

Littleton Falls

Settler Village

Playing 112 years of history,
one awkward moment at a time.



comedycoup.cbc.ca-littleton-falls-settler-village

Series Writer - Andrew Steven Legg

A character-driven comedy with a dose of drama

about the converging lives of the actors, support staff, townspeople and tourists in a struggling Canadian historical interpretive village.

*Intended audience demographic: Canadian men & women between 18 and 45.

*CBC primetime

*Episode length: 30 minute Canadian Broadcast

*13 episodes per season

Series Synopsis

You're in Grade Four and the teacher has just announced the annual field trip: **Littleton Falls Settler Village**. Picture: the fervent local historian describing bathing conditions in 1892; Acne-faced actors in recycled costumes; a leaky warehouse of priceless artifacts; The Quebecois underwear model/blacksmith; Management that would sell a vital organ for a shot at a government grant; Spiteful neighbours; Sweaty tourists.

Littleton Falls Settler Village follows its storied inhabitants from the spring thaw to the September long weekend.

The viewers learn to love these misfits as they watch them smile through their tears, navigate the burrs under their saddles, endure weather dependant cell reception, hair-trigger personalities, all the while trying to make their daily toil of a settler in 1902 more compelling than the bathroom.

In the first episode we witness Ty: Expectant father, newly appointed Artistic Director and one-man marketing department, as he negotiates bad wiring, recasting summer interpreters, hateful neighbors and Revenue Canada. In preparing for the imminent summer season he takes it all in stride... like a man walking to the gallows.

Each episode follows one character. Everything from the film style, to the dialogue, to the interactions, lean into that characters world. For example: Kathleen, the Toronto musical theatre diva's episode nods to Broadway musicals, Glee, city-country tension, and features a belting showstopper...to an audience of six.

LFSV follows the first three rules of business: Location, Location, Location. It's shot on location in a combination of three different sites: The Scandia Eastern Irrigation District Museum, the hamlet of Rosebud and the Atlas Coal Mine Historic Site. The look of the buildings is that of a weather-beaten film set from a never aired *Little House on the Prairie* spin off from the early 70's. It has never been fully retrofitted with useless luxuries like electricity, heat or a septic system. Attractions include the Old Water Wheel, the Opera House and the Blacksmith Shop, however the 'Falls' only get turned on for special occasions.

This production feature is filmed in HD featuring extended interpreter performances, layered shots with character-based sight gags in the background, character reveals, pull out juxtaposition shots. Shot in the style of *Community* or *Arrested Development*.

This is not an overplayed 'set up-punchline' formulaic sitcom. There are no jokes. This is your best friends ten thousand and forty-nine peccadillos in an antique pressure cooker. The humour is a traffic jam at the corner Earnest and Desperate.

Everyone in the western hemisphere has been there, if only to use the washroom. Witness the struggle of a community doing the best job it can against the absurd odds of imparting local history in a captivating way. Careful. If you look close enough you'll see yourself there.

