

BREAKING DOWN **BARRIERS**

A 12-EPIISODE SERIES WITH INSPIRING STORIES ABOUT PROVIDING ACCESS TO
HOCKEY FOR EVERYONE



SYNOPSIS

The sport of hockey is under intense scrutiny. It has become clear that "Hockey Culture" is in need of a sweeping overhaul. Calls for meaningful change in all realms of the sport have been heard around the country-from sponsors, hockey parents, and most importantly from the players themselves. Changing deep-seated beliefs, attitudes and behaviours will not be easy but the time is NOW to begin the rebuilding process. The time is NOW to help make 'Canada's Game' truly a game for all Canadians.

BREAKING DOWN BARRIERS will showcase individuals and organizations who are committed to changing hockey culture. Each episode will spotlight and celebrate those who are committed to fostering positive social change within the sport-from professional to minor hockey levels.

FORMAT

BREAKING DOWN BARRIERS is starting production this December and will shoot through Q1 2023. The full season will complete in third week of September prior to the start of the NHL season as well as Canada's National Day of Truth and Reconciliation.

The final series will be **12 x 24 minute episodes.**



HOST / CO-PRODUCER

Saroya Tinker is currently a professional women's ice hockey player for the PHF's Toronto Six. She previously graduated from Yale University where she played on the Yale Varsity Women's Ice Hockey team. Since graduating, Saroya has found a passion for educating others and using her social media platforms to encourage and provide resources for others.



DIRECTOR

Karen Zylak has over 20 years experience working in sports media production. She began her career at TSN, where she spent over a decade working on NHL, CFL and Olympic content, most recently working as a Producer on the feature film Black Ice. In 2016 she started KZProductions, producing and directing content for national broadcasters and sponsors.



EXECUTIVE PRODUCER

Mark Kristofic has produced and directed of multiple sport focused television series and documentary productions with a global flavour including ASCEND, Ski Television, One Dream, Behind the Curtain, CN1000, Camp of Dreams and E-GameON! and FIGHT NIGHT with productions airing in Canada, USA, Europe and China.

EPISODE BREAKDOWN

EP01 - BREAKING THE GLASS CEILING

Women are striving to break through at the NHL level in all facets of the game; coaching, refereeing & management.

EP02 - CREATING A BLACK HOCKEY COMMUNITY

Kirk Brooks is a man who has mentored young black hockey players in Toronto for over 30 years.

EP03 - CHANGING THE CULTURE OF SILENCE IN HOCKEY

Igniting change in mental health and destigmatizing the conversation

EP04 - HOCKEY IS FOR EVERYONE

Canadian Blind Hockey is changing the lives of children and adults by working to ensure that every Canadian who is blind or partially sighted has the opportunity to play Canada's Game.

EP05 - SELF ACCEPTANCE

Luke Prokop is fighting back stereotypes as the NHL's first openly gay player.

EP06 - MEET COURAGE BEAR

This Saskatoon Indigenous sports academy is the first of its kind in Canada

EP07 - CAMP OF DREAMS II

Ethan Bear's annual hockey camp for the First Nations kids is giving young athletes opportunities that dreams are made of.

EP08 - THE FIGHT FOR A WOMEN'S PRO LEAGUE

The PWHPA and the PHF are taking separate paths but have the same goal: creating a viable and sustainable professional women's ice hockey league for future generations.

EP09 - PROJECT NORTH

Giving children the tools to enjoy their youth, be active, and develop a further sense of community through sport.

EP10 - GAVIN McKENNA

14 year old sensation from Whitehorse who made his WHL debut this season.

EP11 - PARA-SHIFT

After the tragic Humboldt bus crash ended Ryan Straschnitzki's stand up career, he switched his focus to sledge hockey.

EP12 - BEHIND THE BENCH

Jessica Campbell is the first ever female bench coach in the AHL and is on track to become the first female to stand behind bench in the NHL.