

BLACKSTONE

FRESH OFF ITS U.S. LAUNCH, THE AWARD-WINNING DRAMA **BLACKSTONE RETURNS TO APTN FOR SEASON FOUR**

– Premieres Tues., Nov. 11 –
– A Prairie Dog Film + Television Production –

“Blackstone has scored with audiences...”
– The Hollywood Reporter

“(Blackstone) raises the bar...”
– Playback

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Toronto. Oct. 20, 2014 – *Blackstone*, the critically acclaimed hit drama recently highlighted in the *New York Times*, returns to APTN for season four with eight new episodes. Winner of 28 television awards, *Blackstone* is an authentic drama that explores the raw and real dynamics of family, power and politics on a First Nation reserve. This season, *Blackstone* delves into the often taboo topic of residential schools – and their lasting effect that reverberates in communities today, the high number of Aboriginals in prison, and the plight of missing Aboriginal women. Actors Jennifer Podemski and Glen Gould join the all-star ensemble. Produced by **Prairie Dog Film + Television**, *Blackstone* season four airs **Tuesdays at 10 p.m. starting Nov. 11 on APTN** (for exact regional times, see below).

“I am a student of life and an observer of human nature and ultimately *Blackstone* is about people,” says Ron E. Scott, executive producer, writer & director. “It’s not unlike series that have inspired me through the years like *Six Feet Under* or *The Sopranos*, where viewers follow characters who live their lives under the circumstances handed to them. Whether it’s a funeral home or a mob family or a reserve, every situation is more complicated than what society sees on the surface. That’s why it is so fascinating to experience the long form narrative of serialized television, where the journey of the characters is relatable, complex and interconnected.”

The fourth season picks up on *Blackstone* as the community tries to rebuild after the reserve was set on fire. Manipulative and tormented Andy Fraser (Eric Schweig of *Longmire*, *Maïna*, *The Last of the Mohicans*) faces his demons in the remand prison while trying to elude a murder charge. Leona Stoney (Carmen Moore of *Arctic Air*, *Supernatural*, *Godiva’s*) searches for two missing youth when rumors arise they may be involved in an underground human trafficking circle in the city. Gail Stoney (Michelle Thrush of *Jimmy P.*, *Hell on Wheels*, *Fargo*) continues to be haunted by the stabbing of Darrien, the death of her child, and past addictions. Actress Jennifer Podemski (*Empire of Dirt*, *Jimmy P.*, *Degrassi*) joins the cast as a psychologist, Dr. Crowshoe, specializing in post-traumatic stress disorder. Glen Gould (*Mohawk Girls*, *Rhymes for Young Ghouls*) plays estranged brother to Leona and Gail, Smokey Stoney.

Canadians can catch up on seasons 1, 2, and 3 at www.aptn.ca/fullepisodes/blackstone/. In the US, viewers can watch on *Hulu.com* and *Hulu Plus*. In addition, *Blackstone* will be featured at the *Canadian International Television Festival* this November in Toronto.

In addition to the previously mentioned, a noteworthy ensemble cast returns this season including Nathaniel Arcand (*Heartland*, *Arctic Air*), Steven Cree Molison (*50 Shades of Grey*, *Brokeback Mountain*) and Justin Rain (*Defiance*, *The Twilight Saga: Eclipse*).

Blackstone airs **Tuesdays at 10 p.m. ET** on **APTN HD** and **APTN East**; starting **Nov. 11**, and repeats **Sundays at 10 p.m. ET**; **Tuesdays at 10 p.m. MT** on **APTN West** starting **Nov. 11**, and repeats **Sundays at 10:00 p.m. MT**; **Sundays at 10:00 p.m. CT** on **APTN North** starting **Nov. 16**.

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Blackstone is produced by Prairie Dog Film + Television, with Ron E. Scott as Executive Producer, Writer & Director and Jesse Szymanski as Co-Executive Producer. The series currently broadcasts in Canada on APTN, in the United States on Hulu and HuluPlus, in New Zealand on Maori Television, and in Australia on SBS/NITV. **Blackstone** has been nominated for 75 awards, including Best Dramatic Series, and Best Dramatic Writing at the Canadian Screen Awards this year.

Blackstone is produced in association with Aboriginal Peoples Television Network (APTN), 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. www.blackstonetheseries.com

Social media links:

<https://twitter.com/BlackstoneTV>

<https://www.facebook.com/blackstonetheseries>

<http://www.youtube.com/user/BlackstoneTheSeries>

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**.

Over 180 episodes of television produced, Prairie Dog's programs have aired on major networks across North America (APTN, ABC, CBC, CBC Bold, City TV, CTV, Global, Halogen, ION, Hulu, & Showcase) as well as international markets including the U.S., New Zealand, Australia, China, Europe and South Africa.

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For more information, please contact:

Susan Stafford

UNIT:PR Inc. (for Prairie Dog Film + Television)

416.506.1238

susan@unitpr.com