



Program
Release
NR-05109

For Immediate Release

CTV Orders Second Season of *Robson Arms*

-- Early Production Order for Critically Acclaimed Homegrown Dramatic Comedy --

Cannes, France (October 19, 2005) – CTV has ordered a second season of its original series *Robson Arms* from Vancouver-based Omni Film Productions. The announcement was made today from the international television market at MIPCOM in Cannes, France by Susanne Boyce, CTV's President of Programming and Chair of the Media Group. A total of 13 new episodes will head into production early next year (all production details TBA) for broadcast on CTV and The Comedy Network in the 2006/07 broadcast year.

"Robson Arms demonstrated enormous potential in its first year," said Boyce. "With such strong critical acclaim and positive ratings among young viewers, we are pleased to commit to a second season."

Robson Arms debuted to critical acclaim from TV critics across the country when Season One premiered last June on CTV. "Could be this summer's breakout hit," said *The Globe and Mail*. "The most affectionate homegrown TV debut since *Corner Gas*," said *National Post*. And the *Winnipeg Free Press* called it "a brilliantly executed half-hour of television." Each week, a strong youth audience made *Robson Arms* the No. 1 program in its timeslot for Adults 18-34, BBM confirms.

Shot entirely in Vancouver, part of *Robson Arms*' first-season success was due to a casting formula that boasted an impressive and diverse collection of Canadian talent. John Cassini starred as Yuri Kukoc, an appealing but slightly sleazy superintendent of a low-rise complex in Vancouver's eclectic West End. Guest stars who appeared over the 13-episode season included Margot Kidder, Gabrielle Miller, Megan Follows, Mark McKinney, William B. Davis, Tobias Mehler, Gabrielle Rose, Kevin McNulty, Alisen Down, Fred Ewanuick, Zak Santiago and Will Sasso.

The series was a winner of two 2005 Leo Awards.

Series creator, creative producer and head writer Susin Nielsen returns to helm the new season of *Robson Arms* along with executive producer and lead director Gary Harvey, producer Brian Hamilton and executive producer Michael Chechik. Louise Clark is CTV's Director, Western Independent Production. Brent Haynes is Director of Programming for The Comedy Network. Bill Mustos is Senior Vice-President, Dramatic Programming for CTV. Ed Robinson is Senior-Vice President, Comedy and Variety Programming, CTV Inc. Susanne Boyce is President, CTV Programming and Chair of the CTV Media Group.

Robson Arms is produced by Vancouver-based Omni Film Productions (currently co-producing the new CTV comedy series *Alice I Think*) in association with CTV.

.../continued

For more information, contact:

Jim Quan, CTV Inc., 416.332.5311
Scott Henderson, CTV Inc., 416.332.5305



- 2 -

CTV, Canada's largest private broadcaster, offers a wide range of quality news, sports, information, and entertainment programming. It boasts the number-one national newscast, *CTV News With Lloyd Robertson*, and is the number-one choice for prime-time viewing. CTV owns 21 conventional television stations across Canada and has interests in 14 specialty channels, including the number-one Canadian specialty channel, TSN. CTV is owned by Bell Globemedia, Canada's premier multi-media company. More information about CTV may be found on the company Web site at www.ctv.ca.

-30-