



Réseau de télévision des  
peuples autochtones



**NFB and APTN Support the Development of Aboriginal Talents**  
**Call for proposals to co-produce a documentary miniseries in French**

Montreal, February 8, 2010 – The National Film Board of Canada (NFB) French Program and the Aboriginal Peoples Television Network (APTN) are issuing their first joint call for proposals to francophone Aboriginal production companies for the development of six half-hour TV documentaries for young adults (aged 18 to 35) to be produced in co-production with the NFB. Interested producers must submit their proposals by Friday, March 19, 2010.

To be eligible, the projects must, among other things, be directed by one or more Aboriginal filmmakers. They must also include an interactive digital component, for which the NFB will provide expert advice, and a training component in the form of production internships for emerging Aboriginal filmmakers. The interns will be part of the project team at each step of production, from development to post-production. They will be selected jointly by the NFB and the successful producer and will be paid by the NFB for a period of three to six months.

“This first-ever collaboration between the NFB French Program and APTN will encourage the creativity of Aboriginal audiovisual professionals and emerging filmmakers. Through this project, the NFB is participating, as a minority co-producer, in the production of original content and is supporting the training of new talents and the use of digital platforms with stimulating possibilities for giving a voice to Aboriginal people,” said Monique Simard, Director General of the NFB French Program.

“This documentary miniseries project, born of a strategic alliance between APTN and the NFB, pays tribute to the incredible creativity of Aboriginal artists and technicians. In joining forces and pooling their expertise, and building on current trends, our two organizations are innovating by bringing together two complementary perspectives: documentary filmmaking and the great artistic traditions of our nations,” explained Jean LaRose, CEO of the Aboriginal Peoples Television Network.

For eligibility criteria and details on submitting proposals for a documentary miniseries, visit the NFB and APTN websites at [<onf-nfb.gc.ca/fra/realiser-coproduire/>](http://onf-nfb.gc.ca/fra/realiser-coproduire/) and [<aptn.ca/au-sujet-d-APTN/producteurs/>](http://aptn.ca/au-sujet-d-APTN/producteurs/).

For more information, contact Louise Fontaine in the NFB French Program, by phone at 514-283-9285 or email at [<l.fontaine@nfb.ca>](mailto:l.fontaine@nfb.ca), or Sylvain Lévesque, Programming Coordinator, Eastern Region, APTN, by phone at 514-495-6424, ext. 8001, or email at [<slevesque@aptn.ca>](mailto:slevesque@aptn.ca).

### **Other First Nations internships at the NFB**

In March 2010, the NFB French Program will also welcome two graduates of the first Programme court en production audiovisuelle des Premières Nations, organized in partnership with the First Nations Educational Council (FNEC) and Université du Québec à Chicoutimi (UQÀC), for a 12-week internship in which they will learn about the different aspects of production and distribution at the NFB.

### **About the NFB**

Canada's public film producer and distributor, the National Film Board of Canada creates social-issue documentaries, auteur animation, alternative drama and digital content that provide the world with a unique Canadian perspective. The NFB is expanding the vocabulary of 21st-century cinema and breaking new ground in form and content through community filmmaking projects, cross-platform media, programs for emerging filmmakers, stereoscopic animation – and more. It works in collaboration with creative filmmakers and co-producers in every region of Canada, with Aboriginal and culturally diverse communities, as well as partners around the world. Since the NFB's founding in 1939, it has created over 13,000 productions and won over 5,000 awards, including 12 Oscars and more than 90 Genies. In 2009, *Neighbours/Voisins* by NFB animation founder Norman McLaren was added to UNESCO's Memory of the World Register. The NFB's new website features over 1,400 productions online, and its iPhone app has become one of the most popular and talked about downloads. Visit <[NFB.ca](http://NFB.ca)> today and start watching.

### **About APTN**

APTN is the first national Aboriginal television network in the world with programming by, for and about Aboriginal Peoples. Through documentaries, news magazines, dramas, movies, entertainment specials, children's series and educational programs, APTN opens a window into the remarkably diverse worlds of Aboriginal Peoples in Canada and throughout the world.

<[aptn.ca](http://aptn.ca)>

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**Sources:** National Film Board of Canada (NFB)  
Aboriginal Peoples Television Network (APTN)

### **Information:**

Nadine Viau, NFB Publicist  
514-496-4486, <[n.viau@nfb.ca](mailto:n.viau@nfb.ca)>