

BRANDY YANCHYK

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I am an award winning independent documentary filmmaker, television host and journalist currently based in Edmonton, Alberta. My productions are across a wide range of social and factual genres and they have aired on channels including BBC World TV, CBC's Documentary Channel, Rogers OMNI TV, PBS, TELUS Optik Local and film festivals around the world.

I am also the Founder and Executive Producer of the independent production company Brandy Y Productions Inc., which is based in Edmonton, Alberta.

Please see my website for examples of my work: <http://www.brandyyproductions.com/news-features/>

Professional Experience

DOCUMENTARY FILMMAKER

2008 – Present

I have directed, produced and written fourteen television documentaries which have aired on various broadcasters including CBC, CBC's Documentary Channel, BBC World TV, PBS, Rogers' OMNI Television, CTS and TELUS Optik Local. The documentaries have also been shown and won awards at international film festivals. On all of these films I also worked as a cameraperson and as an assistant editor. The documentaries are listed below:

Coastal Revival (2016) is a documentary about how small communities along the coast of British Columbia are rejuvenating their economies with ecotourism like bear and humpback whale viewing. The series is being made for TELUS Optik Local and will be available in 2016

Star Trails (2016) is a documentary series about dark sky enthusiasts and amateur astronomers in Alberta and British Columbia who travel to star parties and dark sky preserves. The series is being made for TELUS Optik Local and will be available in 2016.

Employment Matters Too (2015) Employment Matters Too is a documentary that discovers how large corporations benefit from hiring employees with intellectual disabilities. The film is airing on CBC and CBC's Documentary Channel.
Promo: <https://vimeo.com/134334215>

Employment Matters (2015) Employment Matters is a documentary that explores the untapped market and huge potential of the intellectually disabled in the workplace. The film is airing on CBC and CBC's Documentary Channel.
Promo: <https://vimeo.com/132354432>

The Working Originals (2015) 6 x 10 minute series for Telus Optik Local.
"The Working Originals" tells the stories of various individuals living with intellectual and developmental disabilities, and the challenges they face as they endeavor to find employment and meaning in their lives.

Becoming Albertan (2015) "Becoming Albertan" is a documentary, APP, website and thirty-two three minute vignettes by Brandy Y Productions Inc. which focus on experiences new Canadians or new immigrants can have when they come to Alberta. It was made for Rogers' OMNI Television. Promo: <https://vimeo.com/137387855>

Finding Edge Road (2015) is a one hour documentary about asylum seekers from Iraq and Somalia who moved to a small town in eastern Finland. The documentary is being shown on CBC's Documentary Channel. Promo: <https://vimeo.com/125534164>

Grey Glory (2014) is a one hour documentary about Canadian seniors who are pushing their bodies to the limit, redefining our perceptions of aging. The film is airing on CBC's Documentary Channel, Rogers' OMNI TV and PBS. Promo: <https://vimeo.com/92054549>

Grey Ambition (2014) is a one hour documentary about Canadian seniors over sixty-five who are taking their brain power to new levels long after retirement. The film is airing on CBC's Documentary Channel, Rogers' OMNI TV and PBS. Promo: <https://vimeo.com/98395928>

Oil Calling (2013) is a half an hour documentary about new immigrants and Canada's oil and gas industry. It is airing on CBC's Documentary Channel and PBS. Promo: <https://vimeo.com/61180336>

Nature's Invitation (2012) is a one hour documentary about Canada's quest to get new immigrants in touch with nature. It also explores the consequences of a life devoid of nature. **Nature's Invitation** is airing on Rogers' OMNI TV and CBC's Documentary Channel in Canada. It also aired on PBS stations across the United States in 2014. Promo: <https://vimeo.com/37314173>

Brooks – the City of 100 Hellos is a one hour documentary about how immigration is changing and challenging a cowboy town. The film is airing on Rogers' OMNI TV, CBC's Documentary Channel, CTS and across the United States on PBS. Promo: <https://vimeo.com/28109255>

DESERT TO ICE (2008) is a half an hour documentary for the BBC World TV program 'Our World'. In 2008 I traveled to Iceland and reported, filmed and produced a 22 minute documentary about a handful of Palestinian refugees who had escaped the sands of Iraq for a new life in Iceland. *Desert to Ice* examined the extraordinary transformation of the desert-dwellers as they sought to find refuge on a distant island in the far north.

FREELANCE REPORTER AND VIDEOGRAPHER

May, 2009 – Present

I am currently reporting, shooting and editing my own TV and web features for various broadcasters. I primarily work as a Reporter for BBC World TV, BBC News Online and the BBC's THE TRAVEL SHOW. I have covered stories worldwide but many focus on Canada.

BBC TRAVEL SHOW REPORTER for BBC World TV

I am an award winning reporter/producer for BBC World's The TRAVEL SHOW and have done stories for the show from Canada, Finland, Australia and New Zealand for a global audience of 76 million viewers since 2009. The TRAVEL SHOW also airs domestically on BBC2 and on BBC.com. The show was previously called fast:track. Click here to see my stories for the BBC Travel Show: <http://www.brandyyproductions.com/latest-buzz/brandy-yanchyk-reports-for-bbc-world-tvs-travel-show-fast-track-since-2009/>

TRUTH AND RECONCILIATION COMMISSION OF CANADA

2013 – 2014, Across Alberta, Canada

I worked as a Statement Gatherer recording statements and filmed sharing circles which involved former students of the Indian Residential Schools. These statements will go into a new National Research Centre about Canada's residential schools and their legacy.

Host of CTV Two's ALBERTA PRIMETIME

November 24, 2008 – May 22, 2009

I co-hosted fifty-five one hour live TV episodes of *Alberta Primetime* which was launched by CTV in Canada. The program included panel discussions, features and one on one interviews with politicians and celebrities such as KD Lang and Ian Tyson. The show is the brainchild of Paul Lewis, the President and General Manager of Discovery Channel Canada.

BBC WORLD TELEVISION, BBC World News America

(BBC Television Centre, London)

March 2006 – November 2008

I was employed as a Broadcast Journalist at BBC World Television in London.
I reported and shot my own news features for BBC World TV and wrote and prepared the international news in a 24 hour newsroom.

In October 2007, I helped to launch the flagship program, *BBC World News America* for BBC World/BBC America under the direction of Rome Hartman and Claudia Milne.

This program was also shown on PBS stations in the USA.

BBC WORLD SERVICE (Bush House, London) May 2005 – May 2006

I was employed as a Producer and Reporter for the BBC World Service.
I worked on the global news and current affairs programs: *World Briefing*, *Newshour*, *The World Today*, *Europe Today*, *World Update*, *World Have Your Say*, The Boston based program, *'The World'* and *OUTLOOK*.

CANADIAN BROADCASTING CORPORATION

CBC Television and Radio News Reporter (Edmonton, Alberta) Current
CBC Radio News Reporter (London, UK Bureau, 2004-2007)

CBC Radio One and CBC Newsworld (Toronto) May 2002- September 2004

For over a decade I have worked as a casual TV, Radio and Web reporter for the Canadian Broadcasting Corporation. From 2005 to 2006 I filled in for CBC's European Correspondent and covered international stories for CBC's National Radio News from London, England and made documentaries for CBC's *The World at Six*, *The World This Hour*, *Dispatches*, *The Current*, *CBC National Radio Sports*, *Syndication*, *The World This Weekend*, and *Metro Morning*.

In Toronto I was a full time news Reporter for CBC Radio News in Toronto. While living in Edmonton, Alberta I have also worked for the CBC as a TV and Radio Reporter.

Deutsche Welle Radio (London) and the 2010 Vancouver Winter Olympics 2006 – 2010

I worked as a freelance Reporter creating radio documentaries in English for Germany's international broadcaster. I also covered the German Olympic team for Deutsche Welle Radio as they competed in the 2010 Vancouver Winter Olympics.

BBC Radio 5 Live, BBC Radio Good Morning Scotland, BBC Radio Good Morning Ulster, BBC Northern Ireland

In Toronto I did live reports from Toronto about the 2003 North American Blackout. I also did live reports from Faslane, Scotland about HMCS Chicoutimi Submarine Tragedy in 2004

BBC Radio York and BBC Radio Leeds 2004

I presented and produced a five part radio documentary series about Canadian towns that have the same names and historical roots as those in Yorkshire, England.

Rogers Television, York Region, Ontario 2002 - 2004

Hosted and Produced 13 episodes of the half hour television show "One on One" in 2004. I was also a local TV news Reporter on First Local News in York Region.

EDUCATION

Graduated with a Bachelor of Applied Arts degree in Radio and Television Arts from Ryerson University, (2001-2003).

Graduated with a Bachelor of Fine Arts degree from Concordia University with a Specialization in Theatre Performance, (1997-1999).

Completed a five-week French Immersion program at Chicoutimi University in Quebec, 1998.

Computer Programs: Premiere, Final Cut Pro, ENPS, Dalet, Cool Edit Pro/Adobe Audition, Nuendo, Prologue, AVID iNEWS and Photoshop.

Awards and Accolades:

DOC Alberta member Brandy Yanchyk is the subject of October's DOC Member Spotlight, which profiles a DOC member from a different region across Canada each month. <https://docorg.ca/en/member-spotlight-brandy-yanchyk>

Brandy Yanchyk was chosen as a “Top 40 under 40” in October 2015 by Avenue Edmonton magazine.

<http://www.avenueedmonton.com/City-Life/Top-40-Under-40/Brandy-Yanchyk/>

“Through her work as an award-winning documentary filmmaker, she sheds light on the issues, stories and people that make up our environment, and shares them on the world stage.”

Brandy Yanchyk has won the GoMedia 2015: Wildlife Award for her piece ‘The polar bear capital of the world’ for BBC's The Travel Show:

<http://www.bbc.co.uk/programmes/p02czzrh8>

Here is a clip about the award:

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=cwr_nidRshY

Wade Luzny, CEO and Executive Vice-President of the Canadian Wildlife Federation judged my story. He said: “It was what Brandy reported and who she engaged... There is a lot we can learn from the people of the north and how to live in harmony with nature and adapt our ways.”