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Hudson Williams Is Writing a Movie That Has a Huge Tie to *Heated Rivalry*

The actor next stars in 'Yaga' and is currently writing his own movie

By **Rebecca Aizin** | Published on October 21, 2026 01:59PM EDT

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Hudson Williams attends "Making Waves With...Hudson Williams" during the 2026 Toronto International Film Festival at Royal Alexandra Theatre on September 17, 2026.
Credit : Mathew Tsang/Getty

NEED TO KNOW

Hudson Williams is writing a film about an ex-hockey player after starring in the hit show *Heated Rivalry*

The actor played hockey star Shane Hollander in the HBO Max show

Williams is also filming *Heated Rivalry* season 2 and will appear in the upcoming AMC+ thriller *Yaga*

Hudson Williams is no stranger to writing scripts, but his latest has a special tie to the show that skyrocketed him to fame.

The *Heated Rivalry* actor, 25, is currently promoting his latest project, AMC+ thriller series *Yaga*, and is in the midst of writing his next movie. Williams has previously written and directed shorts including *Soakers*, *Buttons* and *Inside Augustine Mendoza's Quotidian Apartment*, but his latest project returns to a topic he's quite familiar with: hockey.

"I'm writing a movie right now, but one character is an ex-hockey player," he told *Entertainment Weekly* in a new interview. "We were like, 'But if we have this hockey player and then you've done a hockey show...' "



Hudson Williams at the BVLGARI "Serpenti Infinito" Celebration held at BOOM on September 09, 2026 in New York.
Credit: Gilbert Flores/Variety via Getty

Williams continued, "We're getting tripped up on it and we're considering other sports, but for some reason this character just made way more sense being an ex-hockey player. It's almost like you have to bust through the prison of your own mind or construct of your own mind."

The actor starred as professional hockey star Shane Hollander opposite Connor Storrie's Ilya Rozanov in the Canadian show, which soared in popularity after its release on HBO Max in December last year. The series follows the two athletes as they navigate their romance amid their hyper-masculine professional sports world.

EW noted that when asked to elaborate on the project, Williams' team "kindly shot down the question."



Hudson Williams as Shane Hollander in episode 101 of Heated Rivalry.
Credit: Sabrina Lantos/HBO Max

Williams has a number of projects in the works, including season 2 of his beloved show, which is currently filming in Canada. Up next, he stars in two roles in *Yaga*, out on Oct. 23.

In March, *Deadline* reported that Williams will join Dylan O'Brien as the leads in *Apparatus*, a new thriller from Canadian writer-director Sofia Banzhaf. He also joined the cast of the culinary thriller *Tyrant* with Charlize Theron, Julia Garner, Demi Moore and Omar Apollo.

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According to his IMDb, Williams has eight upcoming projects — including *Heated Rivalry*.

While participating in a conversation at Toronto International Film Festival in September, Williams gave a sneak peek at what fans can expect from season 2 of the show, sharing that it'll closely follow author Rachel Reid's *Heated Rivalry* follow-up novel, *The Long Game*.

"It's a sad book," he said, per *The Hollywood Reporter*. "If season 1/book one is the yearning season, book two is external adversity and [relationship] communication problems that feel very real and human."

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The actor added, "To be able to play those as Shane, [it's] going to be frustrating and annoying to leave set [when] things are left unsaid, but hopefully it'll make for really good TV."

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