



## TED SARANDOS TO KEYNOTE AS PART OF THE BANFF WORLD MEDIA FESTIVAL'S SUMMIT SERIES

**Toronto, Canada - February 25, 2020** – The Banff World Media Festival (BANFF) is proud to announce Netflix's Chief Content Officer Ted Sarandos as the first keynote speaker for its BANFF Summit Series, a premium lineup featuring the boldest voices and the world's most influential media leaders. Sarandos will speak on Monday, June 15<sup>th</sup> in an exclusive fireside conversation at the 41<sup>st</sup> edition of the Festival which will take place June 14-17, 2020 at the Fairmont Banff Springs Hotel in Banff, Alberta, Canada.

"Great stories can come from anywhere, and many have had their beginnings at Banff World Media Festival. Netflix is proud to be a part of BANFF, working with our incredible partners and deepening our commitment to a vibrant Canadian creative community whose work is seen and loved by the world," commented Sarandos.

"We're thrilled to welcome Ted to the incredible lineup of top-tier speakers at our Summit Series," said Randy Lennox, Chair of the Board of Directors, BANFF, and President, Bell Media. "This year's lineup is going to be full of industry leaders and legendary innovators, resulting in fascinating conversations that can't be missed."

"Ted's contributions to global media have been astounding and revolutionary," said BANFF Executive Director, Jenn Kuzmyk. "It's almost impossible to quantify the impact that Netflix and its content has had within the entertainment business as well as the daily lives of people around the globe. Ted continues to support new voices and champion groundbreaking work, raising the bar for creative excellence. The festival is thrilled to welcome him back to beautiful Banff for what is sure to be an inspiring keynote, outlining his vision and tackling some of the big questions in the industry and where it's headed amid continuing seismic change."

Launched last year in celebration of the Festival's 40<sup>th</sup> anniversary, the BANFF Summit Series is a curated, future-focused lineup of keynote sessions. This powerful speaker roster will feature the global players who are shaping the future of the media industry. Previous keynotes include Jeffrey Katzenberg, Co-founder of Dreamworks, and currently Managing Partner of WndrCo and Chairman and Founder of Quibi; Paula Kerger, CEO of PBS; Sarah Barnett, President, Entertainment Networks, for AMC Networks; and Paul Feig, Academy Award-nominated and Emmy Award-nominated director, producer, screenwriter and activist.

Sarandos oversees the teams responsible for the acquisition and creation of all Netflix content including original series from around the world such as *Stranger Things*, *Umbrella Academy*, *Dark* (Germany) *La Casa De Papel* (Spain), and *Sacred Games* (India) and films including such blockbusters as *To All the Boys I've Loved Before*, *The Irishman*, *Bird Box*, the 3-time Academy Award winning film *ROMA*, and Academy Award winning *Marriage Story*. Ted has been responsible for all content operation since 2000, and led the company's transition into original content production that began in 2013 with the launch of the series *House of Cards*, *Arrested Development* and *Orange is the New Black*, among numerous others. Today, Netflix is available in 190 countries and Netflix originals have received numerous awards around the world including 93 Primetime Emmy wins, 8 Academy Awards, and 7 BAFTA Film Awards including Best Picture.

BANFF is a premium marketplace and conference, an intimate space where unparalleled access, creative inspiration and expert insight combine to launch fresh content and new business strategies. For over 40 years, BANFF has welcomed the best and brightest media minds on the planet to Canada's majestic Rocky Mountains. The

festival has grown into a must-attend annual event where media moguls, producers, creatives and industry stakeholders along with broadcasters and digital media companies tackle issues and trends, forge relationships and nurture partnerships in one of the world's most stunning landscapes.

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### **About the Banff World Media Festival**

The Banff World Media Festival is one of the world's most important gatherings of entertainment industry executives and creators, dedicated to content development, production, broadcast and distribution within TV and digital media. BANFF provides a platform for the evolving media industry to develop its creative and business objectives. It serves as a leading destination for coproduction and co-venture partners and is an unparalleled marketplace for over 1500 international decision-makers to connect with new partners, learn from industry leaders and execute new business deals. The 41st annual BANFF World Media Festival will take place June 14-17, 2020 at the Fairmont Banff Springs Hotel in Banff, Alberta, Canada.

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Attracting over 250 international buyers and delegates from more than 25 countries including a wide-ranging cross-section of television and digital media professionals, BANFF delivers a comprehensive examination of the opportunities and challenges facing the screen industries through keynotes from global leaders, contentious panel discussions, pre-booked Face-to-Face Meetings with industry decision-makers, expert forecasts, celebrity Master Classes, networking, critical case studies and more.

### **About Netflix**

Netflix is the world's leading streaming entertainment service with over 167 million paid memberships in over 190 countries enjoying TV series, documentaries and feature films across a wide variety of genres and languages. Members can watch as much as they want, anytime, anywhere, on any internet-connected screen. Members can play, pause and resume watching, all without commercials or commitments.

For more information on the Banff World Media Festival, click [here](#).

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### **For media inquiries, please contact:**

Pam Wilson

Ink Media Corporation

Tel: 818 495 3800

Email: Pam.wilson@inkmediacorp.com