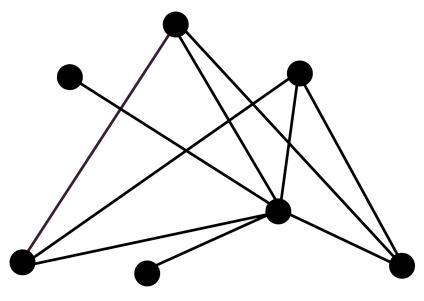
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NCTS PRESS RELEASE *FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE*



KOOTENAY FILM

Nelson, BC - Sept 8, 2022 | OFFICIAL KOOTENAYFILM.COM LAUNCHED TODAY

Film and screen-based industry professionals and emerging talent residing in the Kootenay region now have a hub where they can access industry news and production opportunities, as well as connect to the provincial film industry at large.

The new <u>KootenayFilm.com</u> website and new social media channels on <u>Facebook</u>, <u>Instagram</u> and <u>LinkedIn</u> not only serve the local crew base, but serve to put the Kootenay Region on the film production map during a time when British Columbia's film industry is thriving.

According to Creative BC, "activity levels across B.C.'s full-service motion picture industry are at an all-time high, with Creative BC estimating 450 productions spending \$3.5B across the province in 2021" (Creative BC, Creative Pathways Media Release).

The Kootenay Regional Film Commissioner, <u>John Wittmayer</u>, has been spending the last year touring the Kootenay region and adding an abundance of new film locations to the Kootenay database on <u>Reel-Scout</u>, the digital locations library used by Creative BC, provincial producers and location scouts.

This locations library can be viewed on <u>KootenayFilm.com</u> and showcases the many filming opportunities within the region for productions looking for where to film their next movie or television series.

Kootenay Film is made up of the <u>Kootenay Regional Film Commission</u> and the <u>Kootenay Screen-Based</u> <u>Industry (KSBI)</u> initiative. Kootenay Film is here to attract film, television and commercial productions to the Kootenay region and to develop and support the local film sector. Kootenay Film aims to create local jobs, bring awareness to the region and position the East and West Kootenay as unique and premiere destinations for filming. Kootenay Film's mission is to bring positive economic and cultural benefits to the Kootenay region through community partnerships, strategic marketing, tourism and infrastructure development related to film and provide educational and training opportunities for local film industry workers.

Kootenay Film is made possible by <u>NCTS (Nelson Civic Theatre Society)</u>, which started the KSBI initiative in 2016 and the <u>Kootenay Regional Film Commission in 2021</u> (which is now a partnered effort between <u>Kootenay Rockies Tourism</u> and NCTS). With funding, oversight and input from the provincial film commission at <u>Creative BC</u>, KRT and NCTS work together with their communities to foster the region as a prime location for film production.

Kootenay Film is committed to building up and supporting the local communities, leaving no trace in the pristine wilderness locations and uplifting women, youth, IBPOC, LGBTQ2S+ and other marginalized people and groups through thoughtfully-developed programs and initiatives that prioritize equity, diversity and inclusion.

Kootenay Film respectfully acknowledges that it operates on the traditional homelands of the Ktunaxa Nation and within the unceded lands of the Secwepemc (suh-Wep-muhc), Syilx (sighlx) and the Sinixt (sin-eyekst) Nations. Kootenay Film pays respect to those First Nations and are grateful to live, work, travel and recreate on these lands and waters.

Kootenay Film thanks Creative BC for their support in funding the regional film commission and the development of KootenayFilm.com.

Visit your mountain studio at Kootenay Film

Website | Facebook | Instagram | LinkedIn

About the Partners

The Civic Theatre and KRT have become established as trusted, resourceful and respected organizations that value teamwork, inclusive practices, and innovation. Kootenay Rockies Tourism brings an established and professional tourism network to leverage marketing of the region for film. The Civic Theatre brings a growing and recognized local crew base network formed to provide resources to productions. Together, the partners have a strong understanding of regional identity, culture and offerings to productions.

The Civic Theatre (Nelson Civic Theatre Society) is a cultural media arts centre dedicated to the

presentation of film and a wide variety of cultural and educational experiences to the community we serve. As a registered Canadian charity, its mandate is to provide a public amenity by operating and maintaining our theatre as a multi-use facility for film screenings and for other artistic, educational and community-building programs and events for the benefit of the general public; be a home and presenter of lectures, workshops, courses and seminars on topics related to film or utilizing digital media for a diverse range of audiences; and protect, preserve and improve Nelson's historic Civic Theatre. Beyond regular year-round screenings and summer drive in theatre, The Civic Theatre's programs include KootenayFilm.com and the Kootenay Screen-Based Industry Initiative, the Rural Arts Inclusion Lab, Youth and Intergenerational Program and Events, and the Resident Artists program.

Kootenay Rockies Tourism (KRT) is one of BC's five official Regional Destination Management Organizations (RDMO) and is under contract as a representative of Destination BC (DBC), the Provincial Destination Management Organization (PDMO). KRT has operated since 1978 and represents over 800 tourism businesses and operators. This includes resorts, accommodation properties, wellness retreats, golf, ski, adventure, communities, retail, food & beverage, transportation, arts & culture and attractions. Funded by the Ministry of Tourism, Arts, Culture and Sports and working closely with the Destination British Columbia, KRT's mandate is to foster sustainable growth and development of the tourism economy for the benefits of all tourism businesses and communities.

Creative BC brings a strategic and integrated approach to the growth and development of the province's creative industries, providing professional expertise and business support to strengthen BC's motion picture, interactive and digital media, music and sound recording, and book and magazine publishing industries. Their programs, services and investments act as catalysts to help the sector realize its economic and creative potential, contributing to the future prosperity of our province. Established by the provincial government, Creative BC collaborates with many provincial ministries and initiatives, municipal resources and relevant industry associations and committees to grow our sector. Their role in facilitating the Kootenay Film Commissioner role is one such collaboration.

Links:

- <u>https://kootenayfilm.com</u>
- <u>https://www.facebook.com/kootenayfilm</u>
- https://www.instagram.com/kootenayfilm
- https://www.linkedin.com/company/kootenay-film/
- https://www.civictheatre.ca/press-releases/john-wittmayer-hired-as-new-kootenay-regional-film -commissioner
- https://www.reel-scout.com/news/2015/11/19/creative-bc-chooses-reel-scout
- <u>https://kootenayfilm.com/about-us/</u>
- <u>https://kootenayfilm.com/local-industry/#about-ksbi</u>
- https://www.civictheatre.ca
- <u>https://www.civictheatre.ca/blog/new-regional-film-commission-announced</u>
- https://www.krtourism.ca

➢ <u>https://www.creativebc.com</u>

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