



DOCUMENTARY  
ORGANIZATION OF CANADA  
DOCUMENTARISTES  
DU CANADA

July 20th 2009  
eBLAST

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## Message from the Executive Director

### Dear DOC Members and Friends,

#### The Summer of Uncertainty

A storm's been brewing since the economy started slowing down over a year ago, and now it's pouring bad news. In the fall, there was a sense not much commissioning would happen for a while. Then in the winter, broadcasters shut down documentary units. Now in the summer, our traditional ally has cancelled a key strand - The Lens.

With the disappearance of The Lens, our sector's uncertainty continues to grow. What's in store? Where's one to turn? In one year, the documentary production landscape has completely been transformed: the disappearance of CIFVF, the announcement of CMF in combination with the disappearance of the various documentary strands has shaken-up the independent production community. How will POV docs see the light of day? Who will fund them? Where will they be shown?

Talk of a radically altered landscape giving way to new opportunities on the Internet, as reassuring as that might seem, does not comfort when it would seem that our sector is undergoing the same kind of profound reconfiguration as other North American manufacturing sectors (think pulp and paper, think auto manufacturing). Aside from the economic impact to our industry, this will have a negative cultural impact, one which all of us – documentary filmmakers and non-documentary filmmakers alike – should be concerned about.

The staff and volunteers of DOC are working hard in order to help alleviate some of the doom and gloom. We are currently neck deep in the CMF consultation process. We are preparing for the upcoming CRTC hearings into the state of the industry and the 7 year TV license renewals. We are participating in the Copyright consultations. We are currently forming a new committee to explore opportunities in the Digital frontier.

Many advocacy issues are coming up, therefore expect news shortly on how you can take part in the CMF and copyright consultations. In the meantime, there's still plenty of life to celebrate and to make films about!

Feel free to send jokes our way anytime and if you want to volunteer, feel free to get in touch with us anytime!

Lisa Fitzgibbons  
Executive Director

## Un été d'incertitude

Ce qui se tramait depuis que le ralentissement économique a commencé il y a déjà plus d'un an a finalement fini par frapper notre secteur de plein front. L'on sentait bien qu'il n'y aurait pas beaucoup de commandes de documentaire à l'automne, du moins pas pour un certain temps. Puis, à l'hiver, les télédiffuseurs ont démantelé leurs équipes documentaires et maintenant. À l'été, notre allié de longue date annonce qu'il annule un important fenêtre documentaire, The Lens.

Avec la disparition de l'émission The Lens, l'incertitude qui sévit dans le milieu continue à grandir. Que nous réserve l'avenir? Vers où peut-on se tourner? En un an, l'environnement de la production documentaire a été profondément altéré avec la disparition du FCFVI, l'annonce du FMC auquel vient s'ajouter l'élimination des émissions dédiée au documentaire. Tous ces facteurs ont profondément secoué la communauté de production indépendante. Comment les documentaires d'auteurs verront-ils le jour? Qui les financera? Où seront-ils diffusés?

La possibilité qu'un paysage radicalement transformé puisse donner lieu à de nouvelles opportunités sur l'Internet, une perspective à laquelle on voudrait bien s'accrocher, ne reconforte guère lorsque l'on pense que notre secteur est sans doute en proie à une aussi importante reconfiguration que celle du secteur manufacturier en Amérique du Nord (que l'on pense à l'industrie des pâtes et papier ou au secteur automobile). Mis à part l'impact économique sur notre secteur, c'est surtout l'impact culturel qui nous préoccupe et qui devrait tous nous préoccuper, cinéastes ou non.

Le personnel et les bénévoles de DOC travaillent ferme pour remédier aux mauvaises nouvelles. Nous sommes présentement à travailler ferme en préparation aux consultations sur le FMC. Nous nous préparons aux audiences du CRTC sur l'état de l'industrie et les renouvellements de licences pour les 7 prochaines années. Nous participons aux consultations sur la réforme sur le droit d'auteur. Et nous sommes à former un nouveau comité en vue d'explorer les opportunités réellement offertes par l'espace numérique.

Maintes questions d'ordre de représentation politique se trament, de sorte que vous pouvez vous attendre à de nos nouvelles sous peu pour prendre part aux consultations concernant le FMC et la réforme sur le droit d'auteur. Entretemps, il y a encore amplement de quoi célébrer – que ce soit la vie – ou les films!

N'hésitez pas à nous envoyer une blague de temps à autre, ou si vous avez envie de vous joindre en tant que bénévole, n'hésitez surtout pas à nous faire signe!

Lisa Fitzgibbons  
Directrice générale

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## Upcoming Events and Deadlines

Welcome to the DocAgora Webplex at [www.docagora.org](http://www.docagora.org).

DocAgora is an open space to consider new forms, new platforms, new tools, and new ways of financing creative and socially engaged documentary media - what we call docmedia. We believe that documentary is the hot now media. Documentary makers are adapting to a rapidly changing mediascape shifting beneath their reality-based feet. [Back to Top](#)

### Call For Entries: Canada Pavilion @ MIPCOM 2009

Find out more: <http://www.mipcom.com>

Telefilm Canada is currently soliciting applications from Canadian production and distribution companies for MIPCOM 2009, in Cannes France. MIPCOM is the global content event for co-producing, buying, selling, financing and distributing entertainment content across all platforms. It provides the key decision-makers in the TV, film, digital and audiovisual content, production and distribution industry with a conference and networking forum to discover future trends and trade content rights on a global level. [Back to Top](#)

### Contribute to Industry Development!

<http://www.telefilm.gc.ca>

Are you eager to share your expertise with other professionals and become a member of an exclusive network? Telefilm's National and International Business Development sector often requires the services of industry professionals from across the country to sit on selection committees. The nature and caliber of these unique programs calls for jurors from every facet of the audiovisual industry: production, screenwriting, distribution, broadcasting and exhibition. Telefilm is currently working on compiling a directory of eligible jurors upon which to draw throughout the year as the programs launch [Back to Top](#)

## Film Executive at Gimli Film Festival

Winnipeg, Friday, July 24 | 10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m., Fort Garry Hotel, 222 Broadway

Gimli Film Festival, Saturday, July 25 | 9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m., Waterfront Centre, 94 First Avenue, Suite 100

Regional Feature Film Executive John Dippong will be in Manitoba to meet with filmmakers in Winnipeg as well as the Gimili Film Festival. To arrange a meeting with John Dippong, simply:

- Review the funds and programs at <http://www.telefilm.gc.ca>
- If you wish to pitch a feature film project (or projects) submit a one-page synopsis via email to Julianne Lockhart at [lockhaj@telefilm.gc.ca](mailto:lockhaj@telefilm.gc.ca)
- All meetings will be between 30 and 45 minutes in length.

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## Call for Entries: Hollywood Documentary Film Festival

Los Angeles, CA, USA, October 8 to 12, 2009

Deadline: July 31, 2009

<http://www.hollywoodfestival.com>

The Hollywood DOCUMENTARY Film Festival™ is a competitive film festival. Its mandate is to highlight both domestic and international documentaries and make sure that filmmakers get visibility in Hollywood's backyard. The Hollywood DOCUMENTARY Film Festival™ showcases documentaries from around the world, and it is an intrinsic part of the Hollywood Film Festival®. Selected documentaries compete in the Festival's main competition. [Back to Top](#)

## Call For Entries: 2009 AFI International Film Festival

Deadline for Feature Films: July 31, 2009

<http://www.afi.com/onscreen/afifest/2009/>

October 30-November 7, 2009. AFI FEST presents a survey of the year's most significant films each fall. AFI FEST is the only film festival in the United States to hold the FIAPF accreditation, assuring a high standard of quality and reliability for the international film community. The Academy of Motion Picture Arts and Sciences recognizes AFI FEST as a qualifying festival for the Short Films category of the annual Academy Awards

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## Connections

**All DOC members are invited to join doc-discussion, our e-mail discussion group.**

There are two ways to join:

1) At our Yahoo Group page:

[http://movies.groups.yahoo.com/  
group/doc-discussion/0](http://movies.groups.yahoo.com/group/doc-discussion/0)

2) By sending a blank e-mail to [doc-discussion-subscribe@yahoogroups.com](mailto:doc-discussion-subscribe@yahoogroups.com)

You will receive a confirmation e-mail, to which you have to reply.

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See more classifieds at [www.docspace.ca/](http://www.docspace.ca/)

Join DOC on Facebook!



## Awards

### Invitations Now Open For IAWRT International Awards

Date: November 17-21, 2009

Info: [www.iawrt.org/awards](http://www.iawrt.org/awards)

International Association of Women in Radio and Television 2009 Awards for Excellence in Documentary Making. Invitations are now open for the IAWRT International Awards for Excellence. Deadline is October 16, 2009 to submit an entry. The IAWRT Awards celebrate outstanding documentaries made by women. Documentaries must be about women who are making a difference, in their own lives, or in the lives of others. Winner will be announced at the IAWRT 33rd Biennial Conference in Cambodia. For more information, please visit the website.. [Back to Top](#)

## Industry News

### NFB Agreement with Airline Industry

The National Film Board of Canada has a new distribution agreement for its collection - airlines around the world.

The country's public film producer and distributor has signed an exclusive airline distribution agreement with Skeye Inflight Entertainment to offer its catalogue to airlines operating outside of Canada. [Back to Top](#)

### Super Channel Files for Creditor Protection

Allarco Entertainment 2008 Inc. (Super Channel) has filed for creditor protection under the Companies' Creditors Arrangement Act (CCAA). Super Channel continues to be committed to offering Canadians a «premium» national pay television network, as licensed by the CRTC and launched in November 2007. Allarco Entertainment 2008 Inc. is not bankrupt nor in receivership and can assure its customer base, both broadcasting distribution undertakings (cable, satellite and telcos) and the growing number of consumers who subscribe to the pay television service, that they will see no reduction in efforts to offer quality programming choices to viewers old and new. Since its inception Super Channel has shown a strong commitment to the development of new and award winning Canadian programming in the areas of feature films and documentaries. It is the only pay television service to have a national outreach program that provides assistance to producers and creators in each province.

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### Telefilm Executive Director to Step Down in 2010

Wayne Clarkson announced today his decision to step down as the Executive Director of Telefilm Canada at the conclusion of his five year appointment on January 17, 2010. The Board of Directors has commenced the search process for Mr. Clarkson's replacement. Mr. Clarkson began his five year mandate at Telefilm Canada in January 2005.

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### March 31 2009

DOC files its submission to the CRTC in opposition to broadcasters' positions in their licence renewal filings.

### March 31 2009

[Read more here](#) **The proposed Canada Media Fund threatens independent Canadian documentaires. YOU CAN HELP! Visit [SAVETHEDOCS.COM](http://SAVETHEDOCS.COM)**

Read DOC's Backgrounder Document on the proposed Canada Media Fund.

[Read more here.](#)

Join or renew your DOC membership: [www.docorg.ca](http://www.docorg.ca)

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