

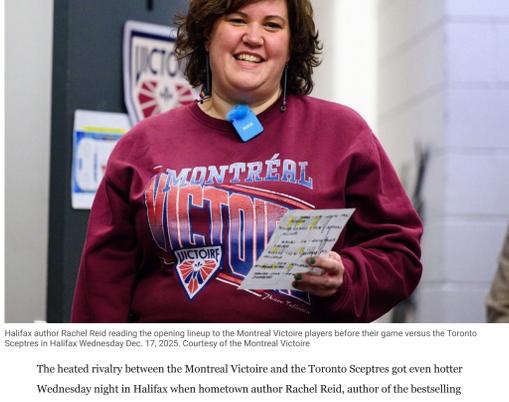
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Bestselling Heated Rivalry author Rachel Reid heats up the Victoire dressing room in Halifax

Reid's book *Heated Rivalry* was adapted into the hit TV series that is already the No. 1 original series in Crave's history.

By **Brendan Kelly** • Montreal Gazette
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The heated rivalry between the Montreal Victoire and the Toronto Sceptres got even hotter Wednesday night in Halifax when hometown author Rachel Reid, author of the bestselling novel *Heated Rivalry*, turned up in the *Victoire* dressing room to read out the team's opening lineup.

Reid's book was adapted into the hit TV series of the same name, which debuted on Crave a few weeks back and is already the No. 1 original series in the history of the Bell Media-owned streaming service. *Heated Rivalry* is also topping the ratings on HBO Max in the U.S., where it is one of the top five scripted series on the platform this year. Crave announced last week that the steamy show, built around a torrid affair between two star male hockey players, has been renewed for a second season.



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HEATED HALIFAX!

L'auteure à succès Rachel Reid, chez elle à Halifax ce soir, prête sa voix à la Victoire pour un moment bien spécial. Amateurs et amatrices de Rivalité passionnée, vous ne voulez pas manquer ça!

Bestselling author Rachel Reid, home in Halifax tonight, lends [Show more](#)

Ce soir, nous avons une invitée spéciale. So we have a special guest.

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"So we have a special guest to read the lines tonight," Victoire coach Kori Cheverie said before the game Wednesday. "Her name is Rachel Reid."

And that's when the Victoire players starting whooping it up, cheering and clapping.

"And you do know her, she's the author of *Heated Rivalry*, which I'm sure you've all seen," continued Cheverie. "No. 1 on Crave, No. 1 on HBO. No. 1 in New Zealand, Australia, and a New York Times bestseller."

Reid then came in and said "This is a huge honour, thank you," before announcing the lineup, as the players clapped their hands on their legs to provide a backbeat.

Pairing the author of *Heated Rivalry* with the Montreal Victoire makes perfect sense. Reid's books appeal primarily to a female audience and so it's a good match for the very happening Professional Women's Hockey League, which is the highest-profile hockey league ever for female players. On top of that, one of the two main characters, star player Shane Hollander (Hudson Williams), plays for the fictional Montreal Metros, and Reid is a Montreal Canadiens fan, as is the series' writer-director-producer Jacob Tierney, a former Montrealer.

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And it looks like the dressing-room appearance of Reid inspired the Victoire — they won 2-1 in a shootout victorie, pun intended, with captain and women's hockey icon Marie-Philip Poulin scoring the winner in the shootout.

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Erotically-charged ads for *Heated Rivalry* have been shown a number of times on the big screen at the Bell Centre during Habs games and that has some wondering: Will the Canadiens perhaps ask Reid to come in one night and read the opening lineup before a Habs game? Astonishingly enough, there still has never been a player in the National Hockey League to come out as being openly gay.

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