



WHITE DWARF PICTURES

WHITE DWARF PICTURES PRESENTS

# HELL OR TIDE WATER

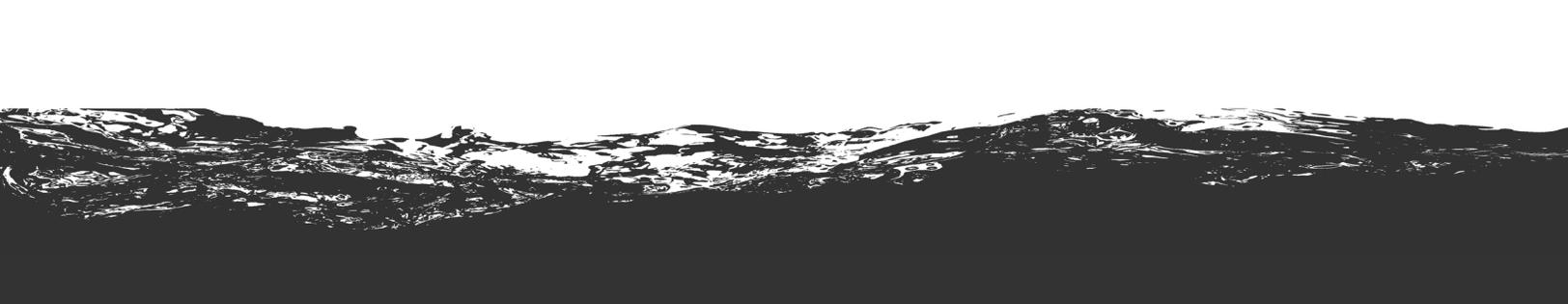
A FEATURE FILM

A SUBMARINE SCI-FI ACTION MOVIE THAT THRUSTS YOU INTO A WORLD OF WESTERN CANADIAN PIPELINE POLITICS, STATE-OF-THE-ART ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE, RUSSIAN INTERFERENCE, AND CANADIAN INDIGENOUS MYSTICISM.

TAGLINE: **SPIRITS RUN DEEP**



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## PRODUCER QUOTE

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“It’s the Hunt for Red October meets 2001 A Space Odyssey.”  
– **Victor Bohm** (Executive Producer, Hell or Tide Water)



## DIRECTOR QUOTE

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“Canadians respond well to something out of the ordinary that plays directly to their unique cultural identity and experience as Canadians.”  
– **Scott C. Newman** (Director, Hell or Tide Water)



## MEDIA QUOTE

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“The film carries a serious message : the relationship between Indigenous communities and Canada's expanding industries, both past and present.”  
– **Julia Kollek** (Urbanicity Magazine)



## AUDIENCE QUOTE

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“The freshest sci-fi in a decade.”



## PRESS INQUIRIES CONTACT

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## PRESS IMAGES

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High-resolution photos and stills are available to download here:  
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## SYNOPSIS: SHORT

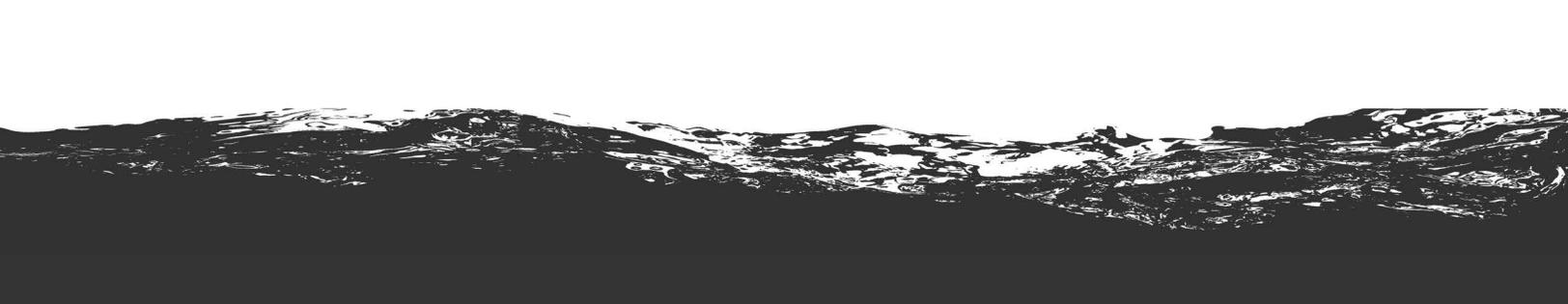
Two giant oil carrying submarines attempt to transport Alberta Crude through a British Columbia fjord while encountering fierce resistance from Russian Submarines attempting to stifle Canada's energy independence.



## SYNOPSIS: MEDIUM

Set in the near future, *Hell or Tide Water* is a thrill-a-minute underwater submarine action/sci-fi film told through the eyes of Lt. Cmdr. Allan Parker, a 40-something sea dog with a chip on his shoulder. The action surrounds the controversial Canadian energy industry and their longing to bring a pipeline to Tide Water. This long-time dream has come true, but there's a twist: once the oil makes it the shores of BC it is not being transported by traditional tanker but by giant submarines called S.U.L.C.C.s (*Submersible Ultra Large Crude Carriers*).

Things start to get interesting when a camera crew shows up to film an episode of *Humongous Boats* (a fictional version of the popular show *Mighty Ships*) and encounter more than just the run of the mill giant ship overview they were hoping to film. It turns out the Russians view the Canadian enterprise as a threat to their energy hegemony in the east, and they dispatch their submarine fleet to reign the Canadians in. Not only that, but they have infected the mostly automated S.U.L.C.C.s artificial intelligence robots with a virus called *Subroutine Menshevik*, making them malfunction and go completely rogue. Enter North Korean and American submarines and you have the makings of an undersea battle for the ages.



## SYNOPSIS: LONG

In the year 2025 a Norwegian Oil Company called NUSO (*Norwegian Under Sea Oil*) has built a pipeline from the Alberta Oil Sands to a brand new Oil Terminal in Northern BC, Canada - The Tidewater Freedom Oil Pipeline and Terminal. But there's a twist: in order to counteract increasing storm activity over the fjord connecting the terminal to the Pacific ocean, they have built a fleet of Submersible Oil Tanker Submarines called S.U.L.C.C.'s (*Submersible Ultra Large Crude Carriers*).

While the company and country of Canada are ecstatic to finally have a pipeline to tidewater neither the country nor the Oil company are all powerful. To the chagrin of NUSO's CEO Hans Streinrech, the company had to bargain away a large portion of their authority to the Local First Nations Indigenous band (fictional band, *the Or'Mawk*) on whose land the Terminal was built. With an Indigenous representative on each S.U.L.C.C. the company is forced to adhere to the highest level of safety and environmental stewardship during each and every trip they take through the Northern BC fjord on their way to the Pacific Ocean. But even with a claim of only a 0.01% chance of any oil spills taking place, made possible by the presence of highly advanced artificial intelligence robots on each submarine, the company still struggles against environmentalists and anti-pipeline protesters.

In a bid to win this battle of public opinion and also to showcase the technical achievement and sheer magnitude of the project, NUSO accepts an invitation from the popular television show *Humongous Boats*, who travel the world documenting large civilian and military vessels around the world. On what was supposed to be a "routine traversing of the channel" our hero, Lt. Cmdr. Allan Parker, a former Canadian Forces Submarine Cmdr, gets thrust into much more than the sleepy oil route he was used to.

With the Humongous Boats TV crew, an indigenous observer and the head of the company breathing down his neck, Lt. Allan Parker must battle against unexpected visitors deep within the belly of the fjord.

## THE STORY OF HELL OR TIDE WATER

The recent politics of the energy industry in Canada have been tumultuous since the intersection of oil and environment heated up in the late 1990s. Alberta was able to let this slide when the price of a barrel of oil was \$147. However, the oil crisis of 2008 saw prices drop as low as \$32 a barrel and the situation has become even more complicated. More than 100,000 people are out of work in Alberta and because of climate change environmentalists and some say even the federal government seem to have little sympathy.



What has made this situation a paradox for Canada is that the one solution that many Albertans have been stressing to solve their economic problems is the realization of additional pipeline capacity to tidewater. A new pipeline would allow them to sell their oil at higher prices to foreign markets instead of the current situation where the oil is being sold at a discount to the United States. It is speculated that, in terms of the environment, oil is being burned anyway and that in Canada much of the oil we use comes from countries with poor human rights records. It is further speculated that there are foreign entities that actively try to block Canadian oil through the covert funding of environmental groups here at home, and that Canada is the only loser in this scenario as they are not getting a fair price for their product and many are suffering as a result. Environmentalists and others concerned about climate change argue that pipelines are the worst thing that we could do for the climate crisis, as they will ultimately lead to the burning of more fossil fuels further exacerbating the problem.

## THE STORY OF HELL OR TIDE WATER (continued)

Indigenous groups are also suffering economically as a result of the low price of Alberta oil. This is one of the reasons that there are many indigenous groups who are pro-pipeline, arguing the energy industry is the best way to raise the standard-of-living for their people and, in some cases, counteract poor living conditions and poverty. There is even an indigenous pipeline company called *Spirit Eagle Energy* that has the approval of over thirty-five indigenous bands to build a pipeline from Fort McMurray to Grassy Point, BC.

At the end of the day the question to all of this is who is right? It's a tough question, and although *Hell or Tide Water* is purely fictional it is set in the heart of this increasingly intense Canadian political argument. We wanted to make a film that used the oil sands, pipelines, and an oil port as a backdrop for a uniquely Canadian action movie. We felt that letting people see how these real life situations play out on film and affect the different characters who are involved on a first-hand basis, including indigenous roles, would not only make for an engaging story but also help Canadians gain a better understanding of the various forces at play and, ultimately, where this will all lead in terms of both the benefits and the consequences.



## SCOTT C. NEWMAN WRITER / PRODUCER / DIRECTOR / EDITOR



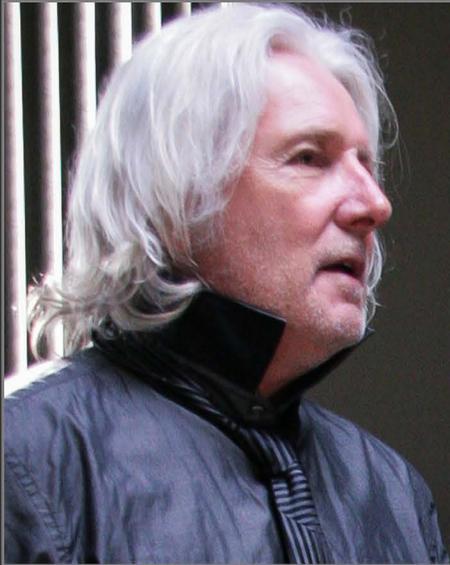
Scott C. Newman is a tested professional in the world of Canadian entertainment. Upon leaving McMaster Universities Drama program, Scott earned a media arts degree from Sheridan College. He writes, directs, edits, creates special fx, and does everything else in between.

Scott spent five years on the set of the highly eclectic Red Green Show working alongside its director and learning directly from Red Green himself, Steve Smith. When Smith retired, Scott was hired by CBC News and quickly rose through the ranks to become a documentary and feature editor on the CBC's flagship news program *The National*, where he was nominated for a Canadian Screen Award for editing. After nine years on *The National* Scott spent two years editing Global's investigative news program *16x9*, where his work helped them successfully win their first Canadian Screen Award for Best News And Information Program.

In 2012 Scott formed *White Dwarf Pictures* with Hamilton industrialist, entrepreneur and actor Victor Bohm. Together they created a reality television show pilot, *Biblical Proportions*, which was optioned during the 2018 Banff Television Festival and is being pitched in Hollywood by the BC television production company and distributor Visland Media. In the last three years Scott has written and directed numerous well-received short films and edited two documentaries with Oscar-winner Emma Thompson and renowned actor Danny Glover, as well as working for Vice News editing the feature doc *The Soldiers of Odin: Inside Canada's Extremist Vigilante Group*. He also produced his own documentary, *The Water Ceremony*, an hour long journey into a spiritual water gathering at an indigenous lodge outside Regina and featuring actor Bill Pullman.

*Hell Or Tide Water* is Scott's first feature film.

## VICTOR BOHM EXECUTIVE PRODUCER / ACTOR



The world of film is a business, those who forget that will ultimately be rewarded with failure. So who better to be Executive Producer of *Hell Or Tide Water* than Victor Bohm, a successful businessman with a proven track record.

Victor has been running his own successful fabrication business known as *Versitech Industries* for twenty-five years and it continues to grow. Having more than thirty employees, Victor knows how to keep a business afloat and he does not suffer fools lightly.

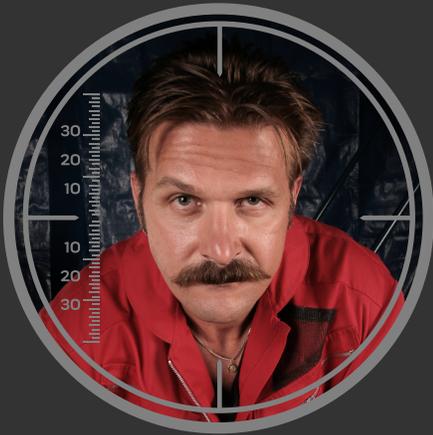
At the end of the day Victor knows that there is a bottom line -- and that has to be respected. Luckily he's done a great job of that, and he has applied that knowledge and expertise to the world of film. Thirty years ago he started out as an actor in multiple Canadian productions during the 1980's, and Victor now continues to act and produce through his film production company *White Dwarf Pictures*.



## CAST AND CHARACTERS

### LT. CMDR. ALLAN PARKER

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**“Hans, I wish you told me all of this before I took the job.”**

Tough and gruff Lt. Cmdr. Parker is a 48-year-old retired Canadian Forces submarine commander. Retiring when his submarine was automated using artificial intelligence, he started spending his days on a charter boat taking scientists out on the Hecate Strait in BC. He lives just outside Tiuqsmik, BC and the reserve land of the *Or’Mawk* people so it was no surprise that he met, fell in love with, and married a local indigenous woman named Elsa. Unfortunately, after nine years of marriage and three children they parted ways.

Meanwhile Allan had left the Canadian forces and was having trouble making ends meet. With child support and personal debt mounting Allan started to seek out addition employment, and when the *Norwegian Oil Company* NUSO set up a port in Tiuqsmik using submarines to transport oil it looked to be the perfect opportunity.. He became one of NUSO’s premiere channel pilots, commanding one of their submarines through the fjords that run from Tiuqsmik out to the open ocean.

#### PERFORMED BY MARK BANE

Mark is a first time actor but he stunned everyone with his amazing performance of the hard nosed, tough and gruff Lt. Cmdr. Allan Parker. A highly effective and natural actor he was discovered by chance at a popular restaurant in Burlington, Ontario.



## CAST AND CHARACTERS

### ELSA



**“The Or’Mawk Nation officially gives you permission to begin navigating the channel.”**

A shrewd and beautiful indigenous woman living on the ancestral land of the Or’mawk people in a small town called Tiuqsmik, Elsa loves the land and all its bounty and she would protect it with all her will. Falling in love and marrying Lt. Cmdr. Allan Parker, a white man, at a somewhat young age was always a source of controversy on the Or’mawk reserve. However, with her poise and status within her native band she never let it become an issue. When the marriage eventually went sour, she swore she would do everything in her power to raise her children the best she could, and that included pushing her ex Lt. Cmdr. Allan Parker to keep up on his child-support payments.

When the Norwegian oil company NUSO set up an oil export port in town, Elsa took the opportunity to get a part time job as an Or’mawk Nation indigenous observer -- a representative of the Ormawk Nation who rides on the NUSO tanker submarines and ensures that all safety and environmental standards are closely followed.

#### PERFORMED BY RAQUEL RAKOVAC

Raquel is an experienced singer and entertainer from Hamilton, Ontario. She also owns and operates her own fitness club.



## CAST AND CHARACTERS

### HANS STEINRECH



Hans Steinrech was born and raised in Norway and studied Chemical Engineering with a minor in robotics at the University of Oslo. He started out his career at Norway's largest Oil company, *Statoil*, creating additives to make gasoline more combustible for fuel injected engines. He then set off on his own, creating the company NUSO (*Norwegian Under Sea Oil*) where he provided a range of robotic ROVs to service and maintain Norway's many offshore oil platforms.

**"If you can see it, it's not NUSO."**

After having had great success with his unmanned ROVs, Hans branched out and began designing modern oil tanker submarines. He also bought a Norwegian pipeline company, adding that to his roster of oil industry services. Hans' ambition and work ethic led him to neglect his wife and marriage and he filed for divorce just prior to negotiating with the government of Canada to build the Tide-water Freedom Pipeline, which runs from the oil sands in Alberta to a fjord connected to the coast of British Columbia. It is at the end of that pipeline that Hans realized his latest project and cherished dream. The Tide Water Freedom port.

#### PERFORMED BY VICTOR BOHM

Victor is the co-owner of *White Dwarf Pictures* and is a successful entrepreneur and actor with many years experience in the film industry.



## CAST AND CHARACTERS

### JERRY MACK



**“Lt. Williamson, do you need a sonar man by any chance?”**

Like his ancestors Jerry has spent most of his life on the water. He has worked odd jobs crewing on fishing and scientific vessels in and around the town of Tiuqsmik. When the building of the Tide Water Freedom Port was announced the local band began training in partnership with the Canadian forces, a fully indigenous submarine crew that patrols the fjord ensuring all environmental regulations are being followed and that the passage of the large NUSO submarine oil tankers proceeds without incident. Unfortunately, Jerry lacked the proper education credentials to join this elite submarine crew, and it has always been a thorn in his side.

Since that time Jerry has been working toward his *sonar man* credentials, trying to earn a spot on the guardian sub which has become his dream and ambition. Jerry has a keen interest in the spiritual teachings and history of his ancestors, but struggles to be taken seriously by the Or’Mawk people because of his alcohol abuse.

#### PERFORMED BY DAVID HINKLEY

David is a first-time actor who stunned the producers with his amazing performance. David was discovered in a local grocery store in Hamilton, Ontario.



## CAST AND CHARACTERS

### ED BROCKELMAN

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**“Larissa, make our depth 120 metres. If they blow us up, I want the world to know about it.”**

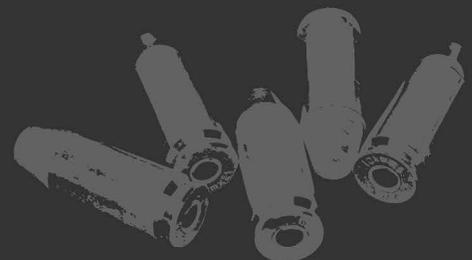
When it comes to Ed Brockelman not all is what it seems. Born in St. Petersburg, Russia Ed Brockelman (real name: Vasily Kurbatov) has been groomed by the *GRU*, Russia’s foreign intelligence agency, since he graduated from the State University.

Excelling during rigorous training, he quickly rose through the ranks at the GRU and was groomed to be Russian President Sokolov’s go-to guy for important missions.

After completing a series of difficult covert missions throughout his career it was decided to make him a foreign agent. It was at that point that he created the alter ego Ed Brockeman, a smultzy reality tv producer with an expertise in maritime topics. This cover allows him onboard a host of different civilian and military ships, where he steals secret technologies and engages in sabotage to the advantage of the Russian government.

#### PERFORMED BY JOHN CRAIG

John is an experienced actor and model, having done countless photo shoots and television commercials. He is based in Ancaster, Ontario.



## CAST AND CHARACTERS

### LRC 04 (LARISSA)



LRC 04 or Larissa, is NUSO's latest and most advanced LRC (*Logic Reasoning Control System*) and she is a cutting-edge artificial intelligence robot, capable of doing millions of calculations simultaneously.

She is also certifiably almost human in her ability to engage in conversation and capacity to problem solve; in many ways she is better than human.

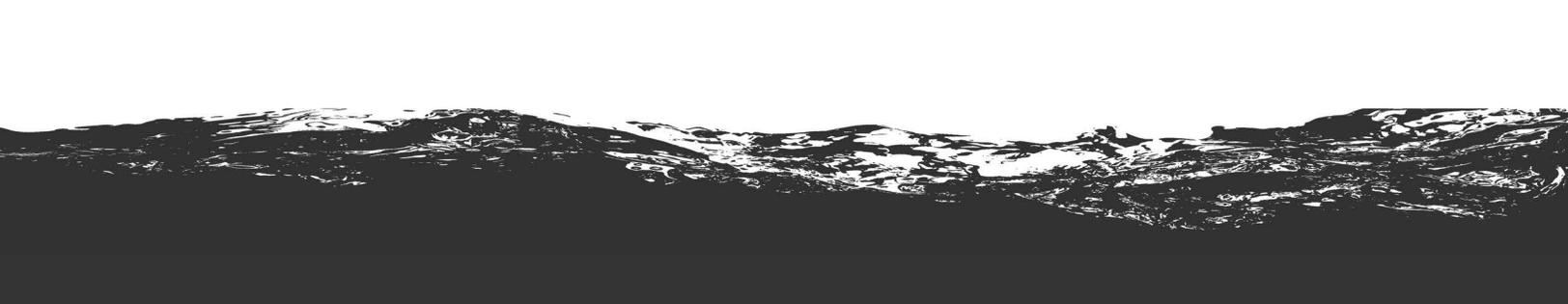
**“Well of course they're fine, I've been greasing them all morning.”**

Outfitted with a forty-foot robotic snake arm Larissa is able to perform any necessary maintenance that is required on the SULCC submarines while the boats are underway. Larissa is also Hans Steinrech's closest confidant as he has realized her intelligence and abilities are unmatched in the modern world. Although she has been assigned the number 04, and there are LRC's with higher numbers, she is the latest and most advanced. Hans saved the number 04 for her as it is his lucky number.

VOICE PERFORMED BY **JULIA KOLLEK**

Julia is originally from London, England and is a Hamilton, Ontario based creative consultant and professional journalist.





## KEY CREW

### **NELSON ROGERS** Director of Photography

A highly experienced Cinematographer and Director of Photography based in Toronto, he has shot and lit a long list of movies and TV shows including ten years as shooter and DOP on the CBC comedy *Royal Canadian Air Farce*.

### **AMIN TAGHIPOUR** Visual FX, Robot Arm and Submarine Surfacing

Amin is capable of making any VFX look real and compelling. He spent many years working for Deluxe Creative in Toronto before striking out on his own. He is known for visual effects on a host of Hollywood blockbusters including *Star Wars Rogue One* and *Blade Runner 2049*.

### **KELLY CARNEY** Production Manager

A veteran in the film world Kelly has managed five feature films working with screen legends such as James Caan and Danny Aiello. She has also produced a number of documentaries for various major broadcasters including TSN.

### **SHANNON MUIR** Costume Designer

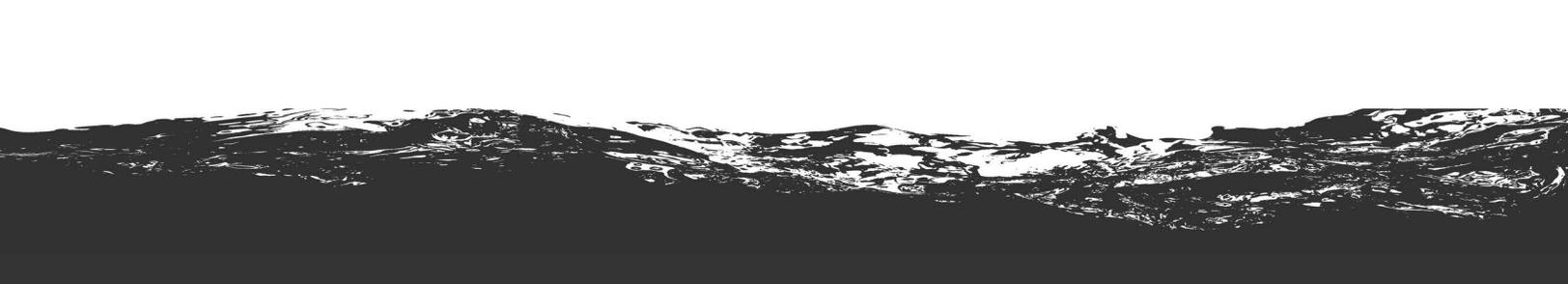
With over two decades of experience doing costumes for various types of productions across a variety of industries, Shannon who is based in Montreal has ample costume experience and she hit a home run doing the colourful and varied costuming for *Hell Or Tide Water*.

### **SANDI RICHARDSON** Production Designer

After spending 13 years as production manager for the Red Green Show, Sandi took up a new line of work on the film set as Production Designer. She has done numerous features in her new role and she did a splendid job for *Hell Or Tide Water*. Sandi lives in Stoney Creek, Ontario.

### **DAMIAN KEARNS** Re-recording Mixer

As an extremely creative and versatile audio engineer specializing in post-production for TV and movies, Toronto-based Damian Kearns has worked with some of the industry's biggest stars and directors including Deepa Mehta and Ron McClain.



## FAQ's

### **Q. Does the leadership of your company support a pipeline from Alberta to Tidewater?**

A. Not necessarily. We are admittedly not experts on this complicated matter, we're simply storytellers. However, we feel that the Canadian energy industry should be supported while the country comes up with a comprehensive plan to combat the increasing threat of climate change. This includes providing good-paying jobs, quantifies the actions of other nations in the overall carbon equation, and respects Alberta's historical role as long-standing energy producers in Canada.

### **Q. Are you from Alberta?**

A. No, we are based in Hamilton, Ontario but we feel that the subject matter is of interest to all Canadians equally regardless of their geographical location.

### **Q. Does the film support pipelines in an overt way?**

A. This is a fictional narrative film that tells a unique story. However we acknowledge that because a fully built and functioning pipeline is portrayed in the film it could be construed as an endorsement for pipelines and we take responsibility for that. (See also answer no. 1, above)

### **Q. Why do you think you were the right people to tell such an important story?**

A. Our writer/director has many years experience in the world of news and documentary and has spent time on the ground with many of the players that are portrayed in the film. We felt that we had a solid footing based in real life experience and knowledge on the matters represented in the film to give them an honest and fair portrayal.

### **Q. Should people take this movie seriously?**

A. The movie was well researched but at the end of the day it is fiction and people should understand that. It should be primarily taken seriously in its ability to entertain and inspire.

## TECHNICAL INFO & MEDIA LINKS



### TECHNICAL INFORMATION

GENRE: SCIENCE FICTION / ACTION

RESOLUTION: 4K

RUNTIME: 150 minutes

ASPECT RATIO: 2:35 to 1

AUDIO: 5.1 SURROUND

COUNTRY OF ORIGIN: CANADA



VIEW THE TRAILER

<https://vimeo.com/332735354>

PRESS FOR HELL OR TIDE WATER

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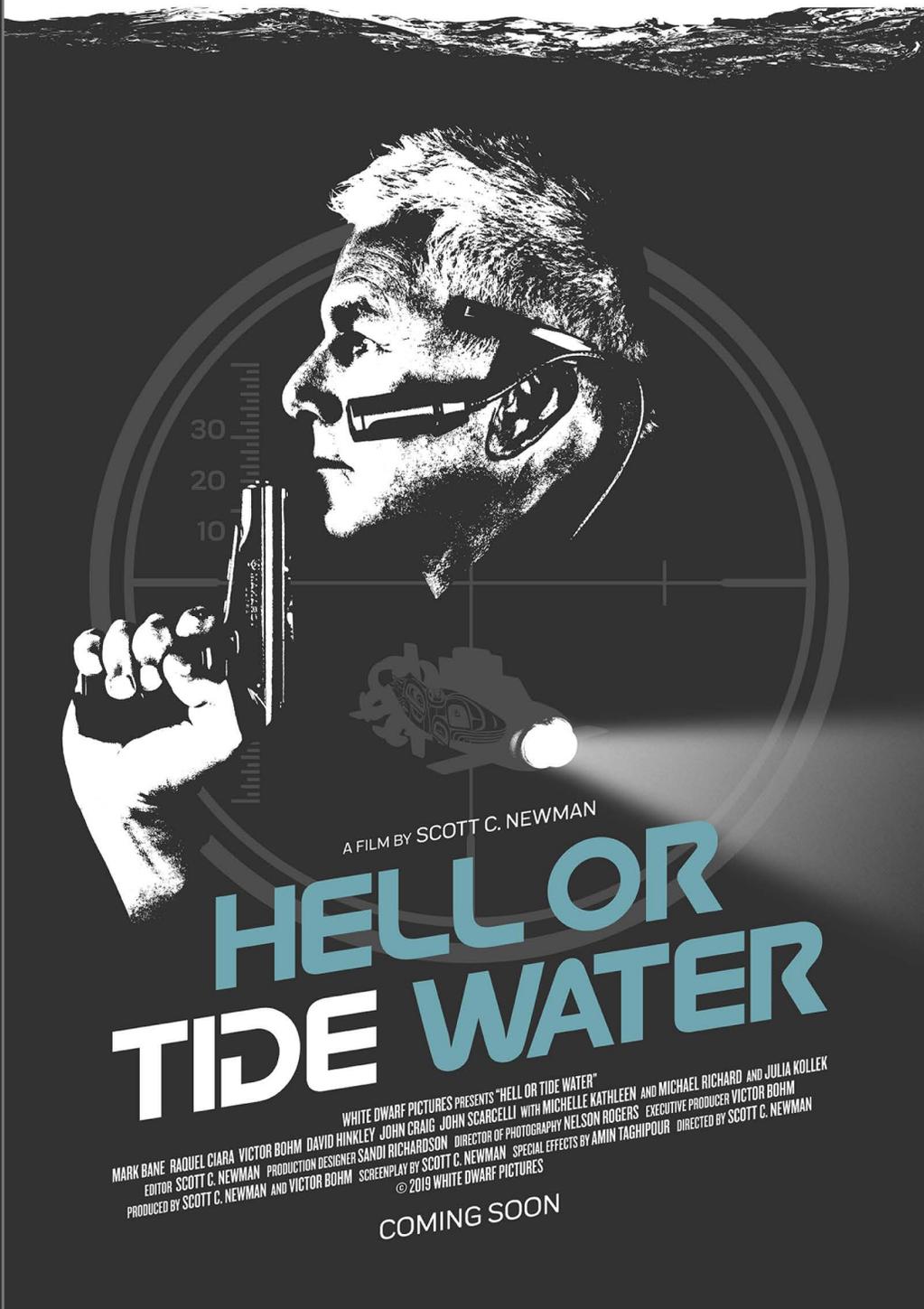


*Hell Or Tide Water* features a VFX version of the Canadian Forces Submarine HMCS Corner Brook.



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SPIRITS RUN DEEP



A FILM BY SCOTT C. NEWMAN

# HELL OR TIDE WATER

WHITE DWARF PICTURES PRESENTS "HELL OR TIDE WATER"  
MARK BANE RAQUEL CIARA VICTOR BOHM DAVID HINKLEY JOHN CRAIG JOHN SCARCELLI WITH MICHELLE KATHLEEN AND MICHAEL RICHARD AND JULIA KOLLEK  
EDITOR SCOTT C. NEWMAN PRODUCTION DESIGNER SANDI RICHARDSON DIRECTOR OF PHOTOGRAPHY NELSON ROGERS EXECUTIVE PRODUCER VICTOR BOHM  
PRODUCED BY SCOTT C. NEWMAN AND VICTOR BOHM SCREENPLAY BY SCOTT C. NEWMAN SPECIAL EFFECTS BY AMIN TAGHIPOUR DIRECTED BY SCOTT C. NEWMAN  
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