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Brightlight shines for 'Corner Gas'

Vancouver co. to co-produce Brent Butt film

By [BRENDAN KELLY](#)

Brightlight Pictures of Vancouver has pacted with actor/writer/producer Brent Butt's Sparrow Media to co-produce his first film.

Butt -- who writes and stars in "Corner Gas," Canada's top-rated homegrown comedy -- will star in the as-yet-untitled pic and will serve as co-producer with Brightlight principals Shawn Williamson and Stephen Hegyes.

Williamson revealed few details of the script, which Butt is writing now, except to say it's not a bigscreen version of "Corner Gas," a CTV series about folks who congregate at a gas station in a small town in Saskatchewan.

"What we're doing is we're tapping into his brain and the pages so far look spectacular," said Williamson. "We are thrilled to be making a picture with the funniest man in Canada. But he also understands the commercial sensibilities of what it takes to sell a pic."

The pic will likely shoot next spring. No U.S. or Canadian distributor is yet on-board but there is plenty of interest on both sides of the U.S./Canadian border, per Williamson.

"Corner Gas," which airs on WGN in the U.S., is set to wrap after next season. Butt will be honored at this week's Banff World Television Festival with the Comedy Network's Sir Peter Ustinov Award.