

## Hell on Wheels: New showrunner found for Alberta-shot series, Season 3 officially underway

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Cullen Bohannon (Anson Mount) - Hell On Wheels - Season 1, Episode 10 - Photo Credit: Chris Large/AMC

Posted by:  
Eric Volmers

A new showrunner has been hired to fill the shoes of John Shiban on the AMC western Hell on Wheels, which means Season 3 of the Alberta-shot Western is back on track and production will begin in April, says Calgary-based producer Chad Oakes.

John Wirth, whose past credits as a producer include Nash Bridges, Picket Fences, V and TNT's Falling Skies, will now supervise the producers and writing room of the series.

"We're looking forward to rolling up our sleeves and figuring out creatively and collectively what's going to happen with Season 3," Oakes says.

AMC has approved 10 episodes. While an exact location has not been determined, it will likely be near Okotoks, where Season 2 was shot.

"Anyone who saw the finale, will remember that Hell on Wheels went up in smoke," Oakes says. "So we'll be continuing the story right where we left off."

AMC gave Hell on Wheels' third season the green light back in late October. But after Shiban and the show's creators, Tony and Joe Gayton, left the series, the third season was put on hold until a replacement could be found.

"We're looking forward to working with John and his team," Oakes says. "Most of the writers from last year are returning, which is great."

Hell on Wheels follows the building of the Transcontinental Railroad in the U.S. and is produced by Calgary-based Nomadic Pictures, eOne Entertainment and Endermol. It stars Anson Mount, Colm Meaney and Common.