Blackstone**: an un-muted exploration of First Nations' power and politics. While the dramatization can be dark and intensely real, **Blackstone** is foremost a story of hope in its portrayal of people fighting for a better life in their community. Production of Season 4 is slated for the spring of 2014.

"Blackstone Season 4 will continue to push the limits of the series' notorious and distinctive edge in cable network style. It tackles storylines of human trafficking, the residual effects of residential schools, and the high population of Aboriginal people in the prison system," says Ron E. Scott, Executive Producer, Writer & Director.

This incredible news is just on the heels of the announcement by **The Academy of Canadian Cinema** that **Blackstone** has been nominated for four Canadian Screen Awards including the coveted 'Best Dramatic Series,' for **Ron E. Scott, Jesse Szymanski** and **Damon Vignale**. Along with 'Best Performance by an Actress in a Continuing Leading Dramatic Role' for **Michelle Thrush**, 'Best Performance by an Actress in a Featured Supporting Role in a Dramatic Program or Series' for **Cheri Maracle**, and 'Best Writing in a Dramatic Series' for **Ron E. Scott** and **Damon Vignale**. **Blackstone** currently can be viewed at www.aptn.ca/blackstone

The **Canadian Screen Awards** 2-Hour Live Broadcast Gala is on Sunday March 9, 2014 @ 8 pm on CBC. For more visit: <http://www.academy.ca/Canadian-Screen-Awards>

ABOUT BLACKSTONE

Blackstone is produced by Prairie Dog Film + Television, with **Ron E. Scott** as Executive Producer, Writer and Director, **Jesse Szymanski** as Producer, **Damon Vignale** as Producer and Writer. The series currently broadcasts in Canada on APTN, in New Zealand on Maori Television, in Australia on SBS/NITV, and is internationally distributed by PPI Releasing. **Blackstone** has been nominated for **53 awards**, winning 20, including 2 Geminis, 4 Leo Awards and multiple Alberta Film and Television Awards.

Blackstone is produced in association with Aboriginal Peoples Television Network, the Canada Media Fund, with the assistance of the Government of Alberta, Alberta Media Fund, with the participation of Rogers Cable Network Fund, and with the assistance of the Canadian Film or Video Production Tax Credit.

For more information please visit www.prairiedog.ca and www.blackstonetheseries.com

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ABOUT APTN

APTN is 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. www.aptn.ca

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