

My First Shot

A Feature Film from The Land Between

**MEDIA
BACKGROUND**

Set in a region that tells the story of rural North America

The Land Between region is a meeting place. A meeting place of deer and moose, of cottontail and wolf, woodchuck and martin, of mosquito and blackfly. It is also a meeting place of people: historically of Mississauga and Mohawk, then of First Nation and European settler, and now too of city and country dweller. Therefore it is a meeting place of diverse perspectives and practices; of Liberal and Conservative; of jet-setter and maple syrup maker; and of hunter and non-hunter. As an area with varied viewpoints, this region can be a place of conflict and contention or a place of learning and of wisdom.

The Land Between organization has a mandate to not only conserve the diversity of the region, but to celebrate it...and not simply the ecology and nature of the area, but the culture and the social-economy of this place. As such we have embarked on a pivotal venture to explore the cultural and ecological practise and perspectives around hunting. Hunting, after all is integral to the residents of the Land Between region, but also as part of the fabric of rural north America; and while the city-dweller and seasonal resident is rarely a hunter and has a very different experience of gathering food or experiencing the wilds. And while this dichotomy is felt more strongly in this landscape because of its constricted location, but it touches on the same issues facing much of North America.

To experience hunting through a new and unbiased lens, we sent Erin Carmody, a young woman from California, now living in Toronto, with advanced degrees in Psychology and Environmental Science, who used to be a vegan, and has tracked an animal in the woods. And then we sent her hunting with folks in Kawartha Lakes and Haliburton. This is truly a story of city meets country. Through interviews with experts, the feature film also explores hunting heritage; the evolution and current perspectives on hunting as well as the relationship that hunting has to conservation.



An unbiased exploration that creates the stadium for fair dialogue

The film delivers a platform for open and fair dialogue on issues that are often misjudged or where bias bars the doors to understanding. The film, "My First Shot", is feature length and will be released in the spring of 2017. Local screenings will be held in the winter of 2016, DVDs made available, and broadcasting will follow. The Land Between's previous TV broadcast series had the highest public broadcasting ratings reaching over 600,000 homes. This film will reach a broader audience with messages and issues that extend beyond provincial borders.

If you are interested in supporting our goals to reach viewers across the country and build bridges of communication by donating, or through sponsoring the documentary and receiving additional benefits of advertising and promotions, visit www.myfirstshot.ca call Leora Berman, Executive Producer and Media Relations at 705-457-4838 or email manager@thelandbetween.ca