

Optik Local 2015/2016				
Project name	Organization name	City	Province	Project description/synopsis
Above Club	Boompa Productions Ltd.	Vancouver	British Columbia	Following on the heels of their documentary 'Whether You Care Or Not', this video documents the events around Vancouver band We Are The City's latest music, video, and social media innovation.
Against the Ropes - Season 2	Gruv Pix Inc.	Edmonton	Alberta	Season 2 of this factual series chronicles former pro boxer Benny 'The Jet' Swanson, Coach Sterling Craig and the diverse group of fighters out of Edmonton's Panther Gym.
Antonette'	PuSh International Performing Arts Festival Society	Vancouver	British Columbia	A documentary about the frank theatre company's 2016 production of 'Miss Understood', a 'theatrical poem' based on the life of Vancouver spoken word artist Antonette Rea.
Area 27	Asymetriq Productions Inc.	Vancouver	British Columbia	Three friends and former racing champions seek to make their dream a reality as they set out to build Canada's first private motorsports club, and one of the world's premiere racing facilities, in their childhood backyard - the heart of Canada's wine country.
Barley fields	Dead West Productions Inc.	Calgary	Alberta	ALeBerta is a documentary series that chronicles the rise of the craft brewing industry in Alberta using stills, animation, and interviews to tell the story of beer from the early origins of man up until the current craft brewing explosion in Alberta.
BC Was Awesome	Artaban Video and Strategy Inc.	Vancouver	Canada	BC Was Awesome will be a TV show that follows Vancouver Is Awesome founder Bob Kronbauer as he treks across BC uncovering its weird and unique history through cinematic documentary narrative with multi-media short histories.
Big White - Culinary, Outdoor, and Biking Adventures	Big White Ski Resort Ltd.	Kelowna	British Columbia	Profile of Big White's array of experiences, including world class cuisine, adventure skiing, and the challenges of building a mountain bike park
Botz Collaborative - Training Workshops	Starcastle Projects Ltd.	Calgary	Alberta	Essential building blocks of an industry-inclusive curriculum, these workshops include intensives for students, educators and industry professionals to prepare them to launch the BOTZ prototype beginning January 2016, and train students on production, post-production and digital media and audio visual equipment and techniques.
Canadian Culinary Championships	Render Digital Media Ltd.	Kelowna	British Columbia	11 chefs head to Kelowna to compete in the Canadian Culinary Championships. These chefs must compete in three gruelling events over two days, beat out their fellow chefs and impress the panel of elite judges to secure a final place on the podium.
Cast North West with Captain Quinn	Quinn Barabash, Skeena Inc	Terrace	British Columbia	Captain Quinn, fisheries biologist, expert angler, conservationist, comedian and outdoor enthusiast explores the vast outdoors and wild fishing opportunities of rugged northwestern BC.
Cowtown - Season 2	Nur Films Inc.	Calgary	Alberta	An episodic sketch comedy show about life in Calgary, Alberta. Calgary is a booming city with peculiarities and cultural nuances well understood by anyone who is family with the city. COWTOWN is a homage to Calgary through sketch comedy about Calgary's characteristic quirks, peculiarities, and brilliance.
Crankworx 2016	Crankworx Events Inc.	Whistler	British Columbia	The popular annual freeride mountain biking event in Whistler BC will feature three great stories from this year's event
Edmonton Short Film Festival - Special Event Workshop	Edmonton Short Film Festival Ltd.	Edmonton	Alberta	Bryan Michael Stoller, author of "Filmmaking for Dummies" will lead filmmakers through an interactive session on how to create quality film and television projects for broadcast/distribution. In addition, he will be sharing his award-winning film "First Dog" to screen for a general audience
Garage Sale Diaries - Season 3	Hole Hog Media Inc.	Vancouver	British Columbia	An unscripted lifestyle web series that trails a pair of quirky and dysfunctional best buddies, Kelly & Renee, as they rummage through your neighbours trash, treasurer and trophies in search of that unbeatable deal.
Gotta Minute Film Festival – Short Form Explorations Event	The Film and Video Arts Society of Alberta	Edmonton	Alberta	This GMFF - Short Form Exploration Event will provide local filmmakers an interactive learning experience of the past and the future of filmmaking.
Groundwork: Alternative Architecture in Canada's Pacific Northwest	TheNumber	Victoria	British Columbia	Architects and homeowners on the west coast are known for their unusual designs and use of alternative materials. Covering four communities/ areas in the province, viewers will learn about natural building designs and how thinking outside the box can tie the sustainable living to form and function with art.
Hand Crafted - Season 2	Gab Films Inc.	Vancouver	British Columbia	A diverse profile of local artisans and entrepreneurs who make a living with their hands, including a saddlemaker, a toymaker, and a glass blower.
Herland Video Production Workshop	Calgary Society of Independent Filmmakers	Calgary	Alberta	Eight women are given the opportunity to explore their creative vision with the goal of making a short film, acquiring skills and experience in the art of filmmaking.
How a Wildlife Conservationist is Born	Northwest Wildlife Preservation Society	Vancouver	BC	Since 1987 Northwest Wildlife Preservation Society has been introducing children to the wonders of the natural world to inspire stewardship. Discover the power of change through interactive education as we follow the journey of several program participants.
Invincible: Beneath the Surface	Open Sky Pictures Inc.	Edmonton	Alberta	In the winter of 2015, quadruple amputee Daniel Ennett became an internet sensation when he made his first underwater dive in an Edmonton pool; in this series we follow Daniel as he trains for his open water scuba certification in Edmonton, and then as he completes his training in Florida.
Kitten TV Christmas Special	Open Sky Pictures Inc.	Edmonton	Alberta	Watch as little kitties play under the Christmas tree and in their very own kitten snow globe in this addition to TELUS' Santa Tracker app.
Lift	Katrina Beatty	Edmonton	Alberta	The fictional story of a pilot grounded due to injury during World War II, who seeks to prove his relevance to his community and restore his optimism by making sacrifices for his brother and a young newspaper reporter.
Media and Mentorship Workshop	Susan Singh	Calgary	Alberta	The workshop will pair professional mentors in Film and TV with young people with an emphasis on marginalized youth. The mentors will receive coaching in mentorship and inductive learning styles. The youth will acquire filming, editing, directing and acting skills together with soft skills such as collaboration, presentation, creative and critical thinking.
Nikkei Stories of Steveston	Orbit Films Inc	Vancouver	British Columbia	A series of digital multi-platform shorts showcasing Steveston's history as one of the largest and most successful fishing towns in Canada, and how it became home to the most vital Japanese Canadian community in Canada.
Ollie and Emma	Jacobs Pogson Productions Ltd.	Saanichton	British Columbia	In this scripted web series, an awkward white college student and a beautiful shy First Nations girl fight to keep their unlikely romantic relationship together in the face of a barrage of interference from friends, siblings, and elders.
Port Alberni - Heart of the Island	Entyre Films Ltd	Port Moody	British Columbia	There are many who wonder how civilization will continue after the collapse of our energy economies - for Port Alberni on Vancouver Island, this collapse has already happened, forcing the town to confront the loss of its lumber industry with a creativity and resourcefulness that shows how it's not only possible to survive in a post industrial economy, but thrive.
Production Team Training	National Screen Institute - Canada	Winnipeg	Manitoba	The National Screen Institute wil provide customized training to some of the diverse community of producers and content creators in Alberta and British Columbia who are producing community-based programming with the support of TELUS Optik Local grants.
Revival	Brandy Y Productions Inc.	Edmonton	Alberta	A documentary series about how Canada's humpback whales and grizzly bears are being saved by ecotourism. Filmed on BC's west coast and follows ecotourism operators along with BC First Nations who are buying up trophy bear hunting licenses in British Columbia, which cost millions of dollars, to save grizzly bears from being killed by hunters. Instead of shooting them with guns they are bringing tourists to shoot the bears with cameras.
Routes of 99	Christopher Ricci	Vancouver	British Columbia	A mountain bike web series featuring British Columbia's most prominent athletes. This series will document the lives of these riders as they explore the vast network of trails accessible off of Route 99, the epicenter of mountain biking.
Shelter from the Storm	Calgary Drop-In and Rehab Centre Society	Calgary	Alberta	An 11-episode web series that tells the compelling human interest stories from within the "homeless" community, crafted into songs by a collaborative group of volunteer songwriters and telling tales of life/death, hope/despair, love/loss, victory/defeat, and community.
Smartphone Content Production - Workshop Series	Seekers Media	Edmonton	Alberta	A road show that stops in a collection of BC communities that empowers small business to improve sales and increase customer loyalty by building a relationship with customers through content. Tips and Tricks on how to build sticky, relevant content that yields results.
Some Other Guys	Flat Four Productions Inc.	Canmore	Alberta	A documentary about "The Big Three", the Liverpool band that were rivals to The Beatles, and who refused to sell out.
Sound Lessons: Capturing, Editing and Producing Great Sound for Video Projects	The Vancouver Public Library Foundation	Vancouver	British Columbia	This series of 5 workshops will teach best practices for recording and editing audio using studios, equipment, and software available at Vancouver Public Library's new Inspiration Lab facilities.
Squeaks and Cheeks	Rebecca Campbell	Edmonon	Alberta	Squeaks & Cheeks is stop go animation for children. Two pigs go on fun and amazing adventures together, while learning valuable life lessons. They are simple stories with clear moral lessons, developed with children (3-12) in mind.
Star Trails	Brandy Y Productions Inc.	Edmonton	Alberta	'Star Trails' is a documentary series that explores dark sky preserves in Alberta and British Columbia and the people who are obsessed with the Aurora Borealis and star trails.
Star Trails - Ambient Video	Brandy Y Productions Inc.	Edmonton	Alberta	An ambient video loop of star systems in the night skies, created from outtakes from the series production, "Star Trails"
Sunnyhearts CC	Gonzo Productions Ltd	Vancouver	British Columbia	A comedic series following an optimistic program manager staying one step ahead of a nervous breakdown as she struggles to unite her city while contending with an eccentric staff and demanding patrons at a community centre.
The BreakOut West Experience	Western Canadian Music Alliance Inc.	Winnipeg	Manitoba	Students of Nimbus School's Video Production program and BreakOut West prepare a series of short experiential videos during the Victoria-based conference to give an inside look at the national and international music industry and Canadian talent, while also developing the talent of emerging filmmakers.
The CACHE Project	Rueben Tschetter	Red Deer	Alberta	The CACHE Project documents human interest stories in Central Alberta. Stories of innovation, diligence and a strong Albertan identity, and that capture the energy and emotion of artists, culturally, and historically significant events in Central Alberta.
The Canadians	The Canadian Freestyle Ski Association	Vancouver	British Columbia	Canada has the most dominant freestyle ski team on the planet, and with the 2018 Pyeongchang Winter Olympic Games fast approaching, the importance of great preparation and performances from the Canadian slopestyle and halfpipe teams is paramount.
The Creatives	Locke Stock Creative Services	Calgary	Alberta	A series of stories about people who are passionate about what they do, focused on talented people doing creative things based around craftsmanship, arts, culture, and tradition; capturing the essence of who they are and what they do, with the hope of bringing these stories to a wider audience to inspire us with the love of their craft.
The Filip Side	Astrid on Air Media	Calgary	Alberta	Filipinos are the second largest visible minority ethnicity in Canada, but have no representation in government. As a large economic, cultural and social group why are they so quiet politically? By telling their Filipino stories, of struggles and success we can learn more about them through tears and laughter.
The Growth of Eco-Tourism: A Success Story for BC and a Model Embraced by the Industry Worldwide	University of British Columbia	Vancouver	British Columbia	As adventure travel expands rapidly and travellers seek activity-based and experiential trips that are eco friendly and sensitive to the region's local communities, this web series will focus on three BC companies that are expanding their businesses responsibly, offering the tourism industry as a whole a model for sustainable growth.
The Harder I Fight III	enriquePoe Moving Pictures Inc.	Calgary	Alberta	The Harder I Fight III shines a light on the growing legacy of Alberta women in combat sports while also allowing a glimpse of what is likely a very promising future.
The Hawthorth Young Chef Scholarship Series	Soulhammer Pictures Inc.	West Vancouver	British Columbia	This series presents celebrated chef and native Vancouverite David Hawthorth joined by several of Canada's most revered chefs to showcase some of the top culinary institutes in Vancouver, Calgary, Montreal and Toronto while in search of Canada's next young chef prodigy.
The Indie Filmmakers Lab 2016	Pacific Cinematheque Pacifique Society	Vancouver	British Columbia	This two week summer program will provide aspiring young filmmakers the inspiration and skills needed to develop their craft and create a finished short film.
The March Sweater Project	Ayam Civic Society	Vancouver	British Columbia	Interviews with LGBTQ seniors from around British Columbia - telling their stories of love and the wisdom of growing old - is one aspect of The March Sweater Project, which includes a public March, a sweatshirt, and art exhibits designed to promote public awareness in support of B.C.'s aging LGBTQ population
The Project	Crowsnest Films Ltd.	Calgary	Alberta	A collaboration between Arts & Crafts Records, and Calgary's Crowsnest Films. As artists travel through Calgary and Edmonton during their touring schedule A&C and Crowsnest Films will organize an intimate venue for the live performance of a few songs and interviews with the bands.
The secret life of pianos	Productions Loft	Edmonton	Alberta	Bruce, an icon in the Edmonton music community, has tuned pianos by ear for over a quarter century and views himself as a piano psychologist, believing that every piano has a secret story.
Thinklandia 2015 "Meet Your Makers" & "Think15 Series"	Nick Blasko Presents Ltd.	Victoria	British Columbia	Thinklandia 2015 is a festival of imagination, thought and inspiration created to connect our creative communities to one another and to the world.
Trans-Canada	Steamy Window Productions Inc.	Vancouver	British Columbia	A series of short-from documentaries exploring the lives and stories of transpeople in smaller communities across British Columbia and Alberta.
Vancouver Web Fest 2016	Vancouver Web Festival Presentation Society	New Westminster	British Columbia	A workshop event relating to content production and distribution in the digital age for web series creators.
Veterans Voices of Canada: Keeping History Alive	Veterans Voices of Canada Association	Sylvan Lake	Alberta	Interviews recording the stories of Alberta veterans of the Second World War and Korean conflict for educational and historic use.
VIFF Mentorship Program	Vancouver Institute for Inspiring	Vancouver	British Columbia	Six emerging BC filmmakers will be introduced to an outstanding peer network and receive full access to the VIFF Industry Conference, allowing them to benefit from inspiring and illuminating panel discussions with industry heavyweights and endless opportunities to forge industry connections.
What Generation Gap? Youth and Senior Video Training Workshop	Tell Your Story Productions Inc.	Vancouver	British Columbia	What Generation Gap? is an intergenerational video training program consisting of three phases. Youth participants will each make two videos: one video sharing their own story and the second sharing the story of the senior citizen who they are paired with.
Whistler Blackcomb Fall 2017 Campaign	Whistler Blackcomb Mountain Resorts Ltd.	Whistler	British Columbia	Telling some of the engaging stories of Whistler Blackcomb's locals on and off the slopes against the backdrop of Canada's premier ski resort
Women in Film and Television Workshop Series	Women in Film and Television	Vancouver	British Columbia	A series of workshops with outstanding Canadian women professionals designed for content creators in screen based media.
Women in the Director's Chair	Creative Women Workshops Association	Vancouver	British Columbia	WIDC's Story & Leadership Program is an intensive offering to provide professional, creative and business development for eight mid-career Canadian women directors, delivered in part in Vancouver and in Whistler during the Whistler Film Festival.
Young and Reckless	Brianne Nord-Stewart	Vanouver	British Columbia	A comedy webseries about the battle between a rebellious 13 year-old girl and the 28 year-old slacker who is going to be her babysitter.
Youth on Earth	Company of Women on the Screen Inc.	Edmonton	Alberta	A 6-part series that explores a diversity of alternative experiences to provide a deeper understanding of subjects of sustainability, environmental conservation and the health of this planet.