



For Immediate Release:

On the Heels of its Recent Nomination at The Canadian Screen Awards, TVO Original Political Blind Date Is Renewed for Season 3

Toronto, ON (May 21, 2019) – With the recent conclusion of its sophomore season and nomination at the 2019 Canadian Screen Awards (Best Factual Series), **Open Door Co.**, **Nomad Films** and **TVO** are pleased to announce that the TVO Original documentary series **Political Blind Date** will return for Season Three, with 12 new episodes.

“TVO is thrilled to continue working with Open Door and Nomad Films to bring a fresh series of Political Blind Date episodes to our audiences over the next year”, says John Ferri, VP Current Affairs and Documentaries, TVO. “Building on the success of the first two seasons, the series will continue to pair unlikely political opponents to share engaging experiences and in-depth discussion in order to foster a deeper understanding of important issues. In the end, the participants *and* the audience should walk away more informed and engaged.”

“We are really excited to be coming back for a third season with even more episodes. TVO has been a great partner. We really appreciate their increased commitment to this original format and we look forward to continuing to bring audiences an authentic, inside look at their representatives” said **Tom Powers**, **Creator and Executive Producer** of *Political Blind Date*.

The series will once again spark meaningful debate with some of Canada’s notable politicians. **Political Blind Date** pairs two politicians on a series of platonic dates as they discuss and bring to life a range of perspectives related to an important issue.

Through the first two seasons, the series has welcomed Members of Parliament, Members of Provincial Parliament, City Councillors and Mayors, including such notable names as Premier of Ontario **Doug Ford**, NDP leader **Jagmeet Singh**, Mississauga Mayor **Bonnie Crombie**, and Conservative Party leader **Andrew Scheer**. Together, they have explored some of the most relevant issues in Canada: affordable housing, climate change, indigenous rights, guns, and others.

Executive Producer, Director and Writer Mark Johnston expressed his excitement for the continuation of the series. “The reception of the series and unique concept has been overwhelmingly positive. It has inspired the team to continue innovating and evolving the series, episode after episode. It’s been gratifying to see people around the world starting to notice. We cannot wait to share more smart and engaging content to our viewers.”

Political Blind Date is a co-production between **Open Door**, **Nomad Films**, and **TVO**. It was developed by producers Amanda Handy and Johnston from Nomad, along with Powers and TVO.

ABOUT Open Door Co.:

Open Door Co. is in the business of producing, distributing and acquiring “Content That Matters” for broadcasters that include HBO, A+E, Sundance, CBC/Doc, TVO, Bell Media, Corus/Shaw, SVT, SBS, NHK and Discovery, among others. Credits include feature documentary *Cracked Not Broken* for HBO, *Black*

Nation for SVT, Pure Intentions for CBC *documentary* and docuseries Intervention Canada (67x1) for A&E and Blue Ant Media, currently in production on Season 5. Visit: OpenDoorCo.com

ABOUT Nomad Films:

Nomad Films develops and produces documentary programming for film and television that focuses on a wide range of compelling stories about social and political change, science, the environment, and the arts. We are passionate about social-political films. Known for its international treaty co-production work, Nomad has successfully produced films such as the award-winning *In the Shadow of a Saint* (CBC, BBC, IKON, and SBS Australia). Director/Writer/Executive Producer Mark Johnston is the Founder of Nomad Films which is run by his partner Amanda Handy. Thirty years in the documentary business, Mark and Amanda have worked in a producer or director capacity on over seventy films. Visit NomadFilms.ca

About TVO:

As the technological extension of Ontario's public education system, TVO's vision is to create a better world through the power of learning. TVO provides learning opportunities for Ontarians through innovative educational products, in-depth current affairs, thought-provoking documentaries, and award-winning TVO Kids content. TVO is funded primarily by the Province of Ontario and is a registered charity supported by sponsors and thousands of donors. For more information, visit tvo.org.

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