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CANADA'S PUBLIC BROADCASTER LAUNCHES CBC GEM STREAMING SERVICE WITH MORE THAN 4000 HOURS OF LIVE AND ON-DEMAND PROGRAMMING AVAILABLE FOR FREE

Dec 11, 2018

*New CBC original drama series **NORTHERN RESCUE** starring William Baldwin and Kathleen Robertson to drop exclusively on CBC Gem in Canada starting March 1*

*CBC and **Wattpad** announce new partnership for emerging Canadian writers to create content for CBC Gem*

*In partnership with **Telefilm Canada**, CBC Gem to offer more than 100 Canadian feature films, available ad-free, with additional films from the **National Film Board of Canada** to be added in the coming year*

In addition to free membership, premium membership available for \$4.99 per month, offering all on-demand content ad-free and CBC News Network livestream

December 11, 2018 – **CBC** today announced the launch of **CBC Gem**, the national public broadcaster's new streaming service, offering more than 4000 hours of live and on-demand programming for free. Available now as Canada's destination for acclaimed, authentically Canadian programming and a curated selection of best-in-class content from around the world, **CBC Gem** provides live and on-demand access to CBC's full programming slate spanning drama, comedy, factual entertainment, documentaries, arts, kids, sports and national and local news programming, including the ability to live stream CBC TV at any time with access to 14 CBC channels and their local newscasts across the country. The streaming service also offers French-language programming from ICI Radio-Canada.

CBC will also collaborate with new partners in order to expand the **CBC Gem** streaming library and offer additional Canadian and international content. A new partnership between CBC and homegrown success story **Wattpad**, the global multiplatform entertainment company for original stories and the world's most popular social storytelling platform, will offer emerging Canadian writers the opportunity to create exclusive content

for CBC Gem, with more details to be confirmed in the new year. The streaming service also offers more than 100 acclaimed Canadian feature films, available ad-free in partnership with **Telefilm Canada**, with a selection of films from the **National Film Board of Canada**, including Indigenous projects, to be added in the coming year.

“We are in the midst of a renaissance of great television programming, and we want to make sure Canadians have a place in this new world of globalized television—a place that is theirs,” said **Catherine Tait, President & CEO, CBC/Radio-Canada**. “With the launch of CBC Gem, our goal is to offer not just CBC programming but the best Canadian content from across the country by seeking out new partnerships with a wide range of producers, distributors and publishers.”

“CBC Gem is Canada’s home for the best content this country has to offer in addition to a curated selection of acclaimed programming from around the world,” said **Gave Lindo, Executive Director, OTT Programming, CBC**. “We will collaborate with new partners to continue to expand our library and invest in delivering the best user experience, to ensure that our streaming service is a distinct destination for audiences of all ages, on all platforms.”

The growing streaming library available on CBC Gem is supported by ongoing acquisitions from key Canadian distribution partners, including A71 Entertainment, Elevation Pictures, eOne, levelFILM and Mongrel Media, and international partners BBC Studios, Fremantle International, ITV Studios Global Entertainment and Sky Vision.

CBC Gem is available for free as an App for [iOS](#) and [Android](#) devices and online at cbcgem.ca, and on television via Apple TV and Google Chromecast. An ad-free premium membership is also available for \$4.99 per month, which also provides access to a live stream of CBC News Network. All children’s programming is always provided ad-free within CBC Gem.

CBC Gem is exclusive to Canada. All content is available with Closed Captioning, and Described Video is available for most on-demand content.

CBC Member - FREE (registration required):

- Live stream CBC TV, including access to all 14 local channels from across the country and their news broadcasts
- Watch current and past seasons of favourite shows on demand
- Resume watching programs on any device
- Ad-free children’s programming

CBC Member - Premium:

For \$4.99 a month (with the first month free of charge), Canadians can upgrade their viewing experience to enjoy additional features and content:

- Watch on-demand episodes without ads
- Live stream CBC News Network 24/7

CBC Gem Programming Highlights:

- All episodes of new CBC original drama **NORTHERN RESCUE** (10x60), starring William Baldwin and Kathleen Robertson, will be available to stream exclusively in Canada on CBC Gem starting Friday, March 1.
- Past and current seasons of CBC series, including acclaimed comedies **KIM'S CONVENIENCE**, **BARONESS VON SKETCH SHOW** and **SCHITT'S CREEK**; factual entertainment favourite **THE GREAT CANADIAN BAKING SHOW**; crowd-pleasing dramas **MURDOCH MYSTERIES**, **ANNE WITH AN E** and **HEARTLAND**; and classic CBC hits like **THE KIDS IN THE HALL** and **BEING ERICA**.
- Renowned programming from around the world including: **FORTITUDE** (Season 1) with Stanley Tucci; international hit **THE GREAT BRITISH BAKING SHOW** (Seasons 1-8); **LUTHER** starring Idris Elba (Seasons 1-4); **PORTLANDIA** (Seasons 1-5); **TOP OF THE LAKE: CHINA GIRL**; **THE TUDORS** (Seasons 1 - 4); miniseries **VANITY FAIR**; and BAFTA Award-winning series **WALLANDER** (Seasons 1-4) with Kenneth Branagh; with Emmy Award-winning **LITTLE DORRIT** starring Claire Foy (*The Crown*) available later this month.
- CBC News award-winning news and investigative programming available live and on demand, including **THE NATIONAL**, **MARKETPLACE**, **THE FIFTH ESTATE** and **POWER AND POLITICS**, in addition to livestream access to 14 local news broadcasts across the country.
- More than 500 hours of Canadian and international documentary storytelling, including **CBC DOCS POV's** critically acclaimed **14 & Muslim**; **THE NATURE OF THINGS** three-part series **Equus: Story of the Horse**; CBC Docs Special Presentation **In Search of a Perfect World** with Peter Mansbridge; and **CBC SHORT DOCS' Fast Horse**, Sundance Film Festival 2019 selection and Best Documentary Work Short Format winner at the 2018 imagineNATIVE Film + Media Arts Festival.
- More than 200 hours of ad-free children's programming, including CBC Kids' favourites **ADDISON**, **BECCA'S BUNCH**, **DOT**, **THE FURCHESTER HOTEL** and **TRUE AND THE RAINBOW KINGDOM**.
- CBC Sports' **ROAD TO THE OLYMPIC GAMES** available live and on demand, with upcoming highlights including **FIS World Cup Alpine, Cross Country, Freestyle Skiing, Ski Jumping** and **Nordic Combined**; **IBSF World Cup Bobsleigh** and **Skeleton**; and the **ISU World Figure Skating Championships 2019** from Saitama, Japan.

- More than 100 buzzworthy Canadian feature films, representing the best of contemporary Canadian film, available ad-free in partnership with Telefilm Canada. Titles include: **Barney's Version** (2010, Richard J. Lewis), **Cairo Time** (2009, Ruba Nada), **Meditation Park** (2017, Mina Shum), **Midnight's Children** (2012, Deepa Mehta) and **Mommy** (2014, Xavier Dolan), with upcoming titles including **Jean of the Joneses** (2016, Stella Meghie) and Canadian Screen Award-winning **Maudie** (2016, Aisling Walsh) as well as Oscar®-nominated films **Brooklyn** (2015, John Crowley) and **Incendies** (2010, Denis Villeneuve). New homegrown films will be added each week, spanning a wide range of genres and featuring diverse, accomplished filmmakers.
- French programming from ICI Tou.TV streaming service including including **#DANSLATOILE**, **1001 NUITS** and **TRANSFORMATRUC**.

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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 are leading the transformation to meet the needs of Canadians in a digital world.

*For more information including series synopses, press releases, hi-res images, video clips and bios, please visit the **CBC Media Centre** at cbc.ca/mediacentre.*

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