

# CTV BEST IN SHORTS COMPETITION

Deadline: Friday, July 10, 2026 at 4:30 p.m.

Cinéfest Sudbury International Film Festival is now accepting submissions for the 2026 CTV Best in Shorts Competition.

## CTV Best in Shorts

First Place: \$1,500

Second Place: \$750

## Scholarship

\$1,250 awarded to a student enrolled in or intending to enroll in post-secondary studies

All submissions will be judged based on quality, originality, technical execution, and content. Narrative, documentary, experimental, animation, and music video projects are eligible for entry. Finalists will have their work screened to a festival audience at the 38th edition of Cinéfest Sudbury International Film Festival with an awards ceremony to follow where cash prizes will be distributed.

## RULES AND REGULATIONS

- The competition is open to filmmakers residing in Northern Ontario, except anyone who was or is: (i) a director, officer, or employee of Cinéfest Sudbury International Film Festival; (ii) a sponsor of the CTV Best in Shorts Competition (including any of their affiliates, subsidiaries, franchisees, advertising/promotional agencies, or service providers); (iii) a member of the immediate family of either Cinéfest Sudbury International Film Festival staff or a sponsor of the CTV Best in Shorts Competition (including mother, father, sister, brother, daughter, son, or spouse), regardless of where they live; or (iv) domiciled with any such person, whether related or not.
- To qualify as a Northern Ontario filmmaker, the filmmaker must: (i) currently have their primary residence in Northern Ontario and/or have lived in Northern Ontario for at least ten (10) years.
- A filmmaker is defined for the purpose of this competition as the production leader (or director) of the short film.
- Running time of the film submission must not exceed 15 minutes (including beginning and end credits).
- The filmmaker must provide one (1) hi-res digital file copy of the film (1080p, ProRes, .mp4, or AVI) on a drive, or as a digital file on media accessible by a computer (submission copies and/or digital drives will not be returned unless specifically requested, so please make sure you retain a copy of your submission—specific instructions for return must be made clear as an attachment).
- If selected for the finalists screening, Cinéfest Sudbury will create a DCP from the digital copy provided with the submission. Finalists wishing to create their own DCP or provide a new digital copy must do so before September 1, 2026. The exhibition format for the competition is DCP only.
- Entrants may submit multiple projects for consideration. However, entrants will only be eligible for one (1) cash prize.
- Professional assistance with all film submissions must be limited to consulting only. While use of professional video-editing equipment is acceptable, entrants discovered to have enlisted the services (paid or donated) of post-production facilities, services, or accredited professionals for the purpose of editing, colour correction, assembly, or who have handed over any creative control of their film for the benefit of these will be disqualified.
- Films and videos are judged based on quality, originality, technical execution, and content by a jury of impartial industry professionals. The rulings of the jury are final and are not open to appeal—a curator will select all finalists for jury consideration.
- All submissions must be labeled with the project's title, length in minutes, and the filmmaker's name, address, and phone number. Failure to do so will result in an incomplete submission.
- Entrants will be informed as to whether their project has been accepted for jury consideration. Selected finalists will be invited with one (1) guest to attend the screening and awards presentation during the 2026 edition of Cinéfest Sudbury International Film Festival, which will run September 19-27, 2026. The official date and time of the screening and presentation will be provided closer to the start of the festival.
- If selected, finalists must grant permission for use of all publicity materials to be used for promotional purposes.

# ENTRY FORM

1. Entrant's Full Name

2. Phone Number

3. Email Address

4. Mailing Address

5. Entrant's Role in Production (e.g Director, Actor, Camera Operator, Writer, etc.)

6. Runtime (15-minute max)

7. Title of Production

8. Link to Production

or USB enclosed

9. Please check the most applicable option (I am a):

Independent Filmmaker

Secondary School Student

Post-Secondary School Student

Primary/Elementary School Student

10. My entry is a school project:

Yes

No

11. Please attach a brief synopsis of your project and a short biography:

Attached

*Signature required on Page 4.*

The undersigned has read and agrees to comply with all Rules and Regulations on page 2. No whole or part of this film submission (including music and images) is in breach of any copyright owned by any person other than me. By participating in the CTV Best in Shorts Competition (for myself, heirs, executors, and administrators), I hereby accept all decisions of release, and agree to indemnify and hold harmless Cinéfest Sudbury International Film Festival, the CTV Best in Shorts sponsors (including any of their respective parents, affiliates, or subsidiaries), the competition jury, the award sponsors (including any of their respective parents, affiliates, subsidiaries, franchisees, advertising/promotional agencies, service providers, and each of their respective directors, officers, employees, and agents) from and against any and all liability or legal action of any kind whatsoever concerning the CTV Best in Shorts Competition.

I agree that by entering the CTV Best in Shorts Competition, I provide irrevocable consent to the use by Cinéfest Sudbury International Film Festival and all sponsors (including any of their respective parents, affiliates, subsidiaries, franchisees, advertising/promotional agencies, and/or service providers) of my submission, name, address (city, province), voice, photograph, or any likeness for advertising or publicity purposes in any medium, including on the internet, and to the use of statements made by or attributed to me relating to the CTV Best in Shorts Competition, without notice or compensation.

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Signature

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Date

*Please submit a hi-res digital file of your project(s) as a 1080p ProRes, .mp4, or .avi file along with your application to [cinefest@cinefest.com](mailto:cinefest@cinefest.com) or on a USB drive with your application to:*

RE: CTV Best in Shorts  
Cinéfest Sudbury International Film Festival  
40 Larch Street, Unit 103  
Sudbury, ON P3E 5M7

**Deadline for Entries:** Friday, July 10, 2026 at 4:30 p.m.

*\*All film submissions must be labeled with the project title and entrant's name.*

Festival Presenter



Major Sponsor

