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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

June 5, 2024

MARKD Productions announces new short with star studded team

Stouffville, ON – MARKD Productions joins forces with Canadians: actress Elyse Levesque; Executive Producer Andrew Barnsley; writer Leah Gauthier, and international director Michael Driscoll, to produce the short film "*Hot Chocolate*", a true story of when a woman meets her boyfriend's family for the last time. This production will also see the directorial debut of Elyse Levesque who is known for her performance in the popular sci-fi series *Stargate Universe*.

This film will add to the collection of work produced under MARKD Productions, founded by Matt Worthington, Alexandre Belke, Robert Crowley Smith and Kevin Huhn. "We were completely stunned when this opportunity came to us," said co-founder Kevin Huhn. "To be considered as the production company to help make this project for such amazing people, is so humbling. These people are award winning powerhouses."

Short movies require the same work as any feature with preproduction, production and postproduction plans. Where features and shorts differ is on the funding, marketing, and distribution. Being able to bring a short to the marketplace requires a special set of skills. "We were beyond excited to have Andrew Barnsley join as an Executive Producer" says Leah Gauthier, co-creator of comedy series *JANN*. "Having produced together on *JANN*, Andrew and I formed a great working relationship and after receiving the pitch for *Hot Chocolate* there was no doubt we wanted to be a part of this project."

Filming for the production is set for September with the intention of submissions to TIFF, Cannes and Berlinale for the 2025 season.

ABOUT MARKD PRODUCTIONS

In 2021, the co-founders Matt Worthington, Alexandre Belke, Robert Crowley Smith, Kevin Huhn & Diego Aldana met at Toronto Film School. In a short time, they recognized each other's talents and shortly thereafter started MARKD Productions. In 2022, the team grew adding Matt Dionne to the team and they took their work to the outside world. Today, the business does movies, corporate commercials and public service announcements. Their success is built on the foundation: at the core of any project is a good story that can entertain, empower and educate an audience. For more information visit MARKDProductions.com

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For Immediate Release
May 27, 2024

MARKD Productions Premieres Four Shorts at Niagara Canada Film Festival 2024

Stouffville, ON – MARKD Productions has four short films being screened at this year's Niagara Canada International Film Festival (NCIFF) taking place June 1st and 2nd. Three of the productions have World Premiere status and one has a Canadian Premiere.

MARKD Productions' three short dramas: *I Love You Most*, *Athletic Withdrawal* and *The Package* have been officially selected for the Niagara Canada Film Festival 2024 and qualify for NCIFF's ceremonial awards. The short documentary *The DNA of LOVE* is part of the showcase line-up. "What an honour to see these productions getting to be a part of this amazing destination festival," says Kevin Romano - Huhn, Co-Founder of MARKD Productions. "One of the greatest feelings is knowing the work you do is enjoyed by others. When any of our films gets recognized, we make sure the whole cast, crew and supporters are recognized."

Niagara Canada International Film Festival is set to take place on June 1 and 2, 2024 at Niagara Convention Centre, 6815 Stanley Ave. Niagara Falls, Ontario, L2G 3Y9. The opening ceremonies are being held June 1st starting at 10:00 AM EDT. The two days will include screenings of 37 films as well as 2 VIP interviews. One of the interviews will be with Emmy and Golden Globe winning Executive Producer (*Schitt's Creek*; *Son of Critch* and *Kids in the Hall*) – Andrew Barnsley and the other with Founder of SINEFEST, General Manager of Raven Banner and owner of Top Drone Inc Michaelangelo Masangkay.

ABOUT NIAGARA CANADA FILM FESTIVAL

Niagara Canada International Film Festival (NIFF.ca) is dedicated to independent cinema and filmmakers from all over the world. NCIFF is established by a team of film enthusiasts and film critics. The members of the jury are film scholars, filmmakers and critics from Canada & around the world. Visit NIFF.ca for more information.

ABOUT MARKD PRODUCTIONS

In 2021, the co-founders Matt Worthington, Alexandre Belke, Robert Smith, Kevin Huhn & Diego Aldana met at Toronto Film School. In a short time, they recognized each other's talents and shortly thereafter started MARKD Productions. In 2022, the team grew adding Matt Dionne to the team and they took their work to the outside world. Today, the business does movies, corporate commercials and public service announcements. Their success is built on the foundation: at the core of any project is a good story that can entertain, empower and educate an audience. For more information visit MARKDProductions.com

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For Immediate Release
July 10, 2023

The Power of Collaboration

Toronto, ON – Short drama film *Hope for Christmas* and short documentary *Teen Across Canada*, from MARKD Productions have been officially selected for the Markham International Film Festival 2023.

“This is such amazing news, as it is such a perfect fit for these movies,” says Kevin Romano - Huhn, Producer of the two productions, co-founder of MARKD Productions and recent grad of Toronto Film School. "I lived in Markham for 20 years and won their Civic Recognition in 2012. And none of this was possible without the power of collaboration with others. When one of our films is recognized, the whole cast, crew and supporters like TFS is recognized."

Markham's film festival is set to take place on July 15 & 16th, 2023 at Markham Civic Centre, 101 Town Centre Blvd, Markham, ON L3R 9W3. The opening and red carpet events are being held July 15th starting at 11:00 AM EST.

The festival lineup includes feature films and short films from all over the world. Markham's Film Festival's entrance is Free.

ABOUT MARKHAM'S FESTIVAL

Markham (Canada) International Film Festival (**MCIFF**) is dedicated to independent cinema and filmmakers from all over the world. **MCIFF** is established by a team of filmmakers and film critics. The members of the jury are film scholars, filmmakers and critics from Canada & around the world. Visit MCIFF.ca for more information.

ABOUT MARKD PRODUCTIONS

In 2021, the founders Matt, Alex, Rob, Kevin & Diego met at Toronto Film School. In a matter of a few weeks they recognized each other's talents and shortly thereafter started MARKD Productions. In 2022, they started to take their work to the outside world. Their success is built on the foundation: at the core of any project is a good story that can entertain, empower and educate an audience. For more information visit MARKDProductions.com

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BUSINESS BACKGROUND

MARKD Productions is a leading video production company founded in 2022. The team of Matt Worthington, Alex Belke, Robert Smith, and Kevin Huhn came together in 2021, during their time as classmates at Toronto Film School. Their common bond was a passion for storytelling and a vision to provide quality video content. In six months, they produced three short films that have gone on to be selected and win 35 festivals around the world.

The group also believed that every brand has a unique story to tell, and decided to expand their efforts by helping companies convey their narratives in the marketplace. The goal of every project is to create visually stunning and emotionally compelling videos that leave a lasting impact on audiences. The team at MARKD Productions is skilled professionals who collaborate closely to understand objectives and tailor solutions that align with their customers' goals.

With a focus on delivering excellence in their solutions, MARKD Productions has quickly gained recognition for its exceptional work in filmmaking and crafting engaging ads.

Their video production services through the Development to Post Production phases include:

- ❖ Promotional Videos: that showcase a company's brand identity, products or services AND engage the consumer interest that drive sales for a business.
- ❖ Training Videos: which develop educational, empowering content that also entertains to expand the audience's knowledge base.
- ❖ Testimonial Videos: where individuals shed light on important matters and first hand experiences that inspire others and bring awareness.

One of MARKD Productions' competitive advantage is the diverse age range in the ownership which helps them understand the business landscape. Coupled with a philosophy, at the core of all projects must be a good story that entertains, empowers and educates an audience, they strive to foster positive perceptions for all clients.

By harnessing the work MARKD Productions provides, businesses can elevate their brand image, connect with audiences on a deeper level, and achieve strategic objectives in this evolving marketplace.

Key Milestones

- Narrative films produced: *Hope for Christmas, I Love You Most, Athletic Withdrawal, The Package*
- Documentary films produced: *The DNA of LOVE, Teen Across Canada, Robbie G: Open Minded*
- Multiple Festival Selection & Winner for BEST SHORT DRAMAs and BEST SHORT DOCUMENTARYs

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ABOUT THE FOUNDERS



MATT WORTHINGTON is a Toronto Film School graduate in film production. He always had a love for film and when he was 19 he decided to leave his hometown of London, ON. He moved to Toronto to pursue his passion for writing and natural artistic talent of illustration, where he learned to edit scripts and create key art for multiple short films. During his time in college, Matt met with four other classmates and together formed MARKD Productions. Using his scheduling and planning skills, Matt worked on numerous sets as a Producer and 1st Assistant Director, which has been instrumental in the short films winning film festivals.



ALEX BELKE is an Algonquin College Television Broadcasting graduate who also completed a CO-OP with RogersTV, helping direct multiple segments and work with guests. He decided to take a step into the world of film attending the Toronto Film School which had him moved from Ottawa to Toronto. With a passion for directing, script writing and producing, he has worked on multiple short film sets and one feature film. During his time at Toronto Film School, Alex met up with four classmates and together started a video production company – MARKD Productions. Since its inception they have produced three short films that have him gain the title of *Best Director*.



ROBERT CROWLEY SMITH is a tattoo artist turned filmmaker. He has been a creative for 20 years designing artistry through tattooing. At the age of 40 he decided to change canvas and returned to post secondary education with Toronto Film School in film production. His technical skills allowed him to dive into cinematography and sound design. Along with classmates he formed a production company – MARKD Productions. His passion for visual storytelling and cinematic excellence has contributed to the company's unique approach to video production. Rob's creativity and attention to detail have been instrumental to earning MARKD Productions awards such as Best Short Documentary.

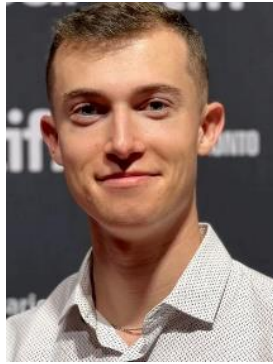


KEVIN HUHN, has an extensive business background with over 30 years experience in Fortune 500 companies, small and medium sized businesses. He is the author of 2 books, *Hockey-ology* and *How to Reinvent Midlife Dreams*. After producing a TV Show, *The Hockey Source*, for NHL Network and FOX Sports, Kevin was awarded the civic recognition award from the city of Markham. In 2021, he found himself on a new path in Film Production at Toronto Film School. Along with four classmates he co-founded MARKD Productions and produced short films that have won many festivals.

PHOTOS



Matt Worthington



Alex Belke



Robert Smith



Kevin Huhn



On Set BTS: *Hope for Christmas*



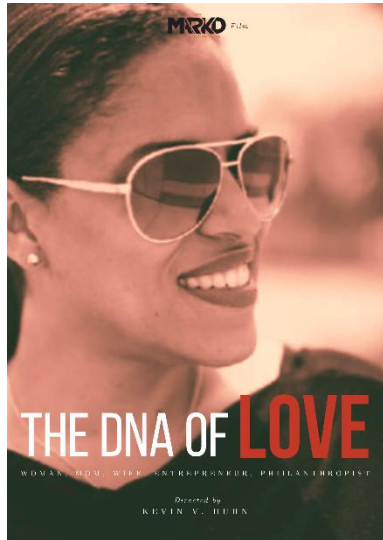
On Set Scene: *Hope for Christmas*



Cast and Crew on the Red Carpet



POSTERS



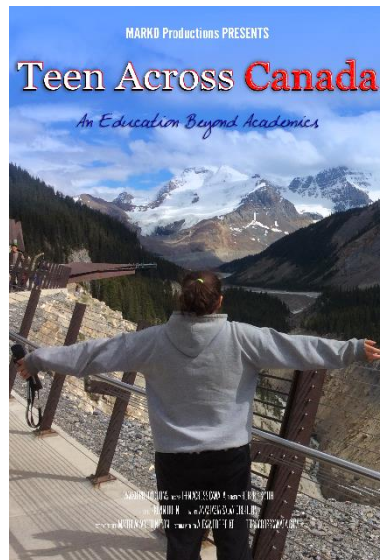
The DNA of LOVE
Short Documentary
Director: Kevin Huhn



The Package
Drama Short
Director: Alexandre Belke



Hope for Christmas
Drama Short
Director: Alex Belke



Teen Across Canada
Short Documentary
Director: Robert Crowley Smith



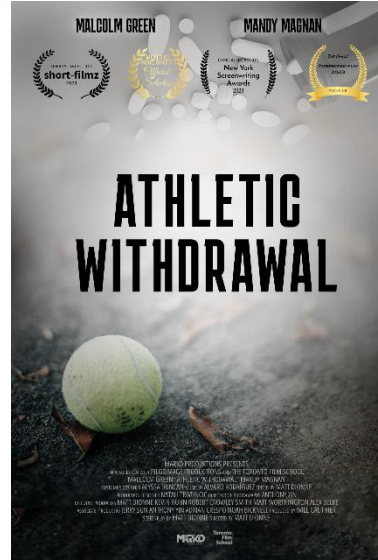
Robbie G: Open Minded
Short Documentary
Director: Robert Crowley Smith



I Love You Most

Drama Short

Directors: Ayla Johnston / Karianne Taklo



Athletic Withdrawal

Drama Short

Director: Matt Dionne



TESTIMONIALS

In today's digital age, video content has become a crucial aspect of successful marketing and training strategies. Hiring a professional video production company like MARKD Productions offers several benefits. Here are what others say:

"I worked with the MARKD Productions team on a 60 second spot for my Equine Assisted Learning Business. From start to finish, the team was a pleasure to work with. Their creativity and guidance helped us put together the story that really captures the essence of my Certification program and why people choose us. The day of production was seamless, and the finished product exceeded my expectations. Thank you!"

- Tracey Evans, Owner, DREAMWINDS

"We had a wonderful experience working with your crew. You were all incredibly enthusiastic, professional and organized. We really appreciate the attention to detail and unique experience."

- Keith Saunders, Co-Owner, JACKASS BREWING

"Thank you a million for your expertise and work on these projects. You guys are truly awesome."

- Dan Blackburn, Founder & CEO, NTC HOCKEY