

A YEAR OF KNOWLEDGE

2017-2018



BRITISH COLUMBIA'S **Knowledge** Network:

Thought is the wind
and knowledge the sail.

~David Hare



Without Partners like you Knowledge simply wouldn't exist. That's why we're happy to share this report to let you know what we've accomplished together. For a start, we raised awareness of important issues facing our world, got people thinking, sparked tons of conversations, challenged perspectives and brought joy and fascination to people of all ages. As always, 100% commercial free. **Well done you!**



TO OUR VALUED DONORS... THANK YOU

Welcome to your report. After another busy, productive year at Knowledge, we're eager to let you know how, together, we've made life a little better and brighter for British Columbians.

In looking back over the year it's clear that the commercial media landscape is changing faster than anyone can anticipate -- making the need for a trusted public broadcaster like Knowledge

all the more essential. Today, the global media industry is increasingly dominated by a handful of American internet giants like Google, Netflix and Facebook. And here in Canada over 85% of television channels - and the infrastructure required to deliver programming (satellites, cable, fibre optic and wireless) - are controlled by a few telecom companies.

This concentration of power would be all the more worrisome if not for public broadcasting.

Knowledge exists because people like you have trusted us to deliver on our promises year after year. Your trust will never be taken for granted. Your time and money will never be wasted.

Your support helps us provide a commercial-free alternative that doesn't deliver viewers to advertisers or voters to politicians, but instead, delivers what people deserve - enlightening, entertaining and beautiful programming. Knowledge is your window on the world - depicting local, national and global perspectives. Our programming shines a light on the environmental, social, cultural and economic forces that affect our daily lives - crucial to building and maintaining sustainable, healthy societies for generations to come.

And, 2017-18 has been a year in which we created more BC stories by BC filmmakers. With support from Partners, like you, we can continue to strengthen Knowledge as a trusted, public space for independent voices in British Columbia.

On behalf of all British Columbians and Canadians who value what Knowledge does, we offer our most sincere gratitude to all of you, our loyal Knowledge Partners.

Rudy Buttignol, C.M.
President and CEO
Knowledge Network Corporation

•Did You Know?

Knowledge Network is a crown corporation under the Ministry of Tourism, Arts and Culture and is guided by an dedicated Board of Directors from across our beautiful province.

A YEAR WORTH CELEBRATING...THANKS TO YOU

Our success over this past year has been made possible by you. Here's a few of our accomplishments. I'm sure you'll agree, it's definitely a cause for celebration!

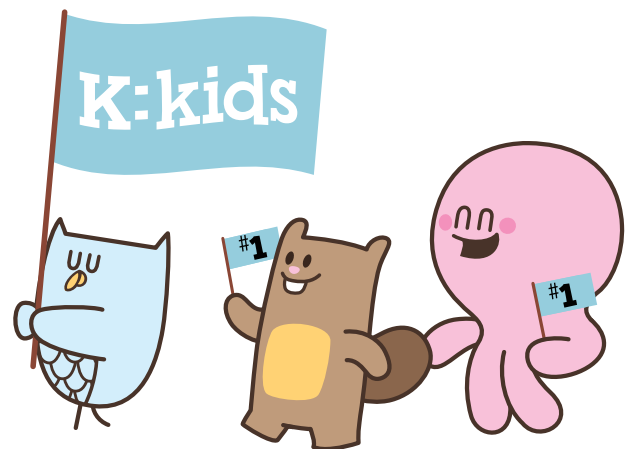
Knowledge Anywhere Anytime

We're committed to keeping up with new technologies but, as a registered charity, we have to do so in a diligent, mindful way. So, with ongoing support from our growing Partner family (now over **39,000** strong), we can offer compelling, entertaining and enlightening commercial-free programs anytime, anywhere on any screen – with or without a cable subscription.

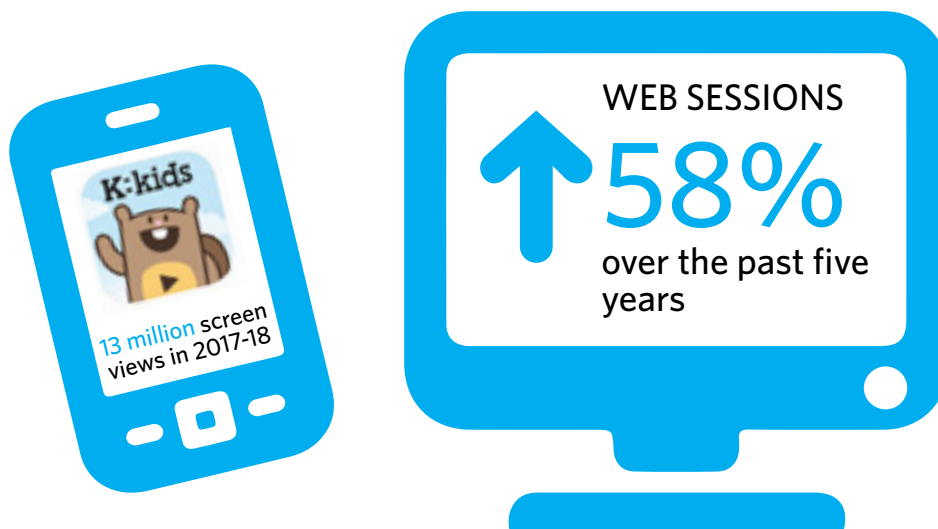
Small but Definitely Mighty

Our loyal TV audience keeps Knowledge ranked the **fourth** most watched television network during prime time – which says a lot given the relatively huge budgets enjoyed by CTV, Global and CBC. And, we're proud as punch to be ranked **#1** for children's daytime programs.

Added to this – more viewers are watching Knowledge on computers, laptops, tablets and phones (web sessions are **up 58%** over the past five years). And, those tech-savvy little ones are leading the way – and that's making parents happy. Why? Because our Knowledge Kids Go app offers hundreds of videos, games and activities with 0% sugar, violence or advertising – but 100% educational, good fun – and it's free! In fact, our Knowledge Kids Go app clocked **13 million** screen views 2017-18 – definitely smile-worthy!

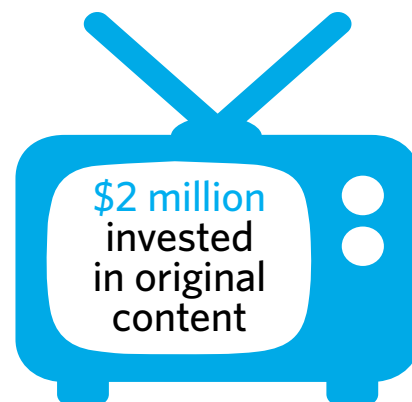


BY THE NUMBERS



More BC Stories by BC Filmmakers

Our investment in original content has nearly **tripled** in five years – from \$850,000 in 2012-13 to almost **\$2 million** in 2017-18 and most of this investment went to BC projects. (In 2017-18, this included films like *Shut Up and Say Something*, *Vancouver: No Fixed Address*, *Space Suite*, *Island Diaries* and *For Dear Life*.)



Putting Our Heroes Front & Centre

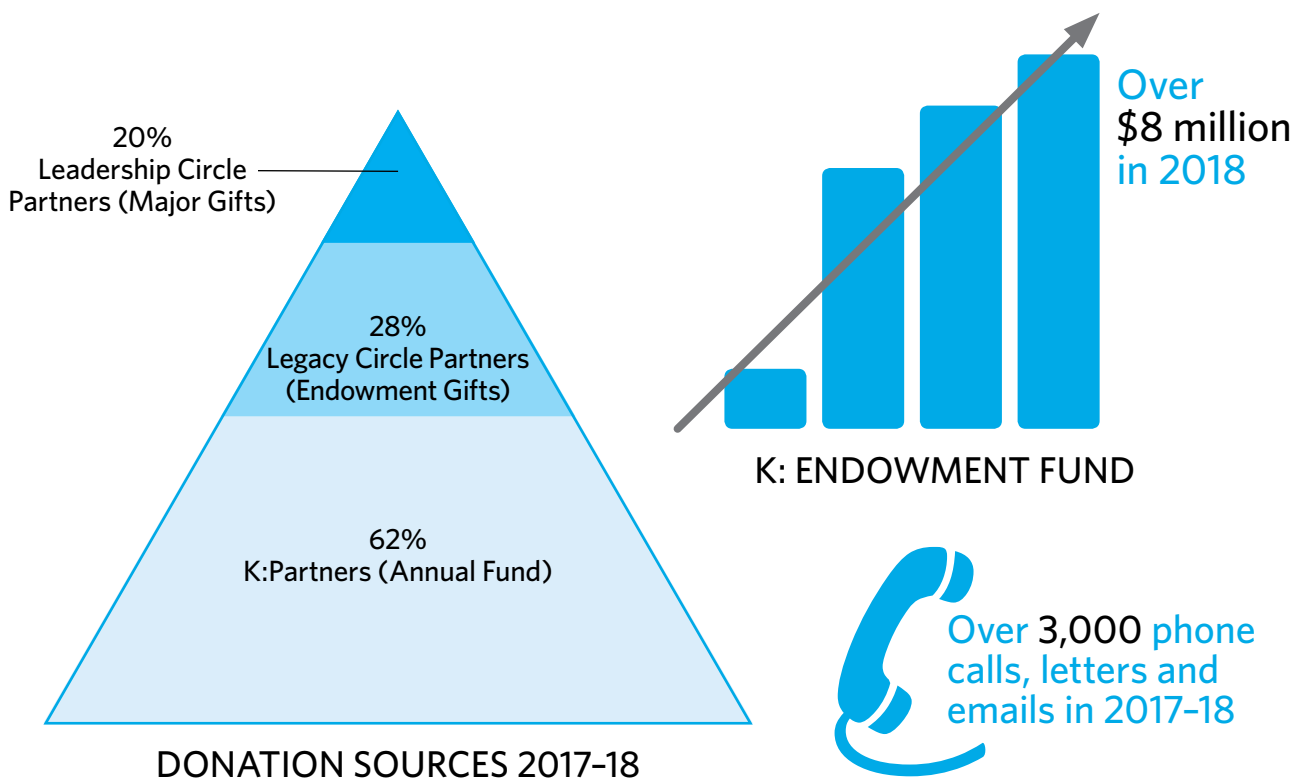
Our heroes are you, our Partners. That's why we're placing your stories at the centre of all our new pledge campaigns. After all, who better to speak to the value of supporting Knowledge? Besides, it's been a real treat to meet Knowledge Partners from across our beautiful province.

Ten Years Old And Still Growing Strong

Thanks to Partners who donated a gift through their will – or made a direct gift – the Knowledge Endowment Fund, established in 2007 is now valued at over **\$8 million**! These gifts are never spent...instead only a portion of interest income is used for programming – which means we're on our way to securing a sustainable future for Knowledge. A wonderful example of the 'endowment at work' in helping support new programming is our upcoming ten-part documentary series, *Paramedics: Life on the Line* (more information on page 14).

We're Here & We're Listening

In 2017-18 we responded to over **3,000** phone calls, emails and letters from viewers with questions and comments about our programming. We treasure all input because it helps guide our decision-making. We don't just say we're viewer-supported and viewer-focused, we live it.



CELEBRATING KNOWLEDGE PARTNERS

YOU MAKE ALL THE DIFFERENCE

The financial support we receive from Partners, like you, is the lifeblood of Knowledge. You help us offer something completely different from mainstream media: the opportunity to escape the sea of chaos and come home to an island of trust. As you know, we love to tell real stories about real people...so we've dedicated the next few pages for Partner stories. We hope you enjoy meeting them as much as we did.



■ Did You Know?

Knowledge Partners are choosing monthly giving more than ever before. In fact, monthly donations now represent 33% of our annual gifts.

This is great news for Knowledge; because knowing we can count on this monthly income, means we can plan further ahead when it comes to program purchasing decisions.

Meet Charles Wilkinson

"Knowledge Network allows you the opportunity to watch programming that is without an agenda. You're basically getting what someone feels in their heart of hearts is really the legitimate and well-researched truth of the matter. That's something worth preserving and paying for, I think." – Charles

Charles and his wife and partner, Tina Schliessler, together with producer Kevin Eastwood, love to make thought-provoking, visually stunning documentaries that explore some of our most pressing societal issues. Among them is the award-winning film, *Haida Gwaii: On the Edge of the World* (as well as *Oil Sands Karaoke* and *Vancouver: No Fixed Address*). They know that while there are a lot of factors that go into a successful documentary, first and foremost is a good story. And, there's a wonderful story attached to the making of this particular documentary.

"I had the great honor to be adopted into the Haida Nation Raven Clan, split tail killer whale family. My Haida name is Sgaan Yahk'ii K'anga which means Killer Whale with true dreams. It was a very moving ceremony." – Charles

Having lived in BC his entire adult life, Charles has witnessed Knowledge's transformation into the strongest force in BC's filmmaking community; willing to commission the best local programming and work with filmmakers to bring their stories to light. He appreciates this commitment to quality not only as a filmmaker, but as a regular viewer and a proud monthly donor to Knowledge.



Meet Maurice and Tama Copithorne

"All these things you get to see on Knowledge - not only us- but people who have never been to these areas - it's a wonderful exposure. I think it's very good to bring the world into where we live, while not forgetting where we are... that is, looking at Vancouver within the context of the global picture." - Tama

The home of Maurice and Tama Copithorne is filled with an eclectic collection of artwork. A pair of framed 17th-century Japanese textiles - family heirlooms - hang next to a watercolour by BC's Toni Onley. A hammered metal plaque from Malaysia rests near the front door, one of many handcrafted pieces bought from local artisans while they were living abroad.

The couple, who are part of our Leadership Circle, returned to Vancouver after 30 years abroad. This included time spent in Malaysia, the People's Republic of China, Hong Kong, Vienna and Iran. Upon their return, Maurice returned to his Alma Mater to teach International Law at UBC, and Tama became founding director of Japanese Culture and Communication at SFU's David Lam Centre for International Communication.

"A commercial-free public station emphasizing arts and culture is just a perfect fit for us." - Tama

While in Vienna, the couple explored their passion for classical music, which Maurice and Tama continue to fuel through their involvement with the Vancouver Chamber Choir. They love watching Radio City and Masters on Knowledge and enjoy documentaries about different regions around the world, particularly the places they've been to.

■ Did You Know?

We are proud to have over 500 Leadership Circle Partners supporting Knowledge. These Partners are able to donate \$600 or more annually and last year they gave just over \$600,000 to Knowledge!

In addition, they share their insight and wisdom as part of our Leadership Circle Advisory Group. A full listing of Leadership Circle Partners can be found on our website and in the K: Magazine.



Meet Maggy Davidson

"I have truly gained knowledge from watching this network and, while I do make a pledge each year, in 2013 I reached the conclusion that the best way I can leave a mark of my life and its meaning is to leave a legacy for future programs and generations. So I have made a bequest in my will for Knowledge Network." – Maggy

Maggy Davidson, who lives in Salmon Arm, told us her nickname at school was the, 'Walking Dictionary.' She was the 'go-to' person for anyone with a question...which continues to this day, including receiving long distance calls from friends with questions on a variety of obscure topics.

Upon reflection, Maggy believes she either came into this life with this knowledge, or acquired it along the way; most likely by osmosis. In addition to what she learned at school, there were a few television shows – mostly aimed at teaching moral values, along with the occasional science show. Years later, she was to discover television worth watching.

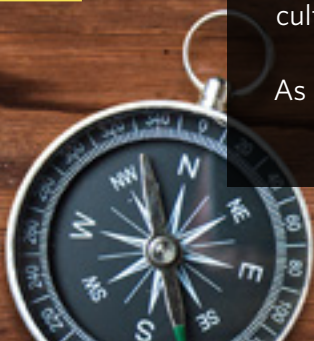
"About 20 years ago I stumbled upon Knowledge Network. People lament there is nothing on TV, whether they live in a big city like Vancouver or a small town like Salmon Arm. Well, they are not watching the right network. This one lives up to its name." – Maggy

With Knowledge, Maggy enjoys visiting the lovable and sometimes eccentric characters in Aidsfield, Port Wenn, Midsomer County, Oxford and, as of last year, Australia. To sightsee, of course, but mostly to immerse herself in the cultures portrayed in these great detective series.

As Maggy says, "Knowledge is Free, Bring your Own Container."

■ Did You Know?

There are now 583 Partners who have joined our Legacy Circle by deciding to donate to the Knowledge Endowment Fund (either through their will or with an outright donation). Their investment is helping us preserve Knowledge for tomorrow's children.



FINANCIAL HIGHLIGHTS

It's our privilege and responsibility to be accountable to our viewers and, of course, Partners. After all, you're the 'public' in public broadcasting. We happily track and share what we're up to on a regular basis. We know all healthy relationships are built on trust. That's why we go out of our way to ensure we're spotlessly trustworthy.

We report on every dollar raised and spent. As you can see below, our largest source of funding is the annual provincial grant – costing each British Columbian the equivalent of one cup of coffee, once a year. And, donations from our generous Knowledge Partners cover over 1/3 of our service.

As always, we're happy to let you know what we've been up to. Feel free to contact us to request more information or visit our website for our detailed annual report showing our full audited financial statements.

Knowledge Network Financial Snapshot 2017-18

Revenues

Operating Grant from the Province of BC	6,558,429
Donations from Partners	4,509,332
Endowment Contributions from Partners	1,775,249
Other Corporate Revenue (BBC Kids, Media Partnerships)	1,847,222
Total Revenue	14,690,232

Expenses

Development	1,519,379
Programming, Brand, and Marketing	2,942,650
Broadcasting, Web, and Technical	1,963,829
Broadcast Rights	3,077,480
Corporate Administrative	1,292,456
Other Corporate Expenses (BBC Kids, Amortization)	1,611,697
Total Expenses	12,407,491

Revenue Minus Expenses	2,282,741
Endowment Contributions directed to Endowment Fund	(1,775,249)
Excess of Revenue over Expenses	507,492

Introducing your Knowledge Family members... As a Crown corporation, regulated broadcaster and Canadian charity – accountability and transparency guide everything we do. Our CEO and Board of Directors, together with our Partners, managers, staff and volunteers, make up our rather splendid Knowledge family. And, yes that includes you! Thank you for being part of this amazingly diverse community.

YOUR DOLLARS AT WORK

Knowledge is proud to be Canadian, 100% free and commercial-free – and grateful for every single person who became a Partner, like you, and put their hard-earned money where their mind is.

Over this past year, over 39,000 Partners donated \$4.5 million through the annual fund. Added to that was a portion of the interest income from the Knowledge Endowment Fund and together, it covered over 1/3 of our service! As always, the majority of this money is directed toward acquiring, commissioning and presenting programs – some of your favourites, some new and a few produced right here.

Here's a taste of the wonderful programming brought to you...by you.



MIDSOMER MURDERS

Drama

This past year, Knowledge continued to bring you classic dramas and some new favourites. The 19th season of *Midsomer Murders* returned to Knowledge with a whole slew of new and dastardly murders.

We also saw the end of *Mankell's Wallander*, Knowledge's first subtitled drama from Scandinavia and a surprise favourite of many of our Partners.

And we presented new seasons of *The Indian Doctor*, *Silent Witness* and the final season of *Lewis* among many, many others.



LEWIS



MANKELL'S WALLANDER



SILENT WITNESS



THE INDIAN DOCTOR

"I am SO PROUD of belonging to Knowledge Network! Particularly after tonight's superb Storyville Vancouver - No Fixed Address program! SINCERE THANKS TO EVERYONE WHO HAD A HAND IN IT!!! You each deserve more accolades and thanks than we can possibly deliver." - Mary Ellen, North Vancouver

Documentaries

Knowledge commissioned *Vancouver: No Fixed Address* because it reveals the untold story of one of the most pressing social issues of our time. This home-grown documentary produced by Charles Wilkinson, Tina Schliessler and Kevin Eastwood, features people from all walks of life sharing opinions and stories about the cost of housing, and it delves into reasons for rising prices. It was a success with audiences, both on-air and online and enjoyed sold-out showings at the Vancity Theatre in downtown Vancouver

Quality doesn't just happen. It takes time, expertise and support. And when it comes to the Knowledge program lineup - well, that's down to our team of programmers (with decades of experience). When faced with telling the BIG story of how globalization impacts BC and the rest of the world - this amazing team curated a brilliant series called *Globalization & Its Discontents*.

Shown over a ten week period, this collection of eye-opening documentaries, explored globalization, trade and its affect here at home. Series like these underline the essential role of public broadcasting in a time of "fake news" and "alternative facts". Thanks to you, Knowledge remains a trusted source for programming in British Columbia.

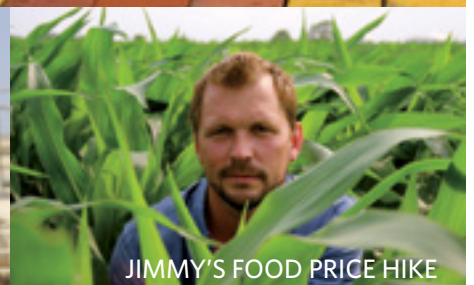
"We wish to congratulate and thank Knowledge Network for showing *Freightened: The Real Price of Shipping*. It was a very informative program about an area of the economy that I was unaware of and the health, environmental and economic impacts that it causes. As upsetting as it was to watch, it was a valuable education about an important issue. We hope to see other shows of this caliber on our cherished Knowledge Network BC in the near future."

- David, Aberdeen

PLANET OIL



JIMMY'S FOOD PRICE HIKE



"Exodus: Our Journey to Europe – This was an absolutely amazing documentary. Just stunningly excellent. It is almost impossible for TV news, or a newspaper, to get the incredible depth of the terribly, nearly unbearable, challenges they have had to endure." – Sue, Kelowna

Storyville

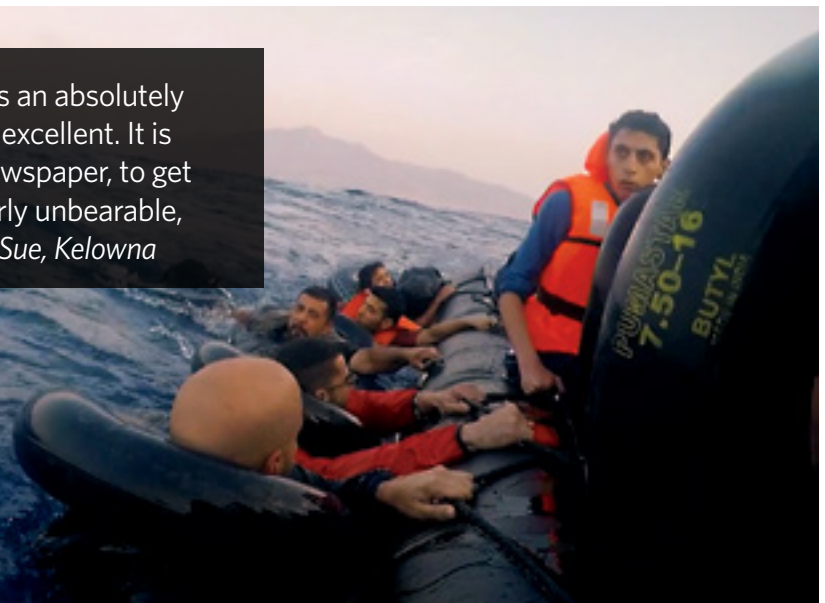
Your support helped us make Tuesday night extra-special. Why? Well, since January, 2018 we've been able to double our offering of popular Storyville documentaries (on air and online). That's twice the space for our very own storytellers!

These documentaries confront controversial issues in an informative, entertaining and emotional light. Thanks to you, BC and Canadian storytellers can continue challenging viewers to change the way they see the world.

Eden

This year, Knowledge brought Mother Nature home. Strikingly beautiful programs showcased amazing places from around the world – many too remote to visit.

From *Frozen Planet* to *The Canary Islands* to *Wildest Latin America* we discovered the hidden stories, the diversity of species, and the fragile place that is planet Earth.



NINTH FLOOR



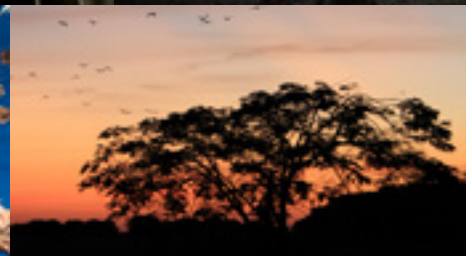
FOR DEAR LIFE



FRACTURED LAND



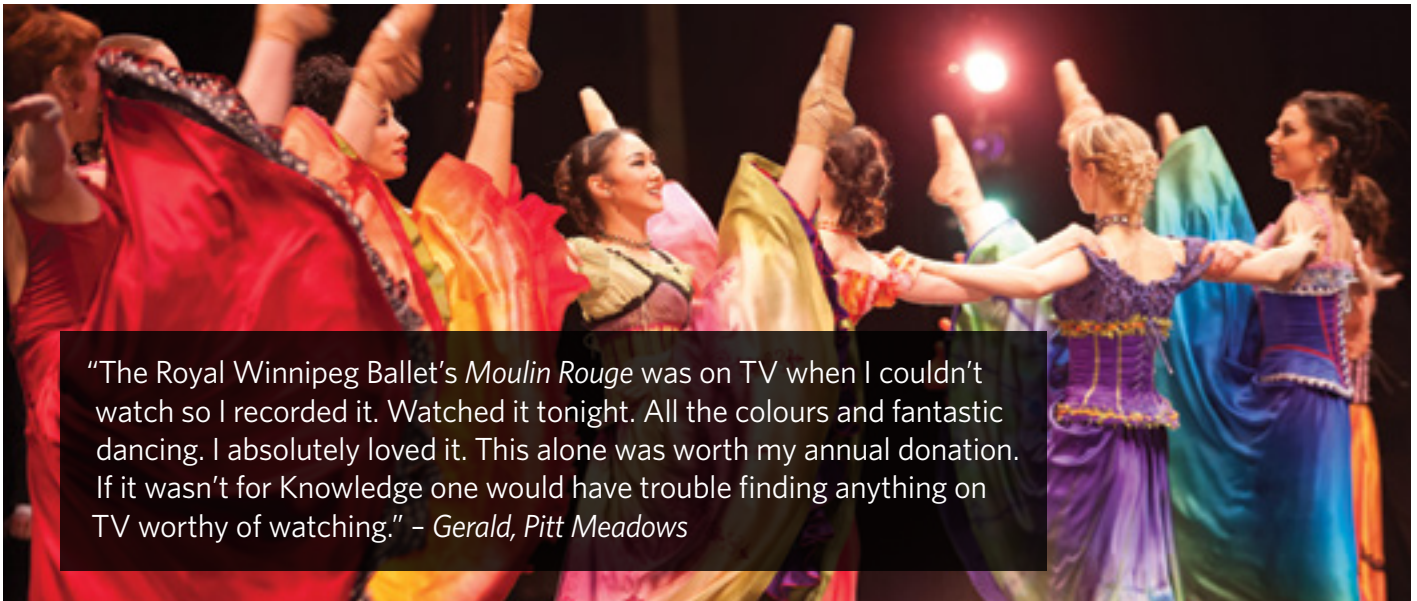
THE CANARY ISLANDS



WILDEST LATIN AMERICA



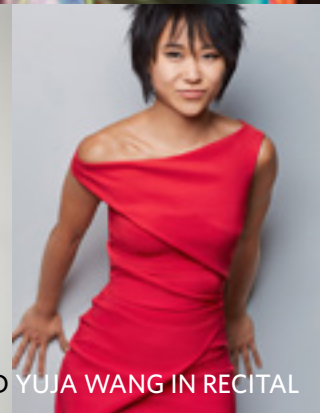
FROZEN PLANET



"The Royal Winnipeg Ballet's *Moulin Rouge* was on TV when I couldn't watch so I recorded it. Watched it tonight. All the colours and fantastic dancing. I absolutely loved it. This alone was worth my annual donation. If it wasn't for Knowledge one would have trouble finding anything on TV worthy of watching." – Gerald, Pitt Meadows

Radio City

This year Knowledge provided viewers with front-row seats to world-class ballet and concerts. Including the Royal Winnipeg Ballet's original *Moulin Rouge*, a romantic, dazzling full-length ballet by one of the world's premiere dance companies.



GAUGUIER CAPUÇON AND YUJA WANG IN RECITAL

Knowledge Kids

Thank you for helping Knowledge provide 100% commercial and worry-free programming for our littlest viewers. Knowledge Kids is tickled pink to offer programs like *Wild Kratts*, *Helen's Little School* and *Genius Genie*.

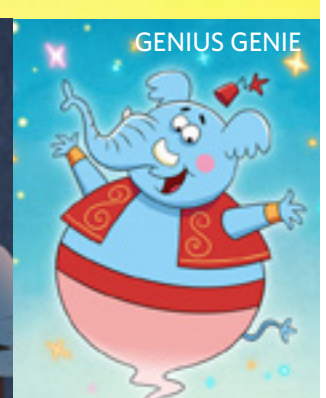
Programs like these teach children about the world and people around them through cooperation, empathy, friendship and problem solving. A healthy serving of smart magic... thanks to you.



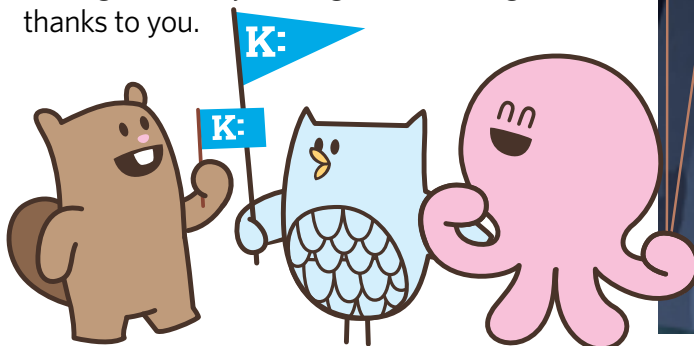
HELEN'S LITTLE SCHOOL



WILD KRATTS



GENIUS GENIE





BORGEN

Looking Ahead

Watch your screens for these exciting new programs heading your way soon.

Dive into Danish Political Drama

This internationally acclaimed Danish political drama is a grippingly-watchable story about the rise to power of 'Birgitte Nyborg' who becomes the prime minister of Denmark – a journey full of intriguing twists and turns.

Cuddle Up with a Good Murder

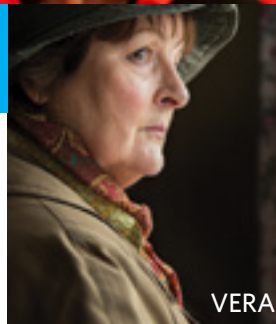
Brand new dramas are in the works, but you can also count on new episodes of your favourites including *Vera*, *Line of Duty*, *Silent Witness* and *Brokenwood*.

Paramedics: Life on the Line

Through real-life stories from the 911 call to the paramedic response on-scene and the ambulance ride to hospital, viewers will have an inside look at the challenges that the dedicated professionals of BC Emergency Health Services face daily.

Living in HOpe

This captivating and moving program captures everyday life at HOpe Psychiatry & Education Centre in North Vancouver. This series will open your eyes, heart and mind to a more compassionate way of treating mental illness; one that is full of hope.



VERA



BROKENWOOD MYSTERIES



PARAMEDICS: LIFE ON THE LINE



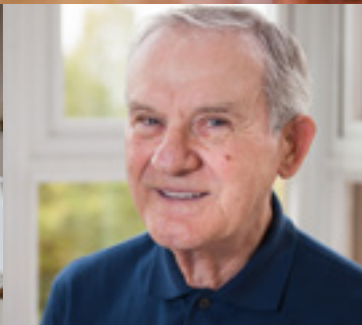
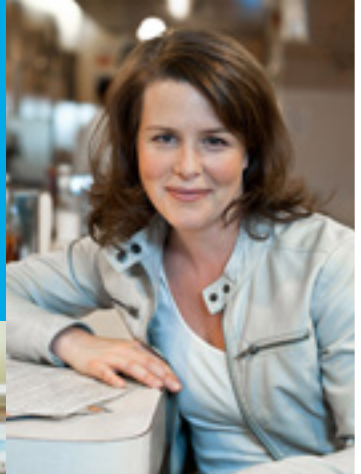
LIVING IN HOPE

THANK YOU!





We're here for you
because you're here for us.



Knowledge: Pass It On