



**National Canadian Film Day is back by popular demand,
featuring more than 700 screenings across the country and around the world**

The World's Largest Film Festival returns for a fifth year with a Spotlight on Female Filmmakers

TORONTO — March 28, 2018 — The fifth annual [National Canadian Film Day](#) (NCFD 2018) returns to screens on April 18, 2018 as a result of a groundswell of public support from screening partners eager to celebrate Canada through film. More than 700 screenings are confirmed to take place in theatres, educational institutions and libraries across the country, and as far away as Iceland, Egypt, Tanzania and Japan.

"After the huge success of last year's sesquicentennial edition, we weren't sure we would continue... until the requests started pouring in from around the country," said Jack Blum, Executive Director, REEL CANADA. "The fifth annual National Canadian Film Day is truly a grassroots phenomenon."

"NCFD 2018 is defined by the overwhelming appetite Canadians have to see themselves and their stories represented on screen," said Sharon Corder, Artistic Director, REEL CANADA. "And this is the perfect year to shine a spotlight on the work of female filmmakers. On April 18th, we'll have the world's largest audience watching films by Canadian women — ever!"

This year, REEL CANADA has curated a [40-film "sampler" of films led by women](#), but as always, our screening partners are encouraged to explore the full diversity and wealth that Canadian films have to offer.

Women Filmmakers

Two of Canada's most accomplished masters of cinema, Deepa Mehta and Alanis Obomsawin, will come together in a once-in-a-lifetime live event at which the women will discuss their storied careers and their considerable impact on the Canadian film landscape. Signature screenings across the country will include participation from leading female filmmakers, including Mina Shum, Patricia Rozema, Léa Pool, Anne Wheeler, Lynne Stopkewich, Ann Marie Fleming, Sharon Lewis, Doreen Manuel, Mary Young Leckie, Ashley McKenzie, Liane Balaban, Cara Gee and Ingrid Veninger, as well as some of their celebrated male colleagues, including Don McKellar, Elan Mastai, Paul Sarossy and many others.

Canada's Largest and Most Accessible Film Event

Whether at home, at work or at one of the more than 700 screenings taking place across the country, it is easy to participate in NCFD 2018.

- **Public Screenings** – visit canfilmday.ca/see-a-film to find an event near you. Events are happening in places such as cinemas, libraries, legion halls, community centres, military bases and many other locations.
- **Major Events** with Special Guests will take place in Vancouver, Calgary, Winnipeg, Toronto, Ottawa, Montreal, Halifax and St John's.
- **Encore+** – The Canadian Media Fund's free YouTube channel makes many memorable Canadian movies of all genres available for fans of any age. A curated NCFD playlist will be available for anyone who wants an easy way to participate from home.
- **On TV & online** – Major broadcasters including CBC, APTN, Bell Media, Blue Ant Media, CORUS, CHCH, DHX Media, Hollywood Suite, OUTtv and Superchannel will air Canadian films on TV and streaming platforms throughout the day.
- **Through social** – Follow National Canadian Film Day on Twitter, Instagram (@CanFilmDay) and Facebook (facebook.com/CanFilmDay) for highlights and updates leading up to the event, and on the big day itself. Participate in the conversation by using #CanFilmDay.
- **In schools** – High school students in over 150 schools across the country will engage in RCTv, an innovative livestream event featuring an interactive Q&A with Canadian stars and filmmakers.
- And dozens of private events from elementary schools to retirement homes

About REEL CANADA

[REEL CANADA](#) is a non-profit, charitable organization that promotes the diversity of Canadian film and its power to spark important conversations about our nation and what it means to be Canadian. Through our three core programmes — *Our Films in Our Schools*, *Welcome to Canada* and *National Canadian Film Day* (NCFD) — REEL CANADA has reached hundreds of thousands of high school students, new Canadians, and general audience members. The 2017 edition of National Canadian Film Day, in honour of the nation's sesquicentennial, was the World's Largest Film Festival Ever, with more than 1,800 screenings of Canadian films across the country and around the world. Through its programmes, REEL CANADA increases audiences for our films, encourages dialogue and provides an opportunity to enjoy our great nation through the wonderful stories we tell.

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To schedule interviews with Jack Blum (REEL CANADA Executive Director) or Sharon Corder (REEL CANADA Artistic Director), please contact Katarina Gligorijevic: kat@reelcanada.ca