



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

LA TOURNÉE QUÉBEC CINÉMA VISITS YUKON RENOWNED GUESTS AND EXCLUSIVE FILMS AT AVAILABLE LIGHT FILM FESTIVAL



Montreal, January 22, 2019 – From **February 2 to 8**, **La Tournée Québec Cinéma** will visit **Whitehorse** to screen several short and feature films by Québécois and Indigenous directors for the region’s cinephiles. The initiative, launched 15 years ago, remains the biggest French-language film event in Canada outside Quebec, with many films presented in exclusive screenings. The 2019 edition, presented as part of the **Available Light Film Festival**, will include three films as yet unseen in Yukon, while filmmaker Renée Beaulieu and Wapikoni Mobile executive director **Odile Joannette** will participate in post-screening Q&A sessions.

QUEBEC FILMS AT THE AVAILABLE LIGHT FILM FESTIVAL

La Tournée Québec Cinéma helps promote francophone culture across Canada. In keeping with its mission, it presents recent films, most of which have never before been screened in Yukon. For the second year in a row, the Tournée’s films will be included in the program of the **Available Light Film Festival**, organized by the **Yukon Film Society**. Three Quebec films and a selection of recent Indigenous works from Wapikoni will be screened. On **February 2**, ***Snowbirds*** by **Joannie Lafrenière** will be presented at the Takhini Hot Springs as part of a “Dive-in screening” night, where the audience can watch the film while enjoying a soak in the hot springs. On **February 7**, the feature film ***Une colonie*** by

Geneviève Dulude-De Celles will be shown at the Yukon Arts Centre. The film won multiple awards at the most recent Whistler Film Festival, including the award for best director. It is an intelligent exploration of the ups and downs of adolescence, led by the charismatic actress **Émilie Pierre**. The excellent ***Les Salopes ou le sucre naturel de la peau*** by **Renée Beaulieu** will be shown on **February 8**. The film, recently shown at the Toronto International Film Festival, is sure to spark a lively debate on women's sexuality in the post-#metoo world. The director will be present to field audience questions after the film.

In light of recent government cutbacks, the Tournée is particularly grateful to the **Yukon Film Society**, the **Available Light Film Festival** and the **Association des Franco-Yukonnais** for their commitment and support. Québec Cinéma also thanks the artists who are travelling with the Tournée to promote francophone culture across Canada.

THE TOURNÉE TURNS 15

Since its inception, the Tournée has travelled more than 170,000 kilometres, bringing Quebec's films and francophone culture to audiences. On its journeys, the Tournée has screened more than 700 films representing every genre, introduced 450 artists working in several film disciplines to audiences, and reached 107,000 spectators across Canada. This 15th season, already well under way, will keep showcasing Quebec's films throughout 2019 in every Canadian province outside Quebec, as well as Yukon.

At the same time, the Lab Québec Cinéma will visit schools in Western Canada to present workshops and discussions for students. In just over 15 years, Québec Cinéma's educational activities have reached some 80,000 primary, secondary and cégep students with nearly 450 films and hundreds of opportunities to talk film with industry professionals.

RAISING AUDIENCE AWARENESS OF INDIGENOUS CINEMA

For the last three years, La Tournée Québec Cinéma has presented films produced by the Wapikoni Mobile, an initiative that has earned well-deserved success. For this project, the Tournée presents short films by First Nations filmmakers, with the aim of raising audience awareness of a still relatively unknown filmmaking community. There are also Q&A sessions with indigenous filmmakers. The Wapikoni executive director **Odile Joannette** will attend on **February 8** to meet and interact with the public about this unique program.

LA TOURNÉE QUÉBEC CINÉMA AT THE AVAILABLE LIGHT FILM FESTIVAL 2019:

FEBRUARY 2 | TAKHINI HOT SPRINGS

9 p.m.

Snowbirds by Joannie Lafrenière

FEBRUARY 7 | YUKON ARTS CENTRE

8:30 p.m

Une colonie de Geneviève Dulude-De Celles

FEBRUARY 8 | YUKON ARTS CENTRE

Noon

Wapikoni shorts films with executive director **Odile Joannette**

5:30 p.m.

Les salopes ou le sucre naturel de la peau by **Renée Beaulieu**, who will attend

Visitez notre site pour voir si la Tournée s'arrêtera près de chez vous! quebeccinema.ca

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ESSENTIAL PARTNERSHIPS

The Tournée Québec Cinéma is presented in collaboration with Radio-Canada and made possible by Bell Média through tangible benefits. Québec Cinéma thanks the governments of British Columbia, Manitoba, Prince Edward Island, Nova Scotia, New Brunswick, Nunavut, Newfoundland and Labrador and Ontario as well as its primary partners: Radio-Canada, MELS, Akufen and VIA Rail. Thanks to our public-sector and government partners: the Secrétariat du Québec aux relations canadiennes (SQRC), the Société de développement des entreprises culturelles (SODEC) and Telefilm Canada. The Tournée also thanks the Canada Council for the Arts for its support. Last year, the Council invested \$153 million to bring the arts to Canadians throughout the country.

ABOUT THE TOURNÉE QUÉBEC CINÉMA

The **Tournée Québec Cinéma** tours Quebec-made movies from coast to coast, making the event the largest Canada-wide promotional vehicle for our films. Because most francophone communities outside Quebec lack access to big-screen showings of films from Quebec, the Tournée's activities enhance established festivals and enrich communities' French-language cultural offerings. Each year, several artists join the tour, making it an exceptional event for francophones and francophiles who love our movies.

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