

# BLACKSTONE

## CBC TELEVISION TO AIR THE AWARD-WINNING DRAMA *BLACKSTONE*

– *Blackstone* also available for the first time on iTunes –

### **FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

**Toronto. June 8, 2015** – Prairie Dog Film + Television announces that the powerful and gritty primetime drama *Blackstone* will bow on CBC Television starting June 15. Launching as part of CBC's National Aboriginal History Month programming, the series explores the real-life issues facing Canada's Aboriginal community as explored through the characters of the fictional Blackstone First Nation reserve. *Blackstone* seasons one and two air on CBC starting **June 15 at 11:30 p.m./midnight NT**. The series will run Monday through Friday in the same timeslot until July 7. The series is also available for download – for the first time ever – on iTunes starting June 16.

“We are thrilled to bring *Blackstone* to the CBC,” says Ron E. Scott, showrunner & director. “We’ve always used *Blackstone* as a platform to draw attention to the news that affects the Aboriginal community today – from drug abuse to the epidemic of missing Aboriginal women – and now a whole new audience will experience these relevant and powerful stories.”

Compelling and uncompromising, *Blackstone* is an authentic drama that explores the raw and real dynamics of family, power and politics. *Blackstone* is both a portrayal of a community plagued by corruption, violence and injustice, and an inspiring story of the undying hope and resilience of a people fighting for a better life in the midst of adversity.

Currently viewers can download seven behind-the-scenes videos through CBC's portal on iTunes. Following that, nine behind-the-scenes videos from season two will be available from June 16. Each episode of “Blackstone” will be available for purchase on iTunes following its CBC broadcast.

*Blackstone* has been nominated for 89 awards, winning 29, including two Geminis, six Leo Awards and multiple Alberta Film & Television Awards.

*Blackstone* season one features Carmen Moore, Eric Schweig, Michelle Thrush, Nathaniel Arcand, Roseanne Supernault, Steven Cree Molison, Andrea Menard, Justin Rain and Gordon Tootoosis. Season two sees the addition of Tantoo Cardinal, Georgina Lightning, Garry Chalk, Frank Cassini and Cameron Bancroft.

*Blackstone* is produced by Prairie Dog Film + Television, with Ron E. Scott as showrunner & director, Jesse Szymanski as co-executive producer, and Damon Vignale as writer/producer. The series broadcasts in Canada on APTN and is currently in production of season 5. As well, it is in the United States on Hulu, in New Zealand on Maori Television, in Australia on SBS/NITV, and is internationally distributed by PPI Releasing.

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**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, the participation of Rogers Cable Network Fund, and with the assistance of the Canadian Film or Video Production Tax Credit. [www.blackstonetheseries.com](http://www.blackstonetheseries.com)

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

Prairie Dog Film + Television is an award winning dramatic production company dedicated to scripted television series production. Founded by showrunner Ron E. Scott in 1993, the company has developed a reputable pedigree for high quality, relevant projects that depict unique stories with universal themes. The company has garnered international media attention and been recognized with over 100 award nominations and wins from such prestigious organizations as the Academy of Canadian Cinema and Television, including a nomination for Best Dramatic Television Series for the revolutionary series *Blackstone*.

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## **FOR INTERVIEWS OR MORE INFORMATION, PLEASE CONTACT:**

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