

HALF/**SPEED** **ADVENTURES**



ELECTRONIC PRESS KIT

Half Speed Adventures is available to view
on Eastlink Community TV Channels 610
and 10

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community

SYNOPSIS

Half Speed Adventures is a television series about adventuring in the great outdoors in beautiful Nova Scotia while taking your time to see it all. It's about experiencing the places between here and there on a bike, in a kayak, in a vintage car, on a boat or simply by foot.

It's a series of half hour adventures shot using six cameras and drones to give you, the viewer, an immersive experience.

Imagine experiencing a kayaking journey through the 100 wild islands archipelago near Tangier for the first time. Just an hour from Halifax lies this little known remote group of wild islands with ecological global significance. It's 7,000 acres of dramatic windswept headlands, white sand beaches and coastal habitats. It's one of the continent's last great coastal island wildernesses and Half Speed Adventures will take you there.



These “day in the life” adventures show you what can be done in an afternoon outdoors right across our province. You'll be exposed to areas you may have visited before and experiences you've yet to try.

This season we visit 7 counties from Yarmouth to the Cape Breton Highlands



Adventures include tidal boar rafting down the Shubenacadie River, sailing in Chester, kayaking in Lunenburg County and the Eastern Shore as well as biking the Coastal trail.

HOST AND PRODUCER



TRACY BENNETT



As producer of seven seasons of the television series, *Maritime Made* and director of four seasons of *Nova Scotia's Best*, Tracy has recently produced and released her next television series production, *Half Speed Adventures*. Tracy is currently in development of a new series, *Wild Spaces* in Nova Scotia to be released in 2022.

After studying broadcasting at Ryerson University, Tracy spent many years creating client driven video content and is thrilled to now be focusing on original, independent productions. Tracy's passion for the natural world and the stories of good people continues to be her focus.



THE CREW

ANN BERNIER **EXECUTIVE PRODUCER**



Ann Bernier has over three decades of experience as a professional in the screen industry in Canada. She was Director of Operations and Development at imX Communications Inc. which produced such award winning coproduction films as Margaret's Museum starring Helena Bonham Carter, Love and Death on Long Island starring John Hurt and Jason Priestly, New Waterford Girl. While there, she produced The Wild Dogs by Thom Fitzgerald and the Canada/France co-production Folle Embellie. She is producer on John Walker's last three feature documentary including his most recent Assholes: A Theory for documentary Channel and has just delivered two one-hour television documentaries to CBC, including The Mill which has been nominated for a Canadian Screen Award for Best Documentary Film.

Ann also worked at Telefilm Canada as an executive where she oversaw film and television development projects and later the new media fund. Ann left the public sector and joined the Atlantic Film Festival to produce the international co-production conference Strategic Partners for two years with the UK and Ibero-America. For the past 5 years, she has been on the selection committee for Canada's official selection of the Academy Awards International Feature Film.

Ann is a great supporter of emerging talent and spends time mentoring upcoming filmmakers and producers. She is also the recipient of the 2017 WIFT-AT Wave Award recognizing her significant body of work. She is developing a number of projects including documentaries, a Canadian/Swiss feature film and a Canadian/Scottish feature. She also is a board member on the Canadian Media Producers Association (CMPA).



JULIAN GIBBS

DIRECTOR



Julian started his television career at his local community cable station in Burlington, Ontario. Since then he's worked from coast to coast on many popular Canadian television programs such as Front Page Challenge, Drivers Seat, Street Cents and This Hour Has 22 Minutes. He also spent a number of years honing his technical and creative skills in television news.

After teaching video production at the Nova Scotia Community College Julian started Firefly Digital Media and has produced hundreds of client driven videos.

Most recently, Julian directed seven seasons of the television program Maritime Made, was the Director of Photography of four seasons of Nova Scotia's Best and directed season one of Half Speed Adventures in the summer of Covid.

Julian is a graduate of the Ryerson University Radio and Television Arts program.

SCOTT BERRINGTON

DIRECTOR OF PHOTOGRAPHY



Scott Berrington is a professional freelance video camera operator with over 34 years' experience in television production. With a natural eye for composition and a passion for storytelling through the lens, Scott's experience encompasses a range of diverse projects. Based out of Halifax, Nova Scotia, his work has included projects across Canada, extensively in Atlantic Canada, as well as Scotland, Belgium and Florida, USA. Whether exploring the outdoors, capturing sporting events, interviewing politicians and celebrities or an in-studio set up, Scott brings to his work inspiring non-stop creativity, along with a positive, authentic and personable attitude.



PRODUCTION CREDITS

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| Executive Producer Ann Bernier | Producer Tracy Bennett | Director / Editor Julian Gibbs |
| Director of Photography Scott Berrington | Location Sound Zan Rosborough Ian Thomson | Aerial Cinematography Beaconhead Studio Skyline Studio |
| Writer / Host Tracy Bennett | Production Accounting Kimberly Dossett | Production Coordinator Clare Gibbs |
| Researcher Kelsey Power | Legal Counsel Rob Aske | Accounting Services Tara Spurr |
| Insurance Paul Lipkus | Financing National Bank of Canada | |

Extra Special Thanks to:

Pleasant Paddling, Lisa Aiken, Brad MacKinnon, Kate MacKinnon, Susan Jerrott, Rob Jerrott, Adam Jerrott, Mong Diep MacDuff, British Automobile Touring Association of Nova Scotia, Colin Chase, Garth Hancock, Andrew Hurst, David James, Tom Easson, Stephen Price Whynot Adventure, Parks Canada, Krista Lingely, Michelle Marchand, Tidal Bore Rafting Resort, Owen Gibbs, Caroline Barton, Laurent Molino, Rebecca Tobin, Luke Fraser-Leach, Yarmouth & Acadian Shores Tourism, Neil MacKenzie, Nancy Lakusta, Madison Lakusta, Dustin Lakusta, East Coast Paddle Company, Peter MacInnis, Marg MacInnis, Darren Graham, Lillian Berry, Lorraine Murphy, Amey Beaton, Celtic Coastal Trails, Inverness County Tourism, McKinnon Kayak Tours, Chris Power, Mikeala Dimick, Brittany Schnare, Breugh Wood, MacKenzie Keillor, Gordon Hopkins, Kelsey Power, Nicolae Orengo, Brian Murphy, Linda Wood, Chuan Li

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| Manager, Eastlink Community TV, HRM Rhonda MacDonald | Manager, Eastlink Community TV, Nova Scotia Brian Lynch |
| District Manager, Eastlink Community TV Brett Smith | Vice President, Eastlink Community TV Michael Smith |

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Canadian Film or Video Production Tax Credit

TECHNICAL DISCUSSION

Half Speed Adventures isn't your typical television show and although the program is slow paced the technical challenges were not.

Our first challenge during pre-production was how do we place 5 - 6 high quality broadcast cameras on a bicycle? Or on a kayak? Or on a hiker?!

After lots of conversations between DOP Scott Berrington and director Julian Gibbs, we settled on DJI Osmo Action cameras. These are similar to the popular GoPro cameras but would match better with the footage being shot by our DJI drones.

Our next challenge was attaching the cameras. Our initial thoughts were that this would be an easy task but nothing in production is ever easy.

Cameras attached to bicycles shake, cameras attached to hikers bob up and down and cameras attached to kayaks are too low. Luckily we were able to deal with most of these issues.

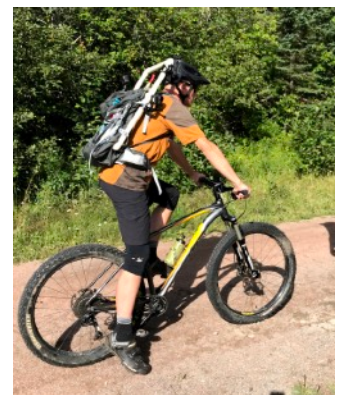
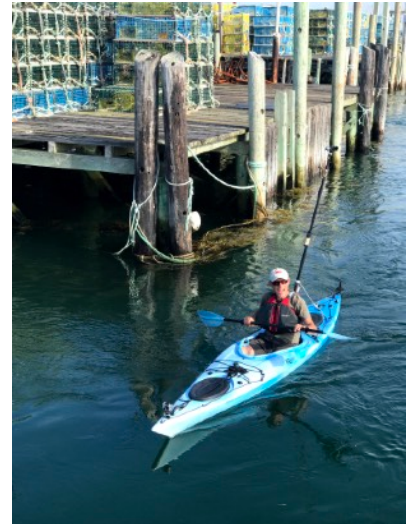


For hiking and cycling we devised a backpack frame to clamp the cameras to and used special gimbals to remove some of the bobbing and shaking.

We also built a boom pole rig on a kayak to capture shots that we couldn't get with the drone. You can see it in a handful of these shots in our Blue Rocks episode.

Once we captured all the footage we moved onto post production. Here, in order to create a 30 minute real time episode, we had to synchronize all our camera footage including the drone shots. It turns out footage from 7 cameras takes up a lot of hard drive space and we filled our 21 TB edit drive. In total we used over 60 TB of Hard drives for editing, backups and backups of our backups.

Our final challenge was colour correcting of cameras so that the images matched throughout the episode. This too was not an easy task due to the limitations of the cameras. There was a lot of contrast and colour differences that had to be dealt with in order to create the final program.





PRESS RELEASE

New TV Series Featuring Outdoor Adventures in Nova Scotia

Halifax, N.S. (January 17, 2021) - Launching today, Half Speed Adventures is a new 13 part television series celebrating outdoor adventure across Nova Scotia.

Half Speed Adventures is about adventuring at a realistic pace for most people. It's about taking your time to experience all the places between here and there on a bike, in a kayak, a canoe, in a vintage car or on a boat.

The first of its kind in Nova Scotia, Half Speed Adventures was inspired by the Slow TV movement. As each episode unfolds, documenting a particular special place in the province, the viewer will learn about the area and what to expect and hopefully be inspired to venture out for more adventures themselves.

"Half Speed Adventures takes the viewers on a journey. It's shot so you feel like you are along for the ride. It's a pause, or like taking a deep breath while experiencing the landscapes and simple activities in places we all love," says Tracy Bennett, producer at Half Speed Productions.

This visual documentary series includes an episode of kayaking in the 100 Wild Islands, a protected archipelago in the Eastern Shore. Another episodes features standup paddle boarding off the historic Tusket Islands. Some more familiar locations include the Annapolis Valley, Mabou and the south shore of Nova Scotia.

"During the pandemic people have been leaning on nature to help ease the sense of isolation. This series hopes to immerse the viewer in favourite summer activities. Each episode is shot with at least six cameras to truly capture the experience," says Julian Gibbs, director at Half Speed Productions.

Produced by Half Speed Productions with support from Eastlink Community TV, NSBI, CAVCO and Firefly Digital Media, this series runs Sundays to Friday at 1:30pm on channel 10 and 610 on Eastlink Community TV in Nova Scotia.

For more information about Half Speed Adventures, visit <https://www.firefly.video/half-speed-adventures>

Media Contact
Tracy Bennett, Producer
Half Speed Productions
902-240-6770
tracy@fireflydigital.ca