



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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ALTERNA SAVINGS CRACKUP ANNOUNCES COMPLETE COMEDY FESTIVAL LINEUP FOR 2017

[Ottawa, ON] – Alterna Savings Crackup, is excited to announce the complete Canada 150 line-up of comedy events and shows for its 13th annual festival. Taking place February 7 to February 18, 2017, we will be hosting a variety of paid and free programming throughout the week including:

- A new attempt to beat the Guinness World Record for the most snowmen built in one hour,
- family friendly outdoor activities in the Glebe, as well as,
- nightly comedy shows in various locations around the city at the Arena @ TD Place, Algonquin Commons Theatre, Shenkman Arts Centre and Rideau Carleton Raceway.

We are welcoming some of the biggest names in Canadian comedy such as Ron James, Jeremy Hotz, Mary Walsh, Jonny Harris, Big Daddy Tazz, and more! In addition, we are also paying a special tribute to John Candy by presenting his family with our Comedy Legend Award and a Crackup Comedy Gala hosted by Sophie Grégoire Trudeau and Mary Walsh as part of our celebration of Canada's 150th.

To view our full line-up or to purchase your tickets, visit crackup.ca.

Our headline events include:

Ron James In Concert!

When: Friday, February 17, 2017

Where: Arena @ TD Place

Featuring: Ron James!

Comedy Night in Canada – Festival Finale

When: Saturday, February 18, 2017

Where: Arena @ TD Place

Featuring: Jeremy Hotz, Jonny Harris, Debra DiGiovanni, Mark Forward, Derek Seguin, Sharron Matthews, and our 2 Local Comedy Competition Winners

SPECIAL CANADA 150 FEATURE: Join us in a special tribute and presentation of our Comedy Legend Award for John Candy as part of our celebration of Canada's 150th. Help us honour this legendary Canadian Comedian with a presentation to his family.

Crackup for Mental Health, presented by the Mental Health Commission of Canada (MHCC)

When: Thursday, February 16, 2017

Where: Arena @ TD Place

Featuring: Mary Walsh, Big Daddy Tazz, Carla Collins, James Mullinger, Sharron Matthews, and John Wing.



Crackup Comedy Gala and John Candy Tribute

When: Sunday, February 12

Hosted by: Sophie Gregoire-Trudeau and Mary Walsh, MC Patrick McKenna

The rest of our hilarious and line-up includes:

Crackup Comedy Competitions Finals – Absolute Comedy

When: Tuesday, February 7, 2017

Where: Absolute Comedy

Featuring: Aba Atlas, Timothy Riel, Logan Avery-Cooper, Steve Love, Heather Hurst, Andrew Packer, MC – Rachelle Elie plus a guest feature act, Nick Reynoldson

Crackup Comedy Competitions Finals – Yuk Yuks Ottawa

When: Wednesday, February 8, 2017

Where: Yuk Yuks Ottawa

Featuring: Greg Shroeder, Greg Stringer, Mark Hatfield, Ben Hagel, Jenn Labelle, Kamar Hardagon, Mc – Rachelle Elie plus a guest feature act, Jon Stienberg

Diversity Show

When: Thursday, February 9, 2017

Where: Rideau Carleton Raceway

Featuring: Danish Anwar, Martha Chaves, Don Kelly, Ron Josol, and Arthur Simeon

Women of Comedy

When: Friday, February 10, 2017

Where: Rideau Carleton Raceway

Featuring: Les Bunheads, The Sue's, Melanie Brûlée, Christel Bartelse, Deanne Smith, Martha Chaves

Crackup Snowmania Challenge

When: Saturday, February 11, 2017

Time: 11am – 1pm

Where: TD Place Field

A variety of programming in the Glebe

When: Saturday, February 11, 2017

Where: Various venues featuring Buskers and outdoor entertainment

Second City All-Stars

When: Saturday, February 11, 2017

Where: Algonquin Commons Theatre

Featuring: Neil Crone, Katherine Greenwood, Linda Kash, Patrick McKenna Ed Sahaley

The 2 Solitudes Comedie Spectacle (bilingual show)



When: Wednesday, February 15, 2017

Where: Shenkman Arts Centre

Featuring: Derek Seguin, Ali Hassan, Mike Patterson, Julien Tremblay, Melanie Couture

About Alterna Savings Crackup

Alterna Savings Crackup has been presenting comedy for a cause shows for the past 13 years in Ottawa. Formerly named, Cracking-up the Capital, it began as a one-night comedy show and has grown into a two week-long festival that takes place during Winterlude.

With the help of our sponsors, community partners, media partners, and our supporters, Alterna Savings Crackup has raised over \$175, 000 in support of local mental health initiatives.

With the support of the United Way Ottawa, this year's festival will benefit Amethyst Women's Addiction Centre, Causeway, the Dave Smith Youth Treatment Centre, Do It for Daron (DIFD) at The Royal, Partners for Mental Health, and the Wabano Centre for Aboriginal Health.

With the assistance of the Mental Health Commission of Canada, this year the festival is able to present a unique show for the people who work tirelessly to support and to destigmatize mental health in our community.

Our comedy festival title sponsor Alterna Savings has made a strong, three-year commitment to Crackup. "This sponsorship aligns with Alterna's commitment to building healthy and strong communities." said Rob Paterson, President and CEO, Alterna Savings. "We are proud to support this unique initiative that both enhances the arts and culture scene in the National Capital Region, while lending a much-needed hand to mental health awareness and resourcing."

We are thrilled to partner with Alterna Savings." said John Helmky, President of Cracking-Up the Capital Comedy Festival. "We look forward to working with them to bring our event to new heights. It will allow us to spread our message of de-stigmatizing mental illness to even more people in hopes of cracking open doors for those seeking help."

We look forward to seeing you at our 2017 events. For more information and to purchase your tickets visit our website: www.crackup.ca.

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