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News Feed

Force Four puts "Village on a Diet" for CBC
Vancouver-based Force Four Entertainment is tackling obesity in a town in British Columbia, with the entire town agreeing to lose one ton of collective weight in a three month period for *Village On A Diet*, premiering on January 3 on CBC Television. The ten-part series has a team of experts on board, including a physician, chef, psychologist and trainers, in order to help the people of Taylor, B.C. succeed in the weight-loss quest. CBC will also air a special one-hour update episode once the season has ended. John Ritchie, EP and partner of Force Four Entertainment, says, "It's much more than a TV series. We are telling the dramatic stories of the people of Taylor and with CBC we're hoping to create a movement to inspire Canadians to make healthier choices for themselves, their families, and their communities."

Sky 3D and Sir David Attenborough team up for 'Penguin Island 3D'
Sky 3D has announced a 3D documentary in collaboration with Sir David Attenborough, a second partnership between the two after *Flying Monsters 3D*. *Penguin Island 3D* follows King penguins in South Georgia and the wildlife that the penguins co-exist with, all narrated by Attenborough. Produced by Atlantic Productions, the feature documentary will debut on Sky 3D and have a cinema run before airing in 2D on Sky Atlantic HD. *Penguin Island 3D* was commissioned by Celia Taylor, head of factual and features at Sky, and will be produced by Anthony Geffen, CEO of Atlantic Productions.

Animal Planet gets 'Infested!' with Darlow Smithson
Animal Planet has commissioned Darlow Smithson Productions to produce a three-part miniseries, *Infested!* The miniseries will feature true stories of infestation victims, with macro-lens photography and recreations of the mice, scorpions, bedbugs, rats, roaches and more that terrorized people's homes. Nick Metcalfe is the series editor of *Infested!*, with Tom Brisley as EP for Darlow Smithson. Lisa Lucas is the executive producer for Animal Planet and Marc Etkind is the vice president of development for Animal Planet. International sales will be handled by Endemol Worldwide Distribution.

"Last Train Home," two NFB shorts make TIFF's top ten
Lixin Fan's moving *Last Train Home* is the sole documentary in the annual listing of the top ten Canadian films from the Toronto International Film Festival (TIFF). Two shorts from the National Film Board of Canada made the grade for the top ten Canadian shorts of the year: *I Was a Child of Holocaust Survivors* by Anne Marie Fleming and Theodore Ushev's animated documentary *Lipsett Diaries*. Both lists were selected by juries featuring filmmakers, journalists, programmers and industry professionals.

"I, Predator" to be released on Animal Planet, video game simultaneously
In a multimedia first, *I, Predator* will launch on Animal Planet as a six-part TV series and as a video game from KUMA Games on the same day, January 11. *I, Predator* is a 3D episodic animal vs. animal game, and its first episode will be "Great White Shark vs. Cape Fur Seal." In the TV series, viewers will experience the fierce competition for survival from the eyes of some of the world's greatest beasts. The multi-player game can be downloaded for free at www.AnimalPlanet.com or at www.KumaGames.com, and players will live and compete as prey and then predator.
"Our joint venture with KUMA Games enabled us to create the first truly 360 degree sensory experience, allowing our audience to feel the raw and visceral power of a predator in action," says Marc Etkind, Animal Planet's vice president of development.

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