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July 6, 2017

NEWS RELEASE

NEW TIFF-CBC SCREENWRITING GRANT RECOGNIZES AND SUPPORTS UNDER-REPRESENTED CANADIAN STORYTELLERS

New screenwriting grant offering \$10,000 to recipient

TORONTO — TIFF and CBC Breaking Barriers Film Fund today announced a new screenwriting grant created to support Canada's diverse screenwriting talent, and discover a great Canadian screenplay. The TIFF-CBC Diverse Screenwriters Grant will provide \$10,000 to a Canadian writer of an outstanding feature film screenplay, supporting them to further develop their project.

The TIFF-CBC Diverse Screenwriters Grant is open to screenwriters who are female, Indigenous, belong to visible minorities, or identify with a disability. Applicants must have an existing writer or director credit on at least one feature film that has been presented at TIFF. Full eligibility requirements and application details are available at tiff.net/industry.

"Our stories are only as rich and authentic as the voices that tell them. Screenwriting is a key focus of TIFF's talent development activities, and this grant recognizes the tremendous value that diversity brings to the film-writing process, while celebrating outstanding Canadian storytelling," said Kathleen Drumm, TIFF Industry Director.

"With their reputation for showcasing great Canadian creators, TIFF is a natural partner for CBC to work with to further our shared commitment to nurture and promote underrepresented storytellers in this country," said Helen du Toit, Interim Senior Director, CBC Breaking Barriers Film Fund. "Through this new grant, we hope to discover the next great Canadian story that will celebrate Canada's rich, diverse culture and resonate both at home and abroad."

Submissions for the grant are now open (for screenplays between 85 and 120 pages) and will close on August 21, 2017. A jury will determine the winner based on the quality of the screenplay. The winner will be announced in November.

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About TIFF

TIFF is a charitable cultural organization whose mission is to transform the way people see the world, through film. An international leader in film culture, TIFF projects include the annual Toronto International Film Festival in September; TIFF Bell Lightbox, which features five cinemas, major exhibitions, and learning and entertainment facilities; and innovative national distribution program Film Circuit. The organization generates an annual economic impact of \$189 million CAD. TIFF Bell Lightbox is generously supported by contributors including Founding Sponsor Bell, the Government of Canada, the Government of Ontario, the City of Toronto, the Reitman family (Ivan Reitman, Agi Mandel and Susan Michaels), The Daniels Corporation and RBC. For more information, visit tiff.net.

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tiff.net

*Toronto International Film Festival Inc. Charitable Registration # 11930 4541 RR0001



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About CBC Breaking Barriers Film Fund

Offering new opportunities for filmmakers who have historically been at a disadvantage in accessing financing and making their unique voices heard, the CBC Breaking Barriers Film Fund helps finance English-language feature film projects that are written or directed by Canadian women, Indigenous persons, visible minorities and persons with a disability who have had at least one feature-length film showcased at a recognized film festival. Submissions are now being accepted on an ongoing basis with no formal deadlines. Further information and application guidelines are available at www.cbc.ca/breakingbarriers/.

About CBC/Radio-Canada

CBC/Radio-Canada is Canada's national public broadcaster and one of its largest cultural institutions. We are Canada's trusted source of news, information and Canadian entertainment. Deeply rooted in communities all across the country, CBC/Radio-Canada offers diverse content in English, French and eight Indigenous languages. We also provide international news and information from a uniquely Canadian perspective. In 2017, CBC/Radio-Canada will be at the heart of the celebrations and conversations with special 2017-themed multiplatform programming and events across Canada.

The Toronto International Film Festival is generously supported by Lead Sponsor Bell, Major Sponsors RBC, L'Oréal Paris and Visa, and Major Supporters the Government of Ontario, The Government of Canada and the City of Toronto.

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