

MEDIA ADVISORY

WORLD INDIGENOUS TELEVISION BROADCASTING CONFERENCE PROGRAM IS 'BREAKING THE BARRIERS'

March 17, 2014, Winnipeg, Manitoba – Aboriginal Peoples Television Network (APTN) and the World Indigenous Television Broadcasters Network (WITBN) announced today the roster of speakers for the World Indigenous Television Broadcasting Conference (WITBC) 2014, to be held June 19 to 23 in Winnipeg, Manitoba, Canada.

KANATA 14 | WITBC presents workshop seminars and speaker presentations facilitated by international Indigenous broadcasters and media professionals in the areas of journalism, programming, operations, and digital media.

The conference organizing committee is honoured to announce that Order of Canada Officer Alanis Obomsawin will speak to theme of the conference with her special presentation of Breaking the Barrier. She was recently presented the *"Humanitarian Award"* by the Academy of Canadian Cinema & Television at the 2014 Canadian Screen Awards. Alanis Obomsawin is an Abenaki-Canadian documentarian credited with chronicling First Nation's cultures and history for more than 40 years.

Other KANATA 14 | WITBC speakers include: Amber McArthur, **Canada's top social-media expert on how to build a brand**; Paulette Tremblay, PhD, MA., BEd., BA., ICD.D, CAPA, **Director, Education and Training AFOA Canada** and Jean Pierre Blais, **Chairman, Canadian Radio-television and Telecommunications Commission (CRTC)**.

Special event programming has also been created to recognize National Aboriginal Day and the summer solstice on June 21. APTN's **Aboriginal Day Live & Celebration** at The Forks in Winnipeg is one of many cultural experiences organized for delegates.

Evening social events include the World Indigenous Journalism Awards (WIJA) and Closing Gala Dinner to celebrate the accomplishments of local and international Indigenous Media.

Early bird registration closes March 31 and regular registration closes June 6. The conference program and online registration can be found at witbc2014.com.

ABOUT WITBN:

Established in 2008, the World Indigenous Television Broadcasters Network (WITBN) is the first global alliance that aims to unify television broadcasters worldwide to retain and grow Indigenous languages and cultures. Their commitment is to preserve and promote the Indigenous languages and cultures through media networking, news and program sharing, and television broadcasting. In the spirit of sharing, WITBN's mission is to develop collaborative relationships among Indigenous television broadcasters to create various media opportunities for their members and help nurture Indigenous media worldwide. Visit the website at www.WITBN.org

ABOUT APTN:

September 1, 2013, marked the 14-year anniversary of the launch of the first national Aboriginal television network in the world with programming by, for and about Aboriginal Peoples to share with all Canadians and viewers around the world. APTN is available in approximately 10 million Canadian households and commercial establishments with cable, direct-to-home satellite, telco-delivered and fixed wireless television service providers. The network launched its high definition channel, APTN HD, in the spring of 2008. APTN does not receive government funding for operations but generates revenue through subscriber fees, advertising sales and strategic partnerships. APTN broadcasts programming with 56% offered in English, 16% in French and 28% in Aboriginal languages. For program schedule or for more information, please contact APTN at (204) 947-9331 or toll-free at 1-888-278-8862 (Canada), or visit the website at www.aptn.ca.

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