



PRESS RELEASE

SECRET HISTORY™: THE WILD WEST TO BROADCAST IN CANADA ON APTN

The new docudrama series premieres **Feb. 11, 2021 in Blackfoot** and **Feb. 13, 2021 in English**

CALGARY, Alberta Jan. 14, 2021

HERD of 1 MEDIA's new half-hour x 13-episode docudrama series **SECRET HISTORY™: THE WILD WEST** is premiering on Canada's national Indigenous network APTN. The first season, "The Wild West", explores the mystical and metaphysical influences behind Western Canada's most notorious Indigenous heroes and villains that shaped the Canadian West.

Secret History™ series takes a fresh approach to bring Indigenous history to life in a visually stunning and entertaining way. By utilizing a strategic blend of cinematic live action re-enactments, speaker testimony, animation and archive photos, the series unearths the past to shine a light on historical First Nations, Inuit and Metis icons that Canadian history overlooks or have forgotten.

Join the show's host, the Trickster as played by Julian Black Antelope (*Hold the Dark, Tribal, Blackstone*) as he guides the viewer through each half hour episode to uncover and rediscover the *Secret History* – of 13 notable indigenous individuals who played an extraordinary part in shaping the Canadian *Wild West*. Tune in each week to learn the mysterious influences behind the likes of *Jerry Potts, Calf Shirt, Red Crow, Poundmaker, Louis Riel* and many more. Showcasing a talented cast of Indigenous guest stars in each episode, filming locations for this series include Bow River Ranch in Calgary, Alta and Fort Whoop-Up in Lethbridge, Alta.

The **Secret History™** series Creator, Showrunner, Writer and creative driving force Julian Black Antelope, applies his feature film producing skills and the tropes of a variety of genre conventions into his first television series endeavor.

"I grew up hearing about some of these people and their stories but wondered why there was very little information taught about them in school, so my goal with this project was to fill in the gaps and bring a seldom seen point of view through an Indigenous lens." says Julian Black Antelope. *The Secret History series also has a Blackfoot language version, which like the show itself, is something long overdue. I believe language and cultural preservation are absolutely vital, especially in this day and age, so for myself it's an especially rewarding experience to see all the time it's taken, hard work and research come to fruition".*

Told from an Indigenous perspective, every episode of **Secret History™: The Wild West** is anchored by testimony from direct descendants, spiritual leaders and tribal elders of both *Siksikaitsitapi* (Blackfoot) and *Nehiyaw-Pwat* (Cree) Confederacy's.

"This series challenges the often skewed and one-sided historical perspectives of Indigenous Peoples," said Black Antelope. *"The series' intention is to educate the historical and contemporary contributions of our Peoples: not to throw a proverbial brick through history's window, but instead open the door to let some fresh air in."*

Secret History™: The Wild West is produced by Julian Black Antelope, Lars Lehmann and Laurie Venning. Directors for the season include a variety of Indigenous and non-Indigenous guest directors including directorial debuts from Berkley Brady and Julian Black Antelope.

Secret History™: The Wild West is produced in association with APTN, in participation with the Canada Media Fund, and with assistance from the Government of Alberta's Screen-Based Production Grant and the Canadian Film or Video Production Tax Credit.





ABOUT HERD OF 1 MEDIA

Herd of 1 Media is a Calgary based independent film and television production company dedicated to the development and production of high concept Indigenous and non-Indigenous content. Our primary focus lies in developing stories with an Indigenous approach and to foster new creative partnerships worldwide. We strongly believe the portrayal of First Nations issues goes hand in hand with real world measures to achieve reconciliation. Herd of 1 Media's founder and creative driving force, Julian Black Antelope, is an internationally recognized working actor who has produced an impressive slate of feature films that have screened worldwide at high profile festivals. Black Antelopes diverse artistic skill set continues to earn accolades worldwide as his professional focus continues to garner and secure new industry relationships at all levels.

ABOUT APTN

APTN launched in 1999 as the first national Indigenous broadcaster in the world, creating a window into the remarkably diverse mosaic of Indigenous peoples. A respected non-profit and charitable broadcaster, it's the only one of its kind in North America. The network is Sharing Our Stories of authenticity in English, French and a variety of Indigenous languages to approximately 11 million Canadian subscribers. With over 80% Canadian content, APTN connects with its audiences through genuine, inspiring, and engaging entertainment on multiple platforms.

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