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**TRIO ORANGE TO ADAPT ACCLAIMED ESSAY ABOUT LAC MÉGANTIC  
TRAGEDY INTO A DOCUMENTARY SERIES  
DIRECTED BY OSCAR NOMINEE PHILIPPE FALARDEAU**

**Montréal (QC), May 30, 2019** — Trio Orange is proud to announce the upcoming adaptation of *Mégantic. Une tragédie annoncée*, the acclaimed essay by Anne-Marie Saint-Cerny, into a documentary series directed by Oscar nominee Philippe Falardeau (*Monsieur Lazhar*) and produced by Annie Sirois.

Development work will begin shortly, with author Anne-Marie Saint-Cerny acting as content consultant. Researcher and activist Saint-Cerny spent five years tracing the chain of events leading to what is now known as the Lac Mégantic tragedy, which unfolded on July 6, 2013. Written in the style of a classic whodunit, the book based on an extremely thorough investigation tries to shed light on numerous issues that still are left unexplained. From Wall Street to Big Oil and the complacency of politicians in the wake of the disaster, Saint-Cerny takes us deep into the heart of the story. And what if capitalism were to blame for this terrible debacle?

“When I read *Mégantic*, I was outraged,” says director Philippe Falardeau. “And the only solution to this outrage was to act upon it, and to turn Anne-Marie Saint-Cerny's tremendous work into a riveting series. *Mégantic* was a predictable and foreseen catastrophe. And what's even worst is that it will happen again. We must reject the premise that it was an accident caused by human error. This disaster was brought about by boundless commercial greed, pure and simple. Further, this same basely mercantile attitude stripped victims of their rightful ownership during reconstruction. I intend to create a series that will go beyond *Mégantic* to denounce the system in which we live.”

Carlos Soldevila, President and Executive Producer of Trio Orange, is thrilled to collaborate with the award-winning director and author on this series. “It's a true privilege to work with Philippe Falardeau and Anne-Marie Saint-Cerny on this ambitious project. This tragic event definitely put *Mégantic* on the map, and the series is bound to have a strong emotional impact.”

Published in June 2018 by Éditions Écosociété, *Mégantic. Une tragédie annoncée* was a finalist at the 2018 Governor General's Awards. Écosociété is an independent publishing house established

in 1992 by a group of activists who wish to include social ecology as a fundamental value of society. The publishing house's mission is to cultivate knowledge and create possibilities.

-30-

**About Trio Orange**

Trio Orange, a Canadian leader in television and digital production, is showcasing its creativity through varied youth content, documentaries, fiction and magazine series. Skilled at developing valuable partnerships in Canada and abroad, Trio Orange produces over 20 series each year, which are sold in more than 30 countries.

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