



Nova Scotia Content Market 2023 Attending Delegates

IN-PERSON: These delegates are attending the in-person market on October 23rd.

- [Amazon Canada: Beth Iley, Senior Development Executive, Scripted, Canadian Originals](#)
- [Bell FIBE TV1: Paul Gardner, Senior Producer Bell FIBE TV1](#)
- [Bell Media - Crave: Natalie Igelfeld, Senior Content Lead](#)
- [Bell Media: Rachel Goldstein-Couto, Head of Development Original Production](#)
- [Bell Media: Heather Williamson, Senior Development and Production Executive, Original Programming, Factual & Reality, Bell Media](#)
- [CBC Unscripted / Docs: Nic Meloney, Executive in Charge of Production](#)
- [Elevation Pictures: Michael O'Leary, Head of Marketing and Creative](#)
- [eOne Canada: Chris Bell, VP Scripted Development, Television](#)
- [eOne Canada: Christine Diakos, Vice President, Unscripted Development, Canada TV](#)
- [FilmsWeLike: Mercy Lam, Acquisitions, Digital Deliveries, Publicity & Marketing](#)
- [Mongrel Media: Alison Inkpen, Sales & Acquisitions](#)
- [Muse Entertainment: Jesse Prupas, Senior Vice President, Scripted](#)
- [Neshama Entertainment: Brook Peters, Managing Director and Senior Vice-President, Sales & Production](#)
- [Netflix: Danielle Woodrow, Director, Content - Canada](#)
- [Paramount+ Canada: Tom Hastings, Head of Original Programming](#)
- [Raven Banner: Annelle Dehghani, Director of Distribution & Sales](#)
- [Vortex Media: Matt Orenstein, Vice President of Acquisitions Strategy](#)
- [VVS Films: Claire Peace-McConnell, Development, Canadian Film Initiatives](#)

VIRTUAL: These delegates are attending the virtual market on October 24th.

- [APTN: Sylvain Lévesque, Executive in Charge of Documentary Series and French Language Content](#)
- [Attraction Distribution: Xiaojuan Zhou, President](#)
- [Blue Ant Media, Solange Attwood, EVP International](#)
- [Blue Fox Entertainment: Kalani Dreimanis, VP International Sales](#)
- [CBC Comedy: Sarah Quan, Executive in Charge of Development, Comedy](#)
- [CBC Drama: Lea Marin, Director of Development, Drama](#)
- [CBC Films: Gosia Kamela, Head of CBC Films](#)
- [Cineflix: Elizabeth Kantor, Director of Development](#)
- [Corus Entertainment: Susan Alexander, Production Executive, Original Programming, Scripted](#)
- [Corus Entertainment - Lifestyle: Jesse Barkley, Development & Production Executive, Original Lifestyle Content](#)
- [Corus: Amanda Vaughan, Production Executive, Corus Kids](#)
- [Game Theory Films: Hilary Hart, Co-President](#)
- [Hallmark Media: Angela Polk, Vice President of Development](#)
- [Mongrel Media: Andrew Frank, VP, Sales & Acquisitions](#)
- [OUTtv: Lauren Whitelaw, Head of Programming](#)
- [Participant: McKenna Stephens, Manager, Global TV](#)
- [Quiver Distribution: Berry Meyerowitz, Co-Founder](#)
- [The Film Collaborative: David Averbach, Creative Director](#)
- [The CW Television Network, Saleena Lockett, Director of Scripted Programming](#)
- [WestEnd Films: Daisy Allsop, Head of Acquisitions and Development](#)

ADDITIONAL MEETINGS: Requesting meetings with these delegates will not count towards your total meeting requests - once requested, they will be automatically booked for you. This is a great way to connect with local funders and financiers who will be available during the in-person market on October 23rd.

COMPANY PROFILES AND BIOS: VIRTUAL AND IN-PERSON

(Alphabetical order by company name - clicking the names of the delegates above will link you directly to their bios/profiles)

Amazon Canada: Beth Iley, Senior Development Executive, Scripted, Canadian Originals

Personal Bio: Beth joined Amazon Studios in 2022. In her role, she sources and develops original Canadian programs for Amazon's streaming service Prime Video to strengthen Amazon studios'

ties within the Canadian screen industry. Previously she was the Director of Development for New Metric Media, where she developed a slate of scripted comedies and dramas, including *Children Ruin Everything* for CTV and Roku. Her work also includes development of internationally acclaimed series *Orphan Black* (CTV Sci-Fi, BBC America, BBC Worldwide), *X Company* (CBC, History Channel, Sony International), *The Next Step* (Family Channel, Hulu, BBC Worldwide), and *Killjoys* (CTV Sci-Fi, Syfy, NBC Universal) for which she also served as Producer.

Company Profile: Amazon Studios is the home for talent, creating and producing Original films and television series for a global audience. Original series premiere exclusively on Prime Video, which is available in more than 240 countries and territories worldwide. Amazon Studios also produces and acquires Original movies for theatrical release and exclusively for Prime Video, in addition to producing Original content for Freevee, Amazon's premium free streaming service.

All projects developed by Amazon Canada are for a Canadian audience and must reflect Canadian themes and characters. Scripted: they are focused on development solely in the half hour space, but with a broader scope than comedy. Light drama, with urgency. Docs: Celebrity-driven focus or loud subject matter (true crime, etc.). Formats: Interested in those that can be replicated globally.

APTN: Sylvain Lévesque, Executive in Charge of Documentary Series and French Language Content

Personal Bio: Sylvain Lévesque joined APTN's programming department in 2008, bringing with him unparalleled experience in Indigenous film and television production. In addition to having more than 30 years of experience in the industry, Sylvain holds a master's degree in communications, a bachelor's degree in film studies, and a bachelor's degree in corporate copywriting and public relations. Sylvain's career in film began in the international relations sector at Telefilm Canada, where he was responsible for promoting Canadian content through international film festivals. He has also worked in communications at the National Film Board of Canada and for Cinéac Cinema Agency. In 2020, Sylvain became manager of programming for the Eastern Region, a position he previously held on an interim basis in 2012 and 2016. In 2022, he took on the executive role in French language content and documentary series. With his significant professional experience and his passion for sharing authentic stories, Sylvain has helped redefine the broadcasting industry. He is so excited to continue promoting educational and inspiring Indigenous content through his role.

Company Profile: APTN launched in 1999 as the first national Indigenous broadcaster in the world. Since then, the network has become a global leader in programming that celebrates the rich diversity of Indigenous Peoples across Turtle Island and beyond. A respected non-profit and charitable broadcaster, APTN shares authentic stories in English, French, and a variety of Indigenous languages with nearly 10 million Canadian households. APTN proudly features over 80% Canadian content and inspires audiences via multiple platforms, including its Indigenous-focused streaming service, APTN lumi.

Attraction Distribution: Xiaojuan Zhou, President

Personal Bio: Xiaojuan Zhou is a seasoned global distributor of motion pictures and episodic content with decades of experience in international co-financing, co-productions, promotion, rights management, acquisitions and sales. Holder of two master's degrees in communication and media productions. She is the President of Attraction Distribution.

Company Profile: Attraction Distribution is a Montreal based global distributor of feature films and series. We are currently looking for movies and series especially in the following genres: fantasy, mystery, crime, thrillers, animation.

Bell FIBE TV1: Paul Gardner, Senior Producer Bell Fibe TV1

Personal Bio: Paul Gardner is an award-winning producer with over 25 years experience developing creative content in the media industry. In his current position as Senior Producer for Bell Fibe TV1, Paul has overseen the development and production of an ambitious slate of hundreds of original titles for Fibe TV1's broadcast Channel, VOD, APP and Mobile content. Previous to his work with Bell, Paul spent a decade working in Children and Youth programming as a Senior Producer for TVO Kids and Kids CBC, as well as establishing a freelance career on a wide range of projects from doc series to music videos, commercials and animation. Paul is a graduate of Niagara College's Broadcasting program where he majored in film studies. Fibe TV1 is your source for local programming, made right in your backyard, by your community. TV1 is a group of community channels operated by Bell Canada's Fibe TV and Fibre OP TV.

Company Profile: Fibe TV1 is one of Canada's leading community TV channels, operating exclusively under Bell Canada. Viewers get to enjoy 100% original content told by those by the community and for the community. As the home to multiple award-winning and nominated shows, TV1 provides an environment for creators to flourish and succeed while amplifying their unique stories. Available commercial free on demand to all Bell Fibe TV subscribers on channel 1 and the Fibe TV app.

Bell Media - Crave: Natalie Igelfeld, Senior Content Lead

Personal Bio: Natalie leads acquisitions strategy for English programming for Canada's premium SVOD and Pay services Crave and STARZ with Bell Media, as well as leading Crave's Canadian feature film strategy. Natalie also oversees scheduling strategy for the English Pay TV channels. Additionally in this role, Natalie works collaboratively with Bell Media's original programming team in the selection and commissioning of Canadian originals for Crave. Prior to joining Bell Media in 2018, Natalie held roles in film distribution & acquisitions.

Company Profile: Crave is Canada's prestige entertainment offering, delivering more Oscar-nominated and Emmy Award-winning programming than any other service, with HBO, HBO

Max Originals, STARZ, Hollywood-hit movies, and boasts a robust slate of English and French original Canadian series, documentaries, and feature films. It is a bilingual TV and streaming service, with thousands of hours of exclusive French-language content. Crave is always looking for highly original, entertaining, character-driven content which appeals to our premium programming audience across series, feature films, and documentaries. We actively develop series, as well as pre-license Canadian feature films, in addition to always seeking engaging completed projects for acquisition.

Bell Media: Rachel Goldstein-Couto, Head of Development, Original Production

Personal Bio: As Head of Development, Rachel Goldstein-Couto oversees the scripted and unscripted program development for CTV, Crave and the Entertainment Specialty channels of Bell Media. Rachel and her team work closely with independent production partners, writers and creatives to develop a slate of factual and scripted projects that are diverse, culturally relevant to Canadians and specific to the programming needs of the individual platforms and services. Some recently commissioned original series developed by Rachel and her team include *The Spencer Sisters*, *Sullivan's Crossing*, *Farming For Love*, *The Billionaire Murders* and many more.

Rachel has been with Bell Media since 2000, most recently as Director of Programming, Entertainment Specialty. Rachel studied Communications at Concordia University in Montreal and Broadcasting at Seneca College in Toronto.

Company Profile: About Bell Media: Bell Media is Canada's leading content creation company with premier assets in television, radio, digital and out-of-home media, including 35 television stations that are part of the CTV and Noovo networks; 27 specialty channels, including sports leaders TSN and RDS; bilingual TV and streaming service Crave; the iHeartRadio Canada brand encompassing 215 music channels, including 103 radio stations in 58 Canadian markets; and the Astral out-of-home advertising network. Bell Media is also a partner in Montréal's Grande Studios, Just for Laughs and Dome Productions, one of North America's leading production facilities providers. Bell Media is part of BCE Inc. (TSX, NYSE: BCE), Canada's largest communications company. Learn more at BellMedia.ca.

Bell Media: Heather Williamson, Senior Development and Production Executive, Original Programming, Factual & Reality, Bell Media

Personal Bio: As Development and Production Executive for Bell Media's Original Programming, Factual and Reality, Heather Williamson oversees a production and development slate that includes the Discovery Canada hit series *Highway Thru Hell*, *Heavy Rescue: 401*, and *Underground Railroad: Secret History*, as well as *Kings Of Coke*, *Billionaire Murders* and the upcoming *Optimists Guide To The Planet With Nikolaj Coster-Waldau* for CRAVE. Past projects have included *Jade Fever*, *Last Stop Garage*, *Mighty Cruise Ships*, *Wild Bear Rescue*, *Dr. Keri Prairie Vet*, and *Oscar Peterson: Black & White*. Williamson has previously worked as Program Development Manager for Discovery

Canada, where she was responsible for all incoming proposals from Canadian and international production companies. Working closely with producers, Heather continues to advise on how to best tailor their projects to suit Bell Media's audience and scheduling needs for both broadcast and digital formats. Heather came to Programming in 2004 after successfully serving as Manager of On-Air Promotions producing award winning promos for the Discovery Networks. As well, Heather has over 25 years of Production and live event experience.

Company Profile: About Bell Media Bell Media is Canada's leading content creation company with premier assets in television, radio, digital and out-of-home media, including 35 television stations that are part of the CTV and Noovo networks; 27 specialty channels, including sports leaders TSN and RDS; bilingual TV and streaming service Crave; the iHeartRadio Canada brand encompassing 215 music channels, including 103 radio stations in 58 Canadian markets; and the Astral out-of-home advertising network. Bell Media is also a partner in Montréal's Grande Studios, Just for Laughs and Dome Productions, one of North America's leading production facilities providers. Bell Media is part of BCE Inc. (TSX, NYSE: BCE), Canada's largest communications company. Learn more at BellMedia.ca.

Blue Ant Media, Solange Attwood, EVP International

Blue Fox Entertainment: Kalani Dreimanis, VP International Sales

Personal Bio: Kalani Dreimanis is Vice President of International Sales at Blue Fox Entertainment, a global distribution company of independent film. Previously she worked in a similar capacity at Epic Pictures Group, where she also served as Executive Producer on *Dark Nature* and *Polaris*, which both premiered at Fantasia International Film Festival 2022, and earlier at Myriad Pictures. Kalani started her career in production and development at Straight Up Films, and is originally from Toronto, Canada.

Company Profile: Blue Fox Entertainment is a global film sales and domestic distribution company specializing in connecting filmmakers to audiences and buyers around the world. The company has a deep history in film production, marketing, finance, sales and distribution.

Blue Fox Entertainment's recent international sales titles include *Aristotle and Dante Discover the Secrets of the Universe*, the Lin-Manuel Miranda produced YA hit that premiered at the Toronto International Film Festival, *Space Oddity*, the Kyra Sedgwick directed YA romance starring Kyle Allen, Alexandra Shipp, Madeline Brewer, and Kevin Bacon, *Uproar*, the compelling and inspirational story starring Julian Dennison, Minnie Driver, and James Rolleston; the family comedy *Popular Theory*, starring Cheryl Hines, Sophia Reid-Ganzert, Marc Evan Jackson, the YA thriller *Jane* with Madelaine Petsch and Chloe Bailey; *Linoleum*, the break out comedy starring Jim Gaffigan and Rhea Seehorn; and Sahar Mosayebi's *Orca*.

Blue Fox Entertainment's current US releases include the upcoming family movie *Railway Children*. Notable previous US releases include *The Wolf & The Lion*, the epic romance *Eiffel*, the action

thriller *Killerman* starring Liam Hemsworth, the critically acclaimed comedy *Sometimes Always Never* starring Bill Nighy, the Julie Delpy-directed *My Zoe*, and the Sundance family comedy *Abe* starring Noah Schnapp. Blue Fox is looking for feature films (no shorts, documentaries, series).

CBC Comedy: Sarah Quan, Executive in Charge of Development, Comedy

Personal Bio: As Executive in Charge of Development for CBC Comedy, Sarah is responsible for developing high quality, impactful original scripted comedy series for the network's development slate. Prior to joining CBC, she served as Creative Executive at Northwood Entertainment (*Anne With An E*, *The Grizzlies*) where she managed their slate of television and feature film projects in development and production. Sarah started her career as a coordinator for independent film and digital series (*How to Buy a Baby*, *Detention Adventure*, *We are Savvy*). She has also volunteered on a number of initiatives including co-facilitating AccessCBC, an initiative for creators with disabilities and as an advocate for the Academy Executive Residency Program. As an award-winning producer and creative executive, Sarah is dedicated to discovering and nurturing underrepresented voices with fresh perspectives and producing work that changes culture and explores stories that have yet to be told.

Company Profile: About CBC/Radio-Canada. CBC/Radio-Canada is Canada's national public broadcaster. Through our mandate to inform, enlighten and entertain, we play a central role in strengthening Canadian culture. As Canada's trusted news source, we offer a uniquely Canadian perspective on news, current affairs and world affairs. Our distinctively homegrown entertainment programming draws audiences from across the country. Deeply rooted in communities, CBC/Radio-Canada offers diverse content in English, French and eight Indigenous languages. We also deliver content in Spanish, Arabic, Chinese, Punjabi and Tagalog, as well as both official languages, through Radio Canada International (RCI). We are leading the transformation to meet the needs of Canadians in a digital world.

CBC Drama: Lea Marin, Director of Development, Drama

Personal Bio: Lea Marin is the Director of Development, Drama, for the CBC, and is responsible for driving and overseeing the quality and diversity of the drama development slate. A graduate of the Canadian Film Centre's Producers' Lab, prior to joining the CBC, Lea was a Senior Producer with the National Film Board of Canada where she developed and produced several documentaries and interactive projects. Some of her credits include Charles Officer's *Unarmed Verses*, Astra Taylor's *What Is Democracy?*, and Chelsea McMullan's *My Prairie Home*.

Company Profile/ What They Are Looking For:

<https://www.cbc.ca/independentproducers/genres/drama/drama>

CBC Films: Gosia Kamela, Head of CBC Films

Personal Bio: As Head of CBC Films, Gosia oversees the Scripted Original Feature Film slate for CBC and GEM with recent titles including *BlackBerry*, *Brother*, *Riceboy Sleeps*, and *Bones of Crows*. Previously, as an Executive at Bell Media, Gosia was responsible for the development and production of original scripted series across a large portfolio of channel brands including CTV and Crave. A few notable series credits include *Orphan Black*, *Transplant*, and *Degrassi*. In that role, Gosia also oversaw the Canadian Features slate for Crave. Prior to joining Bell Media, Gosia was a Producer at True West Films working in both documentary and scripted features including cult classic *It's All Gone Pete Tong*.

Company Profile: CBC Films supports feature films that reflect, represent, and reframe a range of perspectives at the center of the Canadian experience. Committed to creative excellence, cultural relevance, and talent development, CBC Films prioritizes storytelling that amplifies equity deserving communities, along with a parallel commitment to gender parity. CBC Films is looking for fully developed feature films enroute to production financing. CBC Films participates in production financing in the form of a pre-buy license.

CBC Unscripted / Docs: Nic Meloney, Executive in Charge of Production

Personal Bio: Nic Meloney is a mixed heritage Wolastoqi/Canadian journalist. He's an Executive in Charge of Production with CBC Unscripted, overseeing both documentary and Factual Entertainment, and is a member of the CBC/Radio-Canada Indigenous Advisory Council. A member of Woodstock First Nation in Wolastokuk/New Brunswick and a Cape Bretoner, Nic lives and works in Mi'kma'ki/Nova Scotia, the unceded territory of the Mi'kmaq.

He joined CBC Nova Scotia as a video journalist in 2016, and covered the Atlantic region with CBC Indigenous starting in 2017. His work with CBC's Indigenous Unit has taken him to Inuit, First Nations, and Métis communities across Canada, producing regional and national news for all broadcast platforms. His expertise has been in the development and production of digital video features and television documentaries, both long and short-form, as well as syndicated, local, and national radio content.

Company Profile: Across all of our CBC documentary brands we look for unique, character-driven stories that put the audience first. We endeavour to enlighten and entertain every community in Canada, with stories everyone can relate to.

The Passionate Eye: Topical, thought-provoking documentaries that provide a deeper dive into contemporary issues.

CBC Docs: Limited Doc Series: We're looking for documentary series that feature exclusive access to a story, character, community or inner world that will reveal itself over the course of the episodes. It could leverage an existing brand (book, podcast, talent) or shed new light on an event that Canadians are infinitely curious about. In all cases, we're seeking a story - not a broad survey

of a subject, or a series of profiles. Further, you want to ensure that you're bringing a unique entry point or focus to the storytelling.

[The Nature of Things:](#) We look for a strong cinematic story that can be told and documented by its primary characters, with emphasis on state-of-the-art scientific discovery, breakthroughs and new information, unique access and well-developed research, and good narrative structure told through character and point of view perspectives. We want narrative stories full of drama, insight, and revelation. We want to delight our audiences with strong storytelling, impress them with high production values, and convey a sense of wonder and awe about the natural world.

[documentary Channel:](#) We look for character-driven documentaries that provide relevant, compelling insight on important issues that relate to our lives. Stories of individual triumph and social unrest told through a strong narrative voice - sweeping epic tales and personal human journeys. The stories should follow a resolved and well-thought-out treatment and be executed with solid production values. They do not need to fall into one of the Schedule's strands (see above), but it is great if they do. While the channel showcases documentaries on various topics, again, they all tend to be character-driven films with well-defined narratives. They must be universal in scope and relevant to our audiences over the duration of the licence.

Cineflix: Elizabeth Kantor, Director of Development

Personal Bio: Director of Development for Cineflix, Elizabeth leads the generation of unscripted TV series and documentaries for the North American market. She has had the pleasure of working across genres on output for the BBC, Channel 4, A&E, VICE, HGTV, TIME, The Wall Street Journal and The Economist's documentary films unit, among others.

A graduate of the UK's National Film and Television School, Elizabeth continues to lecture for the school. She is also a graduate of the National Theatre School of Canada and holds a BA in Political Science and Philosophy from the University of Ottawa.

Company Profile: Company Profile: Cineflix Productions, led by President and Head of Content J.C. Mills, is a leading creator and producer of must-watch content for global networks and streamers. With production and development hubs in Toronto and New York, the company is responsible for creating some of the longest running brands in cable: *Property Brothers*, *American Pickers*, and *Air Crash Investigation*. Our feature documentary lineup includes Nancy Buirski's acclaimed film *Desperate Souls*, *Dark City and the Midnight Cowboy*, and *Summer Qamp* which has its World Premiere at TIFF, chronicling the stories of LGBTQIA2S+ campers and counsellors. These titles join a slate of compelling shows like A&E's two-part special *The Torso Killer Confessions*, HGTV Canada's hit series *Rock Solid Builds*, *A Time to Kill* with more than 100+ hours, as well as tentpole TV movies *Undercover Holiday* for Hallmark Channel and *I Was Lorena Bobbitt* for Lifetime, winner of Best TV Movie at the 2022 Canadian Screen Awards. Cineflix Productions is part of the [Cineflix Media group of companies, which is celebrating 25 years as a leading international media company.](#)

Corus Entertainment: Susan Alexander, Production Executive, Original Programming, Scripted

Personal Bio: As a Production Executive with Corus Entertainment for over fourteen years, Susan has overseen the development and production of numerous scripted dramatic series, including *Ransom* (Global, CBS), *Mary Kills People* (Global, Lifetime, Hulu), *Family Law* (Global, CW), *The Love Club* MOWs (W, Hallmark), *Hardy Boys* (YTV, Hulu) and *Private Eyes* (Global, ION).

Prior to becoming a Broadcaster Susan was an award-winning Producer and Development Executive on shows including *Little Mosque on the Prairie*, *Da Kink in My Hair* and *Drop the Beat*.

A proud alumni and current Mentor at the Canadian Film Centre, Susan sits on various juries, including the International Emmys. She is a member of the WGC, the Academy of Canadian Cinema and Television, and WIFT-T, where she recently finished a 4-year-term on the Board of Directors.

Company Profile: About Corus Entertainment Inc. Corus Entertainment Inc. (TSX: CJR.B) is a leading media and content company that develops and delivers high quality brands and content across platforms for audiences around the world. Engaging audiences since 1999, the company's portfolio of multimedia offerings encompass 33 specialty television services, 39 radio stations, 15 conventional television stations, digital and streaming services, animation software, technology and media services. Corus is an internationally-renowned content creator and distributor through Nelvana, a world class animation studio expert in all formats and Corus Studios, a globally recognized producer of hit scripted and unscripted content. The company also owns full-service social digital agency so.da, lifestyle entertainment company Kin Canada, leading 2D animation software supplier Toon Boom and children's book publishing house, Kids Can Press. Corus' roster of premium brands includes Global Television, W Network, HGTV Canada, Food Network Canada, Magnolia Network Canada, The HISTORY® Channel, Showcase, Adult Swim, National Geographic, Disney Channel Canada, YTV, Global News, Globalnews.ca, Q107, Country 105, and CFOX, along with streaming platforms STACKTV, TELETOON+, the Global TV App and Curiouscast. Corus is the domestic advertising representative and an original content partner for Pluto TV, a Paramount Company, which is the leading free ad-supported streaming television (FAST) service. For more information visit www.corusent.com. We are currently looking for scripted 1 hour procedurals and limited series for Global TV, MOW wheels for W Network, animated series for Adult Swim, and kids and YA content for YTV.

Corus Entertainment - Lifestyle: Jesse Barkley, Development & Production Executive, Original Lifestyle Content

Personal Bio: In his role as Development Executive on the Original Programming team at Corus Entertainment, Jesse works collaboratively to help shape the unscripted slate, developing projects for Food Network Canada, HGTV Canada & HISTORY Canada. His credits as a Production Executive include *Property Brothers: Forever Home*, *Scott's Vacation House Rules*, *Scott's Own Vacation*

House and the new paranormal series *Repossessed* for HISTORY Canada. He supports Corus' integrated sales team as a Brand Partnership Lead across the unscripted slate and serves as Executive Producer for a series of short-form content interstitials that air on W Network, Showcase, HGTV & Food Network. Prior to joining the Original Programming team, Jesse was a producer on *Entertainment Tonight Canada*, *Fashion File*, *Steven & Chris*, and *Dragons' Den*.

Company Profile: Our team commissions premium food, home, and reality programming, working in tandem with Corus Studios on distribution to our international partners. We commission original content for our Corus Studios division, Canadian versions of the world's great formats (*Big Brother*, *Top Chef*, *Iron Chef*, *The Bachelor*) and original concepts pitched to us by the production community.

Glossy, high-quality competition programs work on Food Network Canada, and we are also experimenting in the food documentary and occu-follow genres. On both HGTV Canada and Food Network Canada, our most successful programming features strong, expert characters with an authentic mission. We are always looking for breakout talent in the lifestyle space – we don't need a specific concept attached to them when pitched.

We welcome diverse talent from all backgrounds, cultures, and viewpoints. If you are pitching us talent, please have a short video to accompany your pitch - the production values do not need to be too involved (can be shot well on a phone), but we need to understand their point-of-view.

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Corus Kids: Amanda Vaughan, Production Executive

Personal Bio: Amanda is a Production Executive at Corus Kids, where she uses her passion for children's programming to assist in the production and development of live action and animated series for Corus's YTV, Cartoon Network Canada, and Treehouse networks. Previously, she has held other roles at Corus Entertainment on the Kids Original Content team as well as the Kids Programming team. In her programming role, she assisted in content curation for YTV, Teletoon, Treehouse and Disney Channel Canada among others. In addition to her kids content expertise, Amanda was also actively involved with the launch of the first ever 24-hour Adult Swim network. Some of her Production Executive credits include *Popularity Papers*, *Hardy Boys*, and *Builder Brothers' Dream Factory*.

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YTV – We are currently looking for scripted, character-driven, live-action content for Kids 6-12, tweens, and families for YTV. Comedy works well for us, but we are open to receiving pitches for other genres like mystery, drama, and thriller.

Cartoon Network Canada – We are currently looking for character-driven animated comedies or action/comedies for Kids 6-11.

Treehouse – We are open to looking at pitches for Treehouse that are animated or live-action, that are non-educational, and that are centred around friendships and families. We're always looking for character-driven preschool content with heart that is relatable to the preschool audience.

Elevation Pictures: Michael O'Leary, Head of Marketing and Creative

Personal Bio: Michael O’Leary is currently the Head of Marketing and Creative at Elevation Pictures where he has led successful campaigns for such films as *The Imitation Game*, *Room*, *Moonlight*, and *Everything Everywhere All at Once*. He is integral in the creation of all marketing materials and media campaigns for Elevation’s Canadian titles, including *Brother*, *BlackBerry* and *Fitting In*. Michael has over 13 years of experience in the film industry previously working in exhibitor relations and then marketing at both Alliance Films and eOne. In addition to his current role at Elevation Pictures, he is also a key part of the acquisitions team where he reads scripts, offers feedback, further develops, and champions titles to be picked up by Elevation for distribution.

Company Profile: Founded in 2013 with finance partner Teddy Schwarzman of Black Bear Pictures, Elevation has become one of Canada’s leading entertainment companies specialising in distribution and production. Elevation is known for releasing commercial and critical films, including Academy Award-winning films *The Imitation Game*, *Room*, *The Father*, and *Moonlight*. Most recent accolades include *Everything Everywhere All At Once*, which won seven Academy Awards including Best Picture, and Clement Virgo’s *Brother* won a record 12 Canadian Screen Awards including Best Picture. Elevation is also known for its strong slate of Canadian films, including Elevation production *Alice, Darling* starring Anna Kendrick, *Infinity Pool* starring Mia Goth, and *BlackBerry* with Jay Baruchel and Glenn Howerton.

eOne Canada: Chris Bell, VP Scripted Development, Television

Personal Bio: Chris Bell is VP, Scripted Development, Television at Entertainment One. Based in Toronto, Chris oversees eOne’s active development slate out of Canada, with a focus on partnering with top writing talent on the development of original series concepts as well as targeting high value IP. Under his leadership, the team is dedicated to providing strong support for Canadian creators to bring their stories to audiences worldwide. Previously, as VP, Current Programming, Chris oversaw eOne’s impressive production slate of scripted series across North America, including *Mary Kills People* (Lifetime/Global), and hit series *Private Eyes* (Global) and *Saving Hope* (CTV/ION).

Prior to joining eOne, Chris worked at Corus Entertainment, where he oversaw a slate of original dramas, comedies and unscripted content for networks including Movie Central, HBO Canada, W Network and CMT. Chris was also responsible for all of the Canadian feature film and documentary licensing for Corus. With over a decade of experience in independent production and the broadcasting industry, he is a leader in original programming and a strong advocate for high-quality content. Chris has a Masters in Media and Communications from the London School of Economics and has served as an Associate Faculty member of the National Screen Institute, as well as a member of the Canadian Film Centre’s Features First advisory committee.

Company Profile: eOne Canada is a talent-driven independent studio that specialises in the development, acquisition, production, financing, and distribution of entertainment content. As part of global play and entertainment company Hasbro (NASDAQ: HAS), eOne Canada is focused

on developing and bringing to global markets the best content across all media, in both English and French, including scripted, unscripted, and family television and podcasts. Through its extensive reach and scale, and a deep commitment to high-quality entertainment, eOne unlocks the power and value of creativity.

eOne Canada: Christine Diakos, Vice President, Unscripted Development, Canada TV

Personal Bio: Christine spearheads development, creation and pitching of non-scripted content for eOne in Canada, with a focus on lifestyle, reality and competition series. With more than two decades of experience in Canadian television, Christine has a keen understanding of the business, and an eye for great stories and intriguing on-air personalities.

Prior to eOne, Christine spent nearly four years at Big Coat Productions producing series such as HGTV's *Love It or List It* and *Love It or List It Vancouver*. Her producing career spans a variety of senior production and development roles across a wide range of genres, from *A Users Guide to Cheating Death* (VisionTV/Netflix) to *Hockey Wives* (W Network), among others. Christine also previously spent three years as a Production Executive at Shaw Media overseeing HGTV, Food and Slice Network.

Company Profile: eOne Canada is a talent-driven independent studio that specialises in the development, acquisition, production, financing, and distribution of entertainment content. As part of global play and entertainment company Hasbro (NASDAQ: HAS), eOne Canada is focused on developing and bringing to global markets the best content across all media, in both English and French, including scripted, unscripted, and family television and podcasts. Through its extensive reach and scale, and a deep commitment to high-quality entertainment, eOne unlocks the power and value of creativity. The unscripted team is currently looking for lifestyle and factual content that focuses on captivating stories and or characters. We are open to any ideas as long as there is great storytelling.

FilmsWeLike: Mercy Lam, Acquisitions, Digital Deliveries, Publicity & Marketing

Company profile: Founded by award-winning documentary filmmaker Ron Mann (*Grass*, *Comic Book Confidential*, *Carmine Street Guitars*) Films We Like is a boutique distributor of documentary, independent, and international films in Canada. Recent releases include *Afire*, *Subtraction*, Academy Award nominee *EO* and Academy Award winning feature *Drive My Car*. Films We Like is looking to acquire distribution rights for Canada: theatrical, TV, DVD-video, VOD, Airline.

Game Theory Films: Hilary Hart, Co-President

Personal Bio: Hilary studied political science and film studies at Dalhousie University. After university she completed an internship in short film distribution at Ouat Media. From there she moved onto the Canadian Film Centre (CFC), working in development, administration and distribution. While at the CFC she contributed to an online film magazine, The Seventh Art, where she managed a Live Directors Series, which brought prominent directors to Toronto to screen and discuss their work. She then worked for three years in talent management, before partnering in 2018 with Will Woods to create Game Theory Films, a Toronto based independent film distribution company. In 2021 she was selected for Berlinale Talents. She is an active member of WIFT and the Academy of Canadian Cinema and Television.

Company Profile: Game Theory Films is a boutique feature film distribution company based in Toronto, Ontario, established in 2018. Game Theory is committed to the strategic release of narrative and documentary theatrical feature films within the North American marketplace. Our aim is to partner with diverse voices to ensure their work receives a targeted and dynamic release strategy. With a small passionate staff, we offer a personal touch, and are available to our partners throughout the life of their films from development through release. We're only looking at feature length documentaries and narratives - open to all genres.

Hallmark Media: Angela Polk, Vice President of Development

Personal Bio: Angie Polk is the Vice President of Development at Hallmark Media. Polk is based in Los Angeles and oversees the creation of original premiere holiday movies and unscripted programming managing all aspects of development, production, and post. With a focus on increasing diversity and inclusion, she shepherds the vision for content with writers and producers, guiding cross-functional teams to execute productions on time. Polk's projects include conceiving and developing the network's first unscripted baking competition series *Christmas Cookie Matchup* and championing the launch of the top-performing film on Hallmark's streaming service Hallmark Movies Now, *Every Time a Bell Rings*. Polk joined the company as a manager of programming and development in 2013. Prior to working at Hallmark Media, Polk served as a programming & development coordinator at NBC Universal's Syfy & Chiller networks. She began her career in the Page Program at NBC Universal. She graduated from Elon University with a degree in Broadcast Communications."

Company Profile: ABOUT HALLMARK MEDIA: Owned and operated by Hallmark Cards, Inc., Hallmark Media is home to Hallmark Channel, Hallmark Movies & Mysteries, and Hallmark Drama. Hallmark Channel features an ambitious slate of new, original content, including movies, scripted series, and annual specials. Hallmark Channel is also home to the popular annual holiday franchise *Countdown to Christmas* featuring a 24/7 lineup of holiday programming. Hallmark Movies & Mysteries is a 24-hour cable network featuring a unique mix of new, original movies and acquired series focused on the lighter side of the suspense and mystery genres. The network also features its own annual holiday programming franchise, *Miracles of Christmas*. Hallmark Drama showcases the rich legacy of the Hallmark Hall of Fame library and spotlights movies and series from Hallmark Media's collection of original dramatic content. Hallmark Media is also home to

Hallmark Movies Now, the company's subscription streaming service, which offers commercial-free, feel-good movies and series from Hallmark Channel, Hallmark Movies & Mysteries, and more, including exclusive content you can't find anywhere else.

Mongrel Media: Andrew Frank, VP. Sales & Acquisitions

Personal Bio: Andrew Frank is Mongrel Media's Co-President. In addition to overseeing key customer relationships, he acquires films and negotiates deals at festivals and markets. He also serves as Executive Producer on all Mongrel/Metropole Canadian acquisitions. Prior to working at Mongrel, he was a consultant for Robert Redford's Sundance Cinemas flagship theatre in Madison, WI. From 1999-2004, he owned and ran Visions Cinema in Washington, DC, a unique venue - part theatre for foreign and independent films, and part restaurant/bar. Before entering the film business, Andrew had a career in the coffee business; he invented and trademarked the Frappuccino while working for The Coffee Connection in Boston in the early 1990s. Andrew will be joined by Mongrel Media's Director, Acquisitions & Sales, Marko Orlic.

Company Profile: Mongrel Media is a leading independent film distributor focused on bringing the best of local and world cinema to Canadian audiences. The name of the company was inspired by two great contemporary authors, Salman Rushdie and Michael Ondaatje. Rushdie called his book *The Satanic Verses* "a love song to our mongrel selves" and Ondaatje made 3 films in the 1970s under his film production company called Mongrel Films (now distributed by Mongrel Media).

Mongrel Media was founded in 1994 by Hussain Amarshi. Since then, the company has built a reputation as an innovative and distinct brand, with a discerning taste. The independent distributor has developed long-lasting relationships with filmmakers, industry professionals, exhibitors, retailers, e-tailers, and broadcasters. Mongrel Media prides itself on building bold and uniquely customised distribution strategies for each film, with Quebec distribution handled by Métropole Films.

Starting with *The Silences of the Palaces*, the Mongrel library has grown to thousands of titles, including Palme d'Or winners *Shoplifters*, *I, Daniel Blake*, *Taste of Cherry*, *The White Ribbon* and *The Child*; Oscar winners *Call Me by Your Name*, *Manchester by the Sea*, *A Fantastic Woman*, *The Great Beauty* and *Amour*; some of the best Canadian films like Aisling Walsh's *Maudie*, John Crowley's *Brooklyn*, Deepa Mehta's *Water*, Sarah Polley's *Away From Her* and *Stories We Tell*, Jennifer Baichwal's *Manufactured Landscapes* and Kim Nguyen's *Rebelle*; and acclaimed films by some of the world's finest directors such as Joel & Ethan Coens' *Inside Llewyn Davis*, Pedro Almodovar's *Talk to Her* and Richard Linklater's *Boyhood*.

Mongrel Media is proud to be a Canadian company.

Looking For: National projects/budgets over \$3.5m (with main focus on budgets over \$5m)

*For Meetings: Andrew and Marko together virtually - meeting with National projects/budgets over \$3.5m. Alison in person - meeting with Regional projects/budgets under \$3.5m.

Mongrel Media: Alison Inkpen, Sales & Acquisitions

Personal Bio: Alison Inkpen is the Sales and Acquisitions Coordinator at Mongrel Media. She oversees administrative duties for tracking upcoming projects and film festivals around the world in addition to assisting the Home Entertainment department. She graduated from Dalhousie University, majoring in Cinema and Media Studies and continued her studies at Centennial College's Business in TV and Film program.

Company Profile: Mongrel Media is a leading independent film distributor focused on bringing the best of local and world cinema to Canadian audiences. For Canadian pre-buys, Mongrel Media is currently interested in projects with great and original stories (no documentaries at this time), ideally budgets north of \$5 million and viable financial plans.

Muse Entertainment: Jesse Prupas, Senior Vice President, Scripted

Personal Bio: Jesse Prupas is currently the SVP, Scripted at Muse Entertainment and has produced over 200 hours of scripted content in his 22-year-career in the Canadian television industry.

Award-winning Drama: Jesse is the Executive Producer of the award-winning movies *Swindler Seduction* (Lifetime/Bell) and *Christmas Jars* (BYU/Rogers), which won Best TV Movie awards at the Canadian Screen Awards in 2023 and 2021, respectively.

Film, TV Movies & Limited-Series: In 2022, Jesse produced four original movies for Lifetime and Hallmark including *Gwen Shamblin: Starving for Salvation* (starring Jennifer Grey) and *Swindler Seduction* (starring Colton Hanes and Gabrielle Graham) which won a Best TV Movie CSA. In 2021, Prupas produced the drama *Song & Story: Amazing Grace* for Harpo and OWN as well as *Christmas CEO* for Hallmark. In 2018, he produced the film *Good Sam* for Netflix, which premiered worldwide in 2019. Also in 2019, Jesse was the Executive Producer of the Award-winning film *Christmas Jars* that was theatrically released on 830 screens in the United States. In 2015, Jesse Prupas produced the documentary film *Grass Fed* for CBC's Documentary Channel. The previous year, he produced *March to the Pole* (History) a premium doc set in the Arctic that was the sequel to the 2012 adventure film *March to the Top*, set in the Himalayas. In 2013 Prupas produced the event documentary *JFK: The Smoking Gun* (Discovery, Reelz, SBS). Previously, Prupas produced the acclaimed TV movie *Cyberbully* (ABC Family/Corus) that explored the issues of online bullying and won a Prism Award for its teen star Emily Osment and a Kidscreen Award for Best TV Movie. Jesse's previous TV movie experience includes the other nine TV movies he produced for Lifetime between 2005-2007: *The Watch*, *Too Young To Marry* (starring Nina Dobrev), *I Me Wed*; *Girl's Best Friend* (starring Jeneane Garafalo); *Proof of Lies*; *House Sitter*; *Tipping Point* (starring Kathryn Winnick); and the first two TV movie he ever produced: *Mind Over Murder* (starring Tori Spelling) and *Black Widower* (starring Kelly McGillis).

Television Series: Jesse executive produced *The Murders*, a police drama for NBC Universal and RogersTV in 2019. In 2021, he produced the animated series *Moose* based on the bestselling book by renowned Canadian author, Robert Munch. In 2018 he produced *Helen's Little School*, an animated series for preschoolers as a France/Canada co-production for FranceTV, TeleQuebec, TFO, and Knowledge. He also executive produced the dramatic series *Signed, Sealed, Delivered* for Hallmark/Bell Media/M6, in 2013 and produced Muse's primetime animated series *Bounty Hunters* (CMT/Comedy Network). In 2008, Jesse executive produced the comedy series *Family Biz* and in 2009, he produced Muse's first animated project, *The Mysteries of Alfred Hedgehog* (TVO/TFO/SRC/France 5). In 2011 Prupas produced the comedy series *Bullet in the Face* (IFC/AMC) as part of Muse Entertainment's joint venture with Just for Laughs.

Line-Producing: In the spring of 2013, Prupas was engaged by 20th Century Fox to Line-Produce the reshoots of *The Wolverine* directed by James Mangold. Previously Prupas was engaged by Fox 2000 Pictures as the Line Producer for the Montreal-shoots of Ang Lee's Academy Award Winning feature *Life of Pi*.

Company Profile: About Muse Entertainment Enterprises: Muse Entertainment is a leading Emmy® Award-winning independent content producer of scripted and unscripted programming for network and cable; motion pictures and streaming. The company was founded in 1998 by Michael Prupas. Muse Entertainment is known for producing some of the most successful original scripted programming in North America, including the critically acclaimed series *Coroner* (CBC/CW), *Aurora Teagarden Mysteries* (Hallmark), *Being Human* (SyFy), *Bomb Girls* (Global), *Human Trafficking* (Lifetime), *The Kennedys* (History/Reelz), and *Tut* (Paramount+), as well as the award-winning, inspirational movies *Christmas Jars* (BYU), *Cyberbully* (Freeform/Disney+); *Good Sam* (Netflix); the gay holiday romantic comedy *Single All the Way* (Netflix) and the inspiration series *Best Foot Forwards* (Apple). Unscripted original projects include *JFK: The Smoking Gun* (Reelz) and *For Heaven's Sake* (Paramount+). Muse Entertainment's work-for-hire service content includes Stephen Spielberg's films *Catch Me If You Can* (DreamWorks) and *The Terminal*, Ang Lee's *Life of Pi*, *Blood and Treasure* (CBS), *The Moodys* (FOX), *The Republic of Sara* (CW) and the current hit comedy *Ghosts* (CBS). The company has successfully teamed with international co-production partners in major markets including Australia, France, Germany, Hungary, Morocco, Romania, South Africa, Spain, Switzerland and the U.K. Muse Distribution International (MDI), the company's distribution arm, features a catalogue of over 800 hours of award-winning programming across all genres, including scripted series, documentaries, and family entertainment. Headquartered in Montreal, Quebec, Muse Entertainment has development and production operations in Toronto, Vancouver and Los Angeles. Visit: www.muse.ca

Neshama Entertainment: Brook Peters, Managing Director and Senior Vice-President, Sales & Production

Personal Bio: Brook Peters oversees sales and business development in Toronto for a wide variety of production and distribution entities. Representing Neshama Entertainment, Incendo Productions, and Fox Entertainment Global for the Canadian marketplace, Brook's remit focuses

on production and distribution opportunities with a specific focus on scripted series and features. With 20 years working in various aspects of the film and television industry, Brook's content sales, acquisitions, and executive experience expands across studio, network broadcast, and digital media channels and services in Canada and around the world.

Company Profile:

About Neshama:

Neshama Entertainment is a Canadian production company based in Toronto. Formed in 2018 by Arnie Zipursky, in partnership with Los Angeles-based distributor MarVista Entertainment, Neshama sources Canadian creative content and talent including writers, producers, actors, editors, directors, and cinematographers.

Recent titles include Tubi originals "*Meet the Killer Parents*" and "*The Manny*," as well as "*Under the Christmas Tree*" and "*A Chance for Christmas*," both nominated for Best TV Movie at the 2023 Canadian Screen Awards. Neshama's one-hour drama "*The Way Home*," Hallmark's first original series in seven years, premiered in early 2023 to tremendous success and has already been renewed for a second season. In an effort to expand its catalogue of film properties, Neshama Releasing is actively searching for television movies (MOWs) and indie features for Canadian distribution.

About Incendo:

Incendo is a globally renowned, award-winning content producer and distribution company. Our organisation creates and supplies motion picture films, prime-time television series, documentaries & specials to all tiers of domestic and international channels and services. Incendo's curated portfolio of elite brands and affiliations continuously engages audiences and establishes growth opportunities within our industry. We take pride in our active and welcoming approach to preserving relationships and spearheading collaboration across our brands, franchises and other multi-media business ventures. Our extensive catalogue features a varied slate of U.S. primetime network programming, theatrical feature films, non-scripted factual and entertainment shows as well as Canadian-produced, award-honoured films and television series.

About Fox Entertainment Global:

Based in Los Angeles on the FOX Studios lot, FOX Entertainment Global oversees the international, multiplatform sales and distribution of intellectual property owned and produced by FOX Entertainment and its growing portfolio of in-house production studios including TUBI, Studio Ramsay Global, Bento Box, MarVista, as well as premium content acquired from outside producers.

Netflix: Danielle Woodrow - Director, Content - Canada

Personal Bio: Danielle Woodrow is Director of Content at Netflix Canada. She relocated from Los Angeles to Toronto in fall of 2021 to spearhead the build of the local Content team. Since joining Netflix in 2018, Woodrow has played an integral role in the development and production of a number of series including *Behind Her Eyes*, *Pieces Of Her* and *The Lincoln Lawyer*. She also championed the acquisition of dramedy *Emily In Paris*. Most recently, she and the Canadian team greenlit their first scripted series, *Unt. Arctic Comedy*, a co-license with CBC and APTN; and *Tall Pines*, a thriller created by comedian Mae Martin.

Woodrow came to Netflix from Perfect Storm Entertainment where she built the series arm and served as the President of Television. With Perfect Storm, Woodrow developed and executive produced the long-running CBS dramas *Scorpion* and *S.W.A.T.* as well as the cult hit *Warrior* for HBO Max.

Prior to joining Perfect Storm, Woodrow served as Senior Vice President of Original Programming at FX Networks, where she ran the Current Department and played a key executive role in shepherding the network's slate of critically acclaimed series including *Justified*, *Damages*, *Sons Of Anarchy* and *Archer*. Woodrow began her career in TV Movies at Viacom's MTV.

Company Profile: Netflix is one of the world's leading entertainment services with over 238 million paid memberships in over 190 countries enjoying TV series, films and games across a wide variety of genres and languages. Members can play, pause and resume watching as much as they want, anytime, anywhere, and can change their plans at any time.

Netflix Canada Mandate:

We are prioritising adult scripted series: live action dramas and comedies primarily set in Canada.

OUTtv: Lauren Whitelaw. Head of Programming

Personal Bio: Lauren is the Head of Programming for OUTtv, currently with services in Canada, USA, UK, Ireland, Australia, New Zealand and South Africa with more territories to come. With services expanding globally, she has successfully negotiated contracts with companies worldwide. Lauren is part of the development team at the network and continues to work closely with Producers globally to find the best LGBTQ+ programming.

Company Profile: As we are LGBTQ+ focused, we are looking for stories and content relevant to that community. It can be scripted or non-scripted, but we commissioned much more non-scripted in the past. We are interested in all types of programming so long as the themes are LGBTQ+ positive and the cast and characters are predominately of the community. As a Canadian company, we are very interested in co-production. We are open to sharing rights with other distribution platforms but generally want to control first window rights for most territories.

Paramount+ Canada: Tom Hasting, Head of Original Programming

Personal Bio: Based in Toronto, Tom leads the commissioning strategy for Paramount+ Canadian originals. An industry veteran and former Director of Drama at Bell Media, Tom has extensive and long-standing relationships with Canada's independent production and literary communities and is especially known for his respected relationships with Canadian writers, producers and agents. Tom also holds a doctorate degree, having obtained his Ph.D. in English Literature.

Company Profile: Paramount+ is a global digital subscription video streaming service from Paramount that features a mountain of premium entertainment for audiences of all ages. Internationally, the streaming service features an expansive library of original series, hit shows and popular movies across every genre from world-renowned brands and production studios, including SHOWTIME®, BET, CBS, Comedy Central, MTV, Nickelodeon, Paramount Pictures and the Smithsonian Channel™, in addition to a robust offering of premier local content. The service is currently live in the U.S., the U.K., Canada, Latin America, the Caribbean, Australia, Italy, Ireland and South Korea.

Participant: McKenna Stephens, Manager, Global TV

Personal Bio: McKenna Stephens is Manager, Global TV at Participant, the leading media company dedicated to entertainment that stands at the intersection of art and activism, where she handles Participant's episodic projects at all stages, from inception through production and going to air. Stephens joined Participant as an Assistant, SVP Global TV, from The Gersh Agency, where she worked in the literary department. McKenna is passionate about telling stories that help compel positive social change and finding emerging talent. She holds an MFA in Visual Media Arts from Emerson College and a BA in Broadcast News from the University of Colorado at Boulder.

Company Profile: Participant is the leading media company dedicated to entertainment that brings social awareness and engages audiences to participate in positive social change. Through its worldwide network of traditional and digital distribution, aligned with partnerships with key non-profit and NGO organizations, the company is positioned uniquely within the industry to engage a rapidly growing audience while bringing global awareness and action to today's most vital issues.

Founded in 2004 by entrepreneur Jeff Skoll, Participant has produced more than 100 narrative and documentary films that have grossed more than \$3 billion at the worldwide box office and collectively have earned 87 Academy Award® nominations and 21 wins, and 44 Emmy® nominations and 11 wins. Participant's first TV series, *America To Me*, the 10-part docuseries from acclaimed filmmaker Steve James, debuted in 2018 to rave reviews and was nominated for a Critics' Choice Documentary Award, followed by Ava DuVernay's highly acclaimed limited drama series, *When They See Us*, now streaming on Netflix. Past film highlights are Academy Award® Best Picture winners *Spotlight* and *Green Book*, Oscar® Best Foreign Language Film winners *Roma* and *A*

Fantastic Woman, and Academy Award®-winning Best Documentaries *Citizenfour* and *An Inconvenient Truth*.

We are currently looking for a ½ hour comedy and generally looking for things that are a bit unexpected for our brand. For instance, we have a sci-fi that deals with neurodivergence. We don't need any limited series or deep period pieces. McKenna's team focuses on TV, so is happy to meet with any producers with television projects.

Quiver Distribution: Berry Meyerowitz, Co-Founder

Personal Bio: Berry Meyerowitz is the co-founder of Quiver Distribution, a film and TV company operating in the U.S., Canada and international markets. Quiver acquires, develops, finances, and produces high-quality, talent-driven films from both established and emerging stars and filmmakers.

The company produced and this year will release *The Wrath Of Becky* starring Lulu Wilson and Seann William Scott; Neil LaBute's *Fear The Night* with Maggie Q and *The Guard Brothers Dead Shot* starring Felicity Jones, Mark Strong, Colin Morgan and Aml Ameen.

Before launching Quiver with partner Jeff Sackman, Meyerowitz founded Phase 4 Films and built the company into one of the leading independent U.S. distributors. Following the sale of Phase 4 Films to eOne, Meyerowitz stayed on as President of eOne's U.S. Film Business where revenue topped \$100 Million.

Berry has Executive Produced over 30 feature films including Walter Hill's *Dead For A Dollar* with Christoph Waltz, Willem Dafoe, and Rachel Brosnahan, and Neil LaBute's *Out Of The Blue* with Diane Kruger, Ray Nicholson, and Hank Azaria; Mayim Bialik's directorial debut *As They Made Us* with Dustin Hoffman, Diana Agron, Candice Bergen and Simon Helberg; *The Survivalist* with John Malkovich and Jonathan Rhys Meyers; *Jungle* with Daniel Radcliffe; *Chick Fight* with Alec Baldwin; and *Becky* starring Kevin James. Meyerowitz previously served as President of Peace Arch Home Entertainment after selling them his company, kaBOOM! Entertainment. Earlier, he worked at 20th Century Fox as Marketing Director and led successful campaigns for films such as *The Star Wars Trilogy*, *There's Something About Mary* and *The Full Monty*.

Berry is a former member of Young Presidents' Organization. He has an MBA from the Schulich School of Business.

Company Profile: Quiver Distribution is a film distribution company operating in the U.S., Canada and international markets which packages, finances and distributes high-quality, talent-driven films. Founded by entertainment industry veterans Berry Meyerowitz and Jeff Sackman, Quiver Distribution focuses on curating a highly selective film slate from both established and emerging talent.

Quiver is dedicated to collaborating with industry leaders and emerging talent to leverage their combined knowledge, extensive relationships and market insights to develop and bring the best filmed content to screen.

Quiver's success has been the identification of commercial projects to meet the demands of an ever changing market. Quiver currently has a number of films in various stages of production which are set to release in 2024 including the wartime drama and true story of Polish hero Irena Gut Opdyke *Irena's Vow* starring Sophie Nélisse and Dougray Scott; and *Outlaw Posse*, the western action film written and directed by Mario van Peebles and starring Whoopi Goldberg, Cedric the Entertainer, Neal McDonough.

Upcoming releases include *The Guard Brothers Dead Shot* starring Felicity Jones, Mark Strong, Colin Morgan and Aml Ameen; and *Warrior Strong* starring Andrew Dice Clay recent releases include *The Wrath Of Becky* the highly anticipated sequel to *Becky* starring Lulu Wilson and Seann William Scott; Neil Labute's *Fear The Night* starring Maggie Q; *Bandit*, a true-crime thriller starring Mel Gibson, Josh Duhamel and Alicia Cuthbert; and the western *Dead For A Dollar*, starring Academy Award® Winner Christoph Waltz, Willem Dafoe and Emmy® Winner Rachel Brosnahan; Neil Labute's *Out Of The Blue* starring Diane Kruger and Ray Nicholson; Mayim Bialik's directorial debut *As They Made Us*, starring Academy Award® Winner Dustin Hoffman, Candice Bergen, Dianna Argon and Simon Helberg; *East Of The Mountains*, starring Tom Skerritt and Mira Sorvino; *The Survivalist* starring John Malkovich and Jonathan Rhys Meyers and *13 Minutes* starring Paz Vega, Trace Adkins, Amy Smart, Anne Heche and Peter Facinelli; *Crisis*, starring Gary Oldman and Evangeline Lily; and *Falling*, directed by and starring Viggo Mortensen, and Lance Henriksen and Laura Linney.

Raven Banner Entertainment: Anelle Dehghani, Director of Distribution & Sales

Personal Bio: Anelle Dehghani has nearly 10 years of experience in marketing, sales and acquisitions as an independent consultant at Raven Banner Entertainment, working in both international and domestic markets, working on several outstanding genre films like *Autopsy of Jane Doe*, *Climax*, *Turbo Kid*, *The Sadness*, and Northern Banner titles *The Painted Bird* and Academy Award Nominee *Embrace of the Serpent*.

Connecting with filmmakers is a driver of her success; having attended many markets as an industry leader, panellist and mentor at *Blood in the Snow*, *Screen Nova Scotia*, and through the *Reelworld E20 Mentorship* program, she has had the opportunity to meet, guide and consult with some amazing talent and continues to collaborate with like-minded filmmakers.

Company Profile: Now in its 14th year of business, Raven Banner Entertainment has firmly cemented its reputation as one of the most respected and admired international sales companies of elevated genre films. Based in Toronto, Canada, RBE currently represents over 200 films for sales in either the worldwide or international marketplace. Through its expertise in strategic

project management, Raven Banner can assist in any and all stages of project production – from acquisitions, representation, negotiations, strategic marketing plans, consultation, and sales. Notable titles include: *Falling Stars*, *Black Mold*, *Malum*, *Topakk (Triggered)*, *Slumber Party Massacre*, *Tigers Are Not Afraid*, *For The Sake Of Vicious*, *Hagazussa: A Heathens Curse*, *Belzebuth*, *Cyst*, *Benny Loves You*, *Yummy*, and one of the most acclaimed horror titles of 2022 *The Sadness*.

In 2013 Raven Banner Releasing was formed as the Canadian distribution arm of Raven Banner Entertainment, and over the years has released such films as: *Autopsy Of Jane Doe*, *Mad Heidi*, *The Vigil*, *Deathgasm*, *Baskin*, *John Dies At The End*, *Dead Shack*, *Lowlife* and Gaspar Noé's *Climax*.

Two years later Northern Banner Releasing was formed to distribute all films outside of Raven Banner's wheelhouse, from critically acclaimed arthouse fare to children's films to social & cultural docs, releasing titles such as: *Hello Destroyer*, *Black Cop*, *How To Plan An Orgy In A Small Town*, *The Painted Bird*, *The Walrus & The Whistleblower*, Academy Award Nominee *Embrace Of The Serpent*, and Bruce La Bruce's *Saint-Narcisse*.

Raven Banner has also acted as Executive Producers on numerous features including *Turbo Kid*, *They Came From The Desert*, *Sky Sharks*, *For The Sake Of Vicious*, *Shoot To Marry*, *Trench 11*, and *Psycho Goreman*.

Finally, in 2018 Raven Banner formed the production shingle Hangar 18 Media which has produced the titles *V/H/S 94*, *Sorry About The Demon*, *Nail In The Coffin: The Fall And Rise Of Vamipro*, *Spare Parts*, *The Fight Machine* (based on Craig Davidson's novel *The Fighter*), *The Breach*, and *Brooklyn 45* which had its World Premiere at SXSW 2023.

The Film Collaborative: David Averbach, Creative Director

Personal Bio: David Averbach directs TFC's digital distribution and distribution-education initiatives and regularly advises filmmakers on D.I.Y. distribution. He has spoken on film festival and film market panels, such as DOC NYC, the Tacoma Film Festival, and the FilmBazaar in Goa, India, and has participated in industry markets, such as IFP Week, Sheffield Doc/Fest, InsideOut Toronto, Asian Contents and Film Market in Busan, Dhaka Docs in Bangladesh, and Docs by the Sea in Indonesia. In addition, as Creative Director, David handles all branding collateral and TFC's website, and is in charge of the technical and editorial development of many of TFC's suite of educational tools, [distripedia](#)[™], which includes the Digital Distribution Guide, Distributor ReportCard, Case Studies, and the TFC Blog. David serves as technical director for TFC's Festival Distribution and Community Conversation programs. David holds a Ph.D. from the University of California, Berkeley in Japanese (literature and film).

Company Profile: The Film Collaborative is the first non-profit committed to distribution education and facilitation of independent film. Launched in early 2010, TFC helps filmmakers with all aspects of distribution without taking rights. In addition to our suite of complimentary online distribution-related [educational tools](#) for indie filmmakers, we offer filmmakers a way to submit

their films to our [Festival Distribution](#), [Fiscal Sponsorship](#) and Consultation Programs. We also handle boutique Sales and Impact/Theatrical Distribution, but those are usually provided in tandem with one of the other services mentioned above. TFC's overall mandate is to encourage transparency in the film industry, and foster diversity, creative expression, and cultural exchange through the films that TFC distributes.

There are no specific requirements for films in terms of content, but we are only looking for features. Our slate is made up of over 80% documentaries. Our narrative features consist of underrepresented voices in cinema with socially important themes. We generally do not include genre films unless they are breaking boundaries in other niche content areas.

The CW Television Network, Saleena Lockett, Director of Scripted Programming

Personal Bio: Saleena Lockett is a Network Executive with over 19 years of diverse industry experience. Saleena is a DGA Training Program Alum and an active member of the Directors Guild Association. Saleena currently works at THE CW NETWORK as the Executive Director of Scripted programming where she is involved in both development and current programming. Outside of work Saleena often travels around LA in search of the perfect latte.

Vortex Media: Matt Orenstein, Vice President of Acquisitions Strategy

Personal Bio: Matt Orenstein is Vice President of Acquisitions and Strategy at Vortex Media. Notable Vortex Media titles include *Nitram*, *Peace By Chocolate*, and *I Don't Know Who You Are*. Previously, Matt was the co-founder of the Canadian film distribution company, ABMO Films, which released films including Academy Award-nominated *First Reformed* and *Suspiria*. Matt also worked at eOne as part of the US acquisitions group and is a graduate of the University of Western Ontario and the Newhouse School at Syracuse University with an MS in Media Management.

Company profile: Vortex Media is a boutique studio bringing together global distribution and production with a focus on film and television of all genres.

VVS Films: Claire Peace-McConnell, Development, Canadian Film Initiatives

Personal Bio: Claire has worked in the film industry for over 15 years, beginning her career at TIFF and the Kingston Canadian Film Festival before moving into theatrical distribution. At Alliance Films and then eOne, she held the role of Director, Publicity & Promotions until 2015. At that time she went to VVS Films to launch their first national in-house publicity and promotions department.

She is currently the Head of Public Relations and Canadian Content Development at VVS Films, responsible for identifying and acquiring Canadian projects for distribution and development. Claire also oversees the PR strategy for all theatrical and home entertainment releases.

Company Profile: VVS Films is a wholly-owned motion picture production and distribution company with over 40 years of operation. The company has its headquarters in Montreal and an office in Toronto. VVS is best known for launching major action franchises in the Canadian market, including the “Has Fallen” and “The Hitman’s Bodyguard” series. They also have a history in critically acclaimed films, including *Talk to Me*, *Pearl*, *The Lighthouse*, *I, Tonya*, *Hell or High Water*, and *The Farewell*. In 2022, the company launched a Canadian Content Development division dedicated to producing and distributing quality Canadian film and television. Although primarily focused on commercially driven theatrical films, VVS will consider projects of all genres and those at any stage in their development.

WestEnd Films: Daisy Allsop, Head of Acquisitions and Development

Personal Bio: Daisy Allsop recently joined as Head of Acquisitions and Development for sales agent West End Films, having previously been an Independent producer. Daisy’s recent films include *My Happy Ending* (Andie Macdowell, Miriam Margolyes), UK-Israel co-production supported by the UK Global Screen Fund which was released theatrically in the US in early 2023. *Otto Baxter: Not A F***ing Horror Story* a feature documentary and companion scripted short film *The Puppet Asylum* for Sky will be theatrically released in Autumn 23. Daisy produced BFI-funded *Tell It To The Bees*, (Anna Paquin, Holliday Grainger) which premiered in Special Presentation at TIFF, released theatrically in 2019. Also Screen Star of Tomorrow David Leon’s *Orthodox* (Stephen Graham, Michael Smiley), longlisted for Best Debut Director BIFA and theatrically released in 2016.

Company Profile: WestEnd Films is a production, financing and international sales company for feature films and TV. WestEnd’s diverse slate of features include Oscar nominees *The Breadwinner*, *Albert Nobbs*, *Footnote* and *The Invisible Woman*. Recent titles include Guy Nattiv and Zar Amir-Ebrahimi’s *Tatami*, Matthew Brown’s *Freud’s Last Session* starring Anthony Hopkins and Matthew Goode and *The Last Rifleman* starring Pierce Brosnan. Through its WeLove brand, WestEnd develops and produces female-specific content. WestEnd has also established a television arm, WeSeries, whose first developed and produced show *Valley Of Tears* was acquired worldwide by HBO.

Additional Meetings: Requesting these meetings will NOT count towards your total meeting requests. This is a great way to connect with local funders and financiers who will be available during the in-person market on October 23rd.

- Canada Media Fund – Susy MacGillivray
- National Bank of Canada – Lucie Marion
- Telefilm Canada – Lori McCurdy