

BLACKSTONE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

NEW STORIES, NEW FACES, NEW LOOK **Blackstone Season 2 Premieres January 11, 2012**

Edmonton, Alberta (November 28, 2011) -- **Prairie Dog Film + Television** is pleased to announce that the second season of the Gemini Award-winning dramatic television series **Blackstone** will premiere on **APTN January 11, 2012**.

Set on the fictional Blackstone First Nation, the riveting stories that weave through the new season begins where the first season's cliffhanger finale left off. Season 2 will reveal what happened, and continue to follow the tumultuous lives of Blackstone's residents as they deal with issues of toxic water and foster care.

"*Blackstone* gets under your skin; it makes you think, feel and want more," says **Ron E. Scott**, Executive Producer, Writer and Director of *Blackstone*. "I am humbled to have this opportunity to be involved in a show that has reached into lives and has spoken into subjects that have not been presented on Canadian television."

ABOUT THE CAST

Returning is the talented ensemble cast of **Carmen Moore** (Gemini Award nominee), **Eric Schweig**, **Michelle Thrush** (Gemini Award winner), **Nathaniel Arcand**, **Roseanne Supernault**, **Steven Cree Molison**, **Andrea Menard**, **Justin Rain** and **Ashley Callingbull**. Joining the series are acclaimed First Nations actors **Tantoo Cardinal**, **Gary Farmer**, **Georgina Lightning** and **Michelle Latimer**, as well as **Cameron Bancroft**, **Frank Cassini**, **Vincent Gale** and **Lori Triolo**.

ABOUT THE SERIES

Intense, compelling and confrontational, *Blackstone* is an unmuted exploration of First Nations' power and politics on the fictional Blackstone First Nation. An uncompromising story told from an Aboriginal point of view, *Blackstone* is in sharp contrast to sympathetic stories about First Nations' people being victimized by outside forces. While the dramatization can be dark and all too real, *Blackstone* is foremost a story of hope and reconciliation in its portrayal of Native people fighting for a better life in their community.

ABOUT THE PRODUCTION

Blackstone is a Gemini Award-winning series 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** and **Penny Gummerson** as Writers. Season 1 of *Blackstone* currently broadcasts in Canada on APTN, and in New Zealand on Maori Television. The series is distributed internationally by PPI Releasing.

The first season of *Blackstone* won two Gemini Awards and garnered two wins at the 2011 Leo Awards and three wins at the 2011 Alberta Film and Television Awards.

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

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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. www.prairiedog.ca

ABOUT APTN

September 1, 2011 marked the 12-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.

www.blackstonetheseries.com
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AVAILABLE FOR MEDIA:

- *Screener copies*
- *Interviews with cast & crew*
- *Hi-res jpeg photos*
- *Press kit*

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