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# Sophie Nélisse reflects on filming Shane's emotional coming-out scene with Hudson Williams

'Hudson is such a generous scene partner. It made it easier to be present in that moment with him,' Nélisse said

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Photo: Crave

Sophie Nélisse is opening up about one of the most pivotal and emotional moments in *Heated Rivalry*, recalling what it was like to film Shane Hollander's coming-out scene alongside co-star Hudson Williams.

The 25-year-old actress, who plays movie star Rose Landry in the hit Crave series, reflected on filming the episode five sequence where Shane confides in Rose about his sexuality — a turning point not just for the character, but for the show's broader emotional arc.

Nélisse described the moment as deeply moving, saying the scene "was one of the most emotional days on set," adding that both she and Williams wanted to approach it with honesty and care. "We really wanted to make sure it felt real and respectful to the story and to people who might see themselves in Shane," she explained.

The actress also praised her co-star's performance, noting that Williams brought "a lot of vulnerability and truth" to the role. "Hudson is such a generous scene partner. It made it easier to be present in that moment with him because he was giving so much emotionally," she said.

In the series, Shane and Ilya's secret romance unfolds against the pressures of professional hockey culture and public image, making the coming-out conversation with Rose especially significant. It marks one of the first times Shane expresses his truth openly, even if only in a private setting, and sets the stage for the emotional fallout that follows later in the season.

Nélisse emphasised that Rose's response in the scene was important to her portrayal. "I didn't want Rose to feel like an obstacle," she shared. "She cares about him, and even though it's painful, she wants him to be happy and to be himself."

*Heated Rivalry*, based on Rachel Reid's *Game Changers* novels, has become a breakout hit thanks to its blend of sports drama and LGBTQ+ romance, with critics and viewers praising its handling of intimacy and identity. The coming-out scene between Shane and Rose has been singled out as one of the show's most powerful moments, highlighting the internal conflict faced by closeted athletes and the impact of public perception on private lives.

As the series continues to gain global attention, Nélisse's behind-the-scenes insight adds new depth to a storyline that has resonated strongly with audiences — and underscores why *Heated Rivalry* has quickly become one of the most talked-about queer dramas on television.



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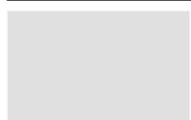


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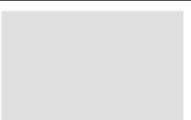
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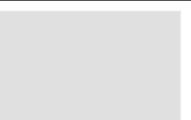
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