

# Edmonton Economic Development Corp.

Edmonton Economic Development Corp. (EEDC) promotes Edmonton's economic and tourism development and manages the Edmonton Research Park and Shaw Conference Centre.

## There's more behind the lens at this local production company

By EEDC

**Award-winning television production Blackstone brings** more than lights, camera and action to Edmonton. It also brings a significant impact on the local economy.

After winning five Alberta Motion Picture Industry Association (AMPIA) awards, the stage is set for the locally produced series to make its mark on national television.

An intense, gripping and confrontational dramatic series, Blackstone is an unfiltered exploration of power and politics on an Indian Reserve. It's produced by Edmonton's Prairie Dog Film and Television in association with APTN and Showcase networks.

The ambitious drama has produced unique opportunities for local business and opened new doors for Edmonton to make another mark on the Canadian film/television industry.

"Blackstone is a significant win for Edmonton," said Edmonton Film Commissioner Brad Stromberg. "With a \$4.4-million production budget, Blackstone is enhancing our local economy by providing employment opportunities to more than 360 locals. And, many Edmonton businesses are feeling the positive effects of the production."

Equipment and gear supplier Matrix Video Communications is on-board, for example. Trucks and vans are being contracted

through Driving Force. Sutton Place Hotel and Imperial Suites have both been contracted for accommodations. And production offices, edit suites and art department work is going on at Edmonton's Film Alberta Studios. That's in addition to the involvement of on-screen locations such as Sturgeon Composite High School, Alberta Hospital, Road Runner Motel and the law building on the University of Alberta campus.

"Edmonton's film crews and related industries have a reputation for tenacity and flexibility," Stromberg adds. "A substantial production like Blackstone benefits the community in the use of local actors, carpenters, writers, production crew and so much more."

Filming for the series will continue for the rest of the summer before going into post-production in September. It will air on APTN and Showcase.

To view the trailer, visit

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

