



HOCKEY: A PEOPLE'S HISTORY

EPIC FIVE-PART SERIES TRACES CANADA'S FIRST STEPS ON THE ICE THE MOST COMPREHENSIVE TELEVISION SERIES ON CANADA'S GAME

From the first organized game of ice hockey played in Montreal in 1875 to the gold-medal victory of the 2002 Olympic Games, **HOCKEY: A PEOPLE'S HISTORY** is an epic 10 hour television series that brings the drama of the game to life. Premiering on Sunday, September 17, at 8 p.m. (repeating on CBC Newsworld on Monday, September 18 at 10 p.m. ET/PT and Saturday, September 23 at 7 p.m. ET/PT), this five-part documentary series chronicles the key defining moments in a game that has helped to shape our nation.

HOCKEY: A PEOPLE'S HISTORY, a collaboration between CBC Television and Société Radio-Canada, is produced by Mark Starowicz and the award-winning team who created the nationally acclaimed series *Canada: A People's History*.

“Our country’s history and the game of hockey are interwoven,” said executive producer Mark Starowicz. “This series is more than just hockey; it’s about how the game and our country grew up together facing similar issues at the same time, such as racism and women’s rights, on and off the ice. It was important for our production team to frame the evolution of the game alongside the formation of Canada.”

Filmed in High Definition, the series interweaves rarely or never-before-seen archival images and footage with exquisite historical re-creations. The series follows the stories of the famous figures associated with the sport and the experience of hockey through the eyes of Canadians young and old, throughout the decades.

HOCKEY: A PEOPLE'S HISTORY follows the development of the game, from the simple block of wood that served as a puck at the first organized game of ice hockey, played in Montreal in 1875, to the fascinating story of the pioneering women's professional league that sold out arenas during the Great War, to the gold-medal glory of the 2002 Olympic Games, the series follows the story of a game that has come to define a nation.

Highlighting the series with their perspective on the game are hockey “philosophers” (experts in the field) Wayne Gretzky, Ken Dryden, Michael McKinley, Alison Griffiths, Jean Beliveau, Stephen Brunt, Don Cherry, Daniele Sauvageau, Ken Dryden and Bruce Dowbiggin, among others.

Leading up to the series debut, www.cbc.ca/hockeyhistory will provide online trivia and facts on the television series as well as a closer look at the fascinating people, places and events that have shaped the story of Canada's game. As the series progresses, the web site will add more original content, including exclusive images, audio, video and biographies of hockey's most intriguing personalities and previews of upcoming episodes. Merchandise produced exclusively for the series will also be available.

The launch of the television series will coincide with the release of Michael McKinley's accompanying book, produced by McClelland and Stewart, titled *Hockey: A People's History*. Tundra publishing is also producing an accompanying book for children called *Ice Time*.

Executive producers of **HOCKEY: A PEOPLE'S HISTORY** are Sue Dando, Hubert Gendron and Mark Starowicz. Senior producers are Michael Claydon, Laine Drewery and Peter Ingles.

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Supporting photography at www.cbc.ca/imagegallery

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