



CANADIAN LEARNING TELEVISION

For Immediate Release

CLT Presents
American Myths
What Canadians think they know about the USA

November 3, 2005 – Let's admit it, most Canadians think we're better than Americans. We think we're more peaceful, more tolerant, more humane, we even think we're more egalitarian. Some of us have even voiced such harsh anti-American views that we've been fired for it. But do the facts support our national assumptions?

Airing this November on **CLT (Canadian Learning Television)**, in conjunction with a series of articles running in ***The National Post***, ***American Myths*** examines the attitudes that Canadians have about Americans and, by extension, ourselves. Produced in partnership with the **Dominion Institute** and hosted by Dominion Institute Executive Director **Rudyard Griffiths**, ***American Myths*** gets to the heart of what makes Canadians and Americans different and what makes us the same.

"*American Myths* is another outstanding example of the educationally stimulating and socially relevant programming that is the hallmark of our collaboration with the Dominion Institute," says **Ross Mayot**, VP, Learning Services, Access Media Group. "Amusing and enlightening, this series scrutinizes the facts and fiction that constitute Canada's national identity."

***American Myths* airs in five parts on November 12th, 14th, 15th, 16th and 17th at 10:30pm ET on CLT:**

Peacekeeping

Canadians are the peacekeepers and Americans are the fighters, right? Maybe not. University of Toronto political scientist Steven Clarkson and military historian Jack Granatstein join Rudyard Griffiths in examining the roles of America and Canada in world peacekeeping.

Saturday, November 12th at 10:30pm ET

Just Society

We think of Canada as a kinder gentler nation, home to the "just society," but the United States pioneered the welfare state in the 1930s, and it took Canada decades to catch up. *National Post* political columnist Andrew Coyne and activist and social commentator Judy Rebick discuss the question of which is the more just society.

Monday, November 14th at 10:30pm ET

Multiculturalism

They call their country a melting pot and we call ours a mosaic, but is America the true multicultural experiment? Rudyard Griffiths asks *Toronto Star* editor emeritus Haroon Siddiqui and journalist and poet Clifton Joseph how these two approaches to multiculturalism work in practice.

Tuesday, November 15th at 10:30pm ET

Democracy

The United States is the world's oldest continuous democracy and we're close behind. Rudyard Griffiths asks *National Post* political columnist Andrew Coyne and pollster and political advisor Allan Gregg which nation has built a more responsive, effective, accountable democracy?

Wednesday, November 16th at 10:30pm ET

- More -

Values

Do American and Canadian values really differ? The greatest myth Canadians nurture may be that our defining principles are radically different from those of Americans. Author and journalist columnist Linda McQuaig and *National Post* culture columnist Robert Fulford join host Rudyard Griffiths to answer the question: What if our nations are far closer than any Canadian would like to admit?

Thursday, November 17th at 10:30pm ET

The Dominion Institute is a national charity dedicated to the promotion of greater knowledge and understanding of Canada's history, politics and civic identity. *American Myths* is the third television co-production that the Dominion Institute has undertaken with Canadian Learning Television. Funding for the television component of *American Myths* was generously provided the Donner Canadian Foundation and the Canadian Defence and Foreign Affairs Institute. For more information on the Dominion Institute, its mission and programmes, visit www.dominion.ca

CLT (Canadian Learning Television) is Canada's only national educational television specialty service. CLT provides entertaining, informative and educational programs to adult viewers and lifelong learners in all parts of Canada. CLT is owned and operated by **access media group**. For more information about CLT, log on to www.clt.ca.

access media group (www.accesslearning.com), a television broadcasting and multimedia learning company, is the owner and operator of ACCESS, CLT, BookTelevision, CourtTV Canada, The Learning Annex, Distribution Access and ideaCity. **access media group** is owned by **CHUM Limited**.

- 30 -

For further information, or preview cassettes, please contact:

Pam Hnytka

Publicist

CLT | ACCESS | BookTelevision | CourtTV Canada

Tel 780-440-8871

pamh@incentre.net