

# CANZ

## 48 HOUR

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### FILMMAKING CHALLENGE

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# ANTIGONISH



*“Create a short film in just 48 hours”*  
**Free Community Event – Registration Required**  
**Antigonish, Nova Scotia**  
**(April 17th–19th, 2026)**

Presented  
by:



# Welcome to the **CANZ 48 Hour** Film Challenge

The **CANZ 48 Hour Film Challenge** is a community-focused event celebrating creativity, collaboration, and local storytelling through **short films that are 7 minutes or less in length**.

Whether you're an experienced filmmaker or trying filmmaking for the first time, this challenge offers a fun and supportive way to develop new skills, experiment with ideas, and work as a team. Participants of all ages are welcome, and kids are especially encouraged to get involved.

Antigonish is rich with talent, resources, and community spirit. These strengths make it a natural home for professional film productions. By taking part in this challenge, you will also help relaunch the Antigonish Film Festival—a platform that will showcase local voices while inviting established filmmakers to our community.

Together, this event aims to build connections, encourage new creative partnerships, and strengthen the future of filmmaking in Antigonish.

## How the Challenge Works

On **Friday, April 17th**, we will host a **kickoff event** in the **Community Room of the Antigonish Library** between **1:00 PM – 4:30 PM**. Your team, or a representative from your team, will **pick up a required package** needed to complete your film. Once you have received your package, the challenge begins.

**\*Optional** — *Teams are encouraged to draw a random genre for their film from a hat.*

## The Package Will Include:

### **A USB Drive**

Teams will have 48 hours to return the USB drive with their finished film saved on it. All drives must be returned. *(Teams also have an option to upload their film directly to [AntigonishFilmConnection.ca](http://AntigonishFilmConnection.ca))*

### **A Prop**

A physical item that must be displayed on screen in your film — *It does not need to be a major focus; it simply needs to make an appearance.*

### **A Line of Dialogue**

A single **themed sentence** that must be spoken by one of the actors — *or shown/read in some way if it is a silent film.*

## EVENT TIMELINE

### Event Kickoff

**Friday, April 17th**  
**1:00–4:30 PM**

**Antigonish Library (Community Room)**

### Make Your Film

**Start: Immediately after KickOff**  
**Ends: When submitted on Sunday**  
**(Strict 4:00 PM deadline)**

### Drop Off/Upload Film

**Sunday, April 19th**  
**Drop-off 1:00–4:00 PM • TBD**  
**Or submit online by 4:00 PM**

### CANZ FILM FESTIVAL

*(red carpet film premiere)*

**Sunday, April 19th**  
**5:00 PM - 9:30 PM**

**Location: 1257 North Grant - Teasdale's Mill**

# Making Your Film

After teams receive their package, they have 48 hours to write, shoot, and edit their film. (**films must be 7 minutes or less.**) They will then *upload their film directly to [AntigonishFilmConnection.ca](http://AntigonishFilmConnection.ca) or return their USB drive with the finished film to a challenge representative at on Sunday between 1:00 PM and 4:00 PM.*

## How Teams Are Formed

You can register as a **complete team**, a **partial team**, or as an **individual** looking to join a team. Using the information from the registration form, **we will build and balance teams** by matching people based on skills and needs (for example: editor, camera operator, or actor).

Part of the fun of the challenge is **meeting new people and creating together**, so don't hesitate to sign up as an individual.

**Registration closes April 10th (one week before the challenge)** to allow time to finalize and balance teams.

An **optional team meet-and-greet will take place Wednesday, April 15 from 3:30–5:30 PM** in the **Antigonish Library Community Room**. This is a chance for teams to meet and make any last-minute adjustments. Otherwise, you can connect with your team at the challenge kickoff event on April 17.

## FREE (Optional) Workshops

**Want to brush up on your filmmaking skills?**

**Sign up for one of our workshops at [AntigonishFilmConnection.ca](http://AntigonishFilmConnection.ca)**

— FREE WORKSHOP —

### Writing a No-Budget Short Film



Learn how to write a short film you can produce with the resources around you. Perfect for anyone interested in storytelling or preparing for the **CANZ 48 Hour Film Challenge**.

**Date:** Saturday, April 11 (1:00 PM – 3:30 PM)  
**Location:** Antigonish Library (Meeting Room)



— FREE WORKSHOP —

### HOW TO MAKE A FILM IN 48 HOURS



Learn the essential strategies for completing a short film in a single weekend. This workshop covers how to quickly develop an idea, plan a simple production schedule, use the resources around you, and adapt when things don't go as planned.

Perfect preparation for the **CANZ 48 Hour Film Challenge** and a great introduction to fast, creative filmmaking.

**Date:** Tuesday, April 14 (3:30 PM – 7:30 PM)  
**Location:** Antigonish Library (Meeting Room)



— FREE WORKSHOP —

### MAKE A SCENE: Camera, Sound, and Editing

Optional: Bring your own camera, phone, or laptop to work with.



A hands-on beginner workshop where you will learn the basics of filming a scene. Work through simple camera setups, sound recording, and basic editing while creating a short two-person scene.

Perfect for anyone curious about filmmaking or preparing for the **CANZ 48 Hour Film Challenge**.

**You can make a scene using only your phone!**

**Date:** Sunday, April 12 (1:00 PM – 4:00 PM)  
**Location:** Fisheries and Oceans Canada  
2920 Old Hwy 104



— FREE EVENT —

### TEAM BUILDING MEET AND GREET FOR CANZ 48 HOUR FILM CHALLENGE



Connect with other participants before the **CANZ 48 Hour Film Challenge** begins. Meet your teammates or find collaborators if you're still building a team.

Come catch the buzz, ask questions, and get inspired. Light snacks will be available and we'll screen a few sample 48 hour film projects.

**Date:** Wednesday, April 15 (3:30 PM – 5:30 PM)  
**Location:** Antigonish Library (Community Room)



## Important Information About Writing Scripts

There are many versions of 48-Hour Film Challenges, and most do not allow scripts to be written in advance.

We **DO allow it**, but there is a caveat.

If you choose to produce a pre-written original script, you are responsible for building your own team in advance, as convincing other participants to follow a pre-planned vision is not part of the open collaborative spirit. — The writer of the script must be a member of the team.

Part of the fun of an open 48 Hour Film Challenge is collaborating with new people and quickly improvising a story that works. It is not about perfection. To allow more people to participate, our only requirement is that the film must be shot and edited within the 48-hour challenge period.

Pre-written scripts must still include the **prop** and **required line of dialogue**.

## No hassle with Licensing, Titles, and Credits

Because the challenge is followed by a **free and private red-carpet screening (Canz Film Festival)** with only the filmmakers and their plus ones, the challenge does **not require licensed music**. So feel free to use your favourite song. And adding titles and credits can be a real time-stealer for new filmmakers, so it is not required for **CANZ**.

## Film Submission

Completed films can be **submitted online at [AntigonishFilmConnection.ca](http://AntigonishFilmConnection.ca)**, or **returned on a USB drive to a 48h challenge representative between 1:00 PM and 4:00 PM on Sunday**.

**Both submission methods have a strict 4:00 PM deadline on April 19th**, so please plan accordingly to ensure your film arrives on time.

## Taking your film from **CANZ** to **ANTIGONISH FILM FESTIVAL**



All films created during the CANZ challenge will be invited to screen at the new **Antigonish Film Festival** launching this fall.

Before a film can be officially included in the fall festival program, teams will have the opportunity to update their films by: *Replacing any temporary music with royalty-free or properly licensed music, adding proper credits for cast and crew, making any additional edits or improvements they would like before the final festival submission.*

This gives filmmakers time/option to polish their work after the fast-paced 48-hour challenge.

# CANZ Film Festival

*"Admission is a voluntary canned food donation for the Community Fridge"*



After an intense weekend of filmmaking, it's time to celebrate at **our own playfully silly version of a Cannes-style red carpet event** — and maybe even win a coveted "Palm Door."

All teams participating in the challenge are invited to an exclusive screening event **for filmmakers and their plus ones. This is a private celebration** for challenge participants, giving everyone involved the first chance to see the films created over the weekend. **The wider public will have an opportunity to see the films at a later date.**

This is your moment to dress up, walk the red carpet, and enjoy the spotlight. For one night, the filmmakers are the stars.



The evening will be hosted by **Teasdale's Art Group** members **Laura Teasdale** and **Justin Gregg**, whose quick wit and playful banter are sure to keep the red carpet lively.

## Event Details:

Location: Teasdale's Mill, 1257 North Grant, Antigonish

**Doors Open: 5:00 PM**

Filmmakers will have time to:

- \* *Walk the red carpet*
- \* *Mingle with fellow teams*
- \* *Share stories from the weekend's creative chaos*
- \* *Enjoy snacks and beverages (BYOB)*
- \* *Be entertained by our dazzling hosts.*

(Hosts may or may not completely misunderstand what a proper red carpet event is supposed to look like)

## Film Screenings

**Screenings begin at 7:00 PM sharp.** All completed films will be screened for the first time. After the screenings, we will immediately move into the awards ceremony.

## Event Schedule:

**5:00 PM — Doors open**

**7:00 PM — Film screenings start**

**After screenings — Awards ceremony**

**9:30 PM — Event concludes**

**10:00 PM — Doors close**

**Teasdale's Mill** is located across the street from **Half Cocked Brewing**.

**Click the map below to open directions to the mill in Google Maps.**





## Possible Palm Door Awards

*Awards may be invented on the spot.*  
Such awards could include:

- Best Cinematography
- Best Acting
- Best Story
- Best Directing
- Team That Had the Most Fun
- Best Use of the Prop
- Best Use of the Required Line of Dialogue
- Best Dressed Filmmaker
- Best Location
- Audience Favourite
- Most Impressive Film Made With Clearly No Sleep
- Best Use of Something That Was Definitely Not a Prop
- Best "We Shot This 10 Minutes Before Deadline" Scene
- Best Problem Solving Under Ridiculous Circumstances
- Most Unexpected Plot Twist
- Best Completely Unnecessary Explosion
- Best Improvised Line
- Best Use of a Completely Random Object
- Best Overacting
- Best Background Actor Who Wasn't Supposed to Be There
- Best Actor Who Clearly Didn't Know the Script
- Best Camera Move That Was Probably an Accident
- Most Creative Lighting Solution
- Best Use of Natural Light Because You Forgot Lights
- Best Use of Antagonish
- Best Unexpected Local Cameo
- Best Use of a Friend's House
- Most Ambitious Film
- Most Ridiculous Idea That Somehow Worked
- Most Confusing but Entertaining Film
- Most Likely to Become a Cult Classic
- Best Actor Who Didn't Know They Were in a Film
- Best Last-Minute Rewrite
- Best Scene Shot in a Panic
- Best Scene Filmed in One Take
- Most Creative Use of a Limited Budget
- Best Accidental Comedy
- Best Team Spirit
- Best Use of a Local Landmark
- Best Surprise Moment
- Best Use of Silence
- Best Running Gag
- Best Use of an Awkward Pause
- Most Memorable Character
- Best Unexpected Costume
- Best Improvised Solution to a Technical Problem
- Best Scene Shot in a Car
- Best Scene Shot Outside in the Cold
- Best "Wait... What Just Happened?" Moment

**A weekend of creativity deserves a proper celebration. Come ready to laugh, celebrate, and see what everyone managed to create in just 48 hours.**



**CANZ**  
**48 HOUR**  
FILMMAKING CHALLENGE  
**ANTIGONISH**

Register at [AntigonishFilmConnection.ca](http://AntigonishFilmConnection.ca)  
Or click the link below:

**CLICK TO REGISTER**

**Reminder:** Please consider bringing a **canned food donation for the Community Fridge** when you come to the **CANZ Screening**. Your small contribution can help support neighbours in our community.