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The Cupcake Girls and Food Inc. serve up tasty Sunday TV options

By Erin Steele

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The Cupcake Girls.

Whether you are concerned about corporate control of our food system, or you'd like to kick back and bite into the origins of a homemade cupcake, both topics will be explored on TV in the next couple of weeks.

The Cupcake Girls is a reality show that follows cofounders and lifelong best friends Heather White and Lori Joyce through the day-to-day trials and tribulations of handling their quickly-expanding Vancouver cupcake franchise.

Between White's aloof father driving the delivery truck, and the constant banter and different mindsets of the two friends, the show offers a seemingly scripted yet endearing look into the lives of entrepreneurs without business backgrounds who struggle to balance their personal lives with the needs of three corporate and three franchise locations.

White and Joyce brought the idea for a reality show to Vancouver-based Force Four Entertainment, which then successfully pitched it to the network.

The Cupcake Girls premieres this Sunday (April 4) at 9 p.m. on W Network with two back-to-back episodes.

On the following Sunday (April 11), *Food Inc.*, the Oscar-nominated look at the American food industry from filmmaker Robert Kenner, airs on CBC News Network.

The chilling documentary explores factory farms and the inhumane, mass production of food from animals. The premise is that a handful of corporations control the food supply and put profit ahead of everything, including worker safety, the environment, and consumer health.

Directed and produced by Kenner, and co-produced by investigative-journalist Eric Schlosser, who wrote *Fast Food Nation*, the film includes frightening footage of meat-packing operations and blunt interviews with farmers, factory workers, consumer advocates, and industry people who have spoken out.

Food Inc. tracks the journey of food you buy from the grocery store, and is a must-see film for anybody unsure of how their dinner got to their plate. The movie airs at 10 p.m. as part of *The Passionate Eye* documentary series.