



For Immediate Release

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The TELUS Fund Awards \$7.5 million to Canadian Production Companies

33 Organizations Use Funding to Promote Health and Well-being of Canadians

Vancouver, B.C. – The TELUS Fund has provided \$7.5 million in funding to over 30 projects from B.C., Alberta, Ontario, Quebec and Nova Scotia since its inception in 2013. This Fall (Winter) Canadian production companies are taking to market 15 exceptional TV programs, shorts, websites, games and applications.

“With financing from the Fund, producers are creating important health programming tailored to multiple digital mediums and TV,” says TELUS Fund’s Chair, Nini Baird. “Together we are reaching Canadians with stories that entertain, engage and educate. Over time this content may help Canadians increase their understanding of health issues and how best to maintain their well-being.”

Launching this fall :

- **Nico Can Dance! (Knowledge Network, BBCKids)** - Dance teacher Miss Frost and her friend Coco have fun, shake things up and explore different kinds of dance, encouraging viewers to jump up and participate in creative movement.
- **Médecin Sans Rendez Vous (Télé-Québec)** - Since prevention is better than a cure, Dr. Chantal Guimont and our experts answer your health questions on television and the web. With a blend of advice, information and testimonials, Walk-in Doctor is a practical and informative magazine that brings health into your living room.
- **Keeping Canada Alive (CBC)** - A powerful 24 hour snapshot of Canada's health care system on a typical day. Captured by sixty camera crews across the country.
- **Bugs on the Menu (Doc Channel)** - Travel to countries where insects are eaten as a great source of protein and nutrients and follow those working to bring edible insects to Western cultures.
- **A Change of Mind (iChannel)** - After a diving accident, Nash suffers from homelessness, drug addiction, crime and eventually murder. Brain injury impacts more than the individual, it impacts society as a whole.
- **Teens 101 (iChannel)** - A new way of reaching, informing and helping youth through the stresses and obstacles they may be facing in the transition from adolescence to adulthood.
- **MOTIV (TV5)** - An informative, interactive and entertaining platform for decrypting the phenomenon of motivation.
- **FitX (Zoomer Media)** - An interactive health and fitness series connecting the viewer with workouts, wearable technology, a mobile app and a website to chart progress.
- **Mixed Match (iChannel)** - A compelling character-driven documentary intended to help save lives by exploring how diversity and ethnicity play a critical role in multiethnic patient survival.
- **Emergency Room - Season 2 (Knowledge Network)** - Documentary chronicling busy urban emergency room
- **1000 jours pour la planète III (CanalD)** - The team of Sedna IV explores the issues and effects of climate change on the Canadian Arctic.



- **Addiction: The Next Steps (CBC)** - Transforming the conversation around addiction from shame and blame to compassion and support. A vital lifeline for loved ones when, where and how they need it.

Launching this winter:

- **Défi Santé 5/30 (TVA)** - Inspiring individuals from the four corners of Quebec to eat better, be more active, and lead a more balanced life.
- **Working It Out Together (APTN)** - A multi-platform health and wellness movement to motivate Aboriginal communities towards health and wellness.
- **#STI (OutTV, iChannel)** - Distraught patients recently diagnosed with STIs look back on how they contracted the disease and what they could have done to prevent the transmission.

The next submission deadline is September 21, 2015 at 5 p.m. PST. Five to ten successful applicants are expected to receive up to \$2.5 million with an average funding of \$250,000 per project, and in excess of \$400,000 for truly exceptional projects. TELUS Fund program guidelines and application forms are available at www.telusfund.ca.

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About The TELUS Fund

Launched in 2013, The TELUS Fund finances the creation of exceptional health and wellness TV programs and digital media works that promote the health and well-being of Canadians. The TELUS Fund is an independently governed, not-for-profit corporation funded by TELUS. Each year, The TELUS Fund aims to support 10 to 20 winning submissions with approximately \$250,000 per project. Successful projects will be available via television, Internet and mobile platforms.

The TELUS Fund is made possible through the overwhelming success of Optik TV, now reaching more than 945,000 TELUS TV customers.

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