

OMDC: "Culture is our Business." Promoting growth and investment in Ontario's book and magazine publishing, film and television, music and interactive digital media industries

Ontario's Entertainment and Creative Cluster Gets \$1.8 million Boost



(FROM LEFT) OMDC CHAIR KEVIN SHEA, MINISTER DI COCCO AND JOHN HARRIS

On February 15 at the Harris Institute, The Hon. Caroline Di Cocco, Minister of Culture and Kevin Shea, OMDC Chair announced \$1.8 million in support of 14 initiatives for the first cycle of

Ontario's Entertainment and Creative Cluster Partnerships Fund.

"The investment in Ontario's cultural industries is geared to creating growth in this important economic sector," says Shea. "These 14 initiatives represent more than 55 companies, institutions and organizations from Ontario's book and magazine, film and television, music and interactive digital media cluster." OMDC administers the fund on behalf of the Ministry of Culture.

"Through the Partnerships Fund we are able to create the only independent motion capture and clean-up studio in the province, and one of only two in Canada," says Laura Jo Gunter, Dean of Information Arts & Technology at Seneca College. "This will make Ontario a motion capture hub in Canada, and strengthen our game industry."

"Without the support of the Ontario Media Development Corporation, through the Fund, establishing the Independent

Digital Licensing Agency Inc. (IDLA) would not have been possible. The independent music community applaud their efforts and with their assistance, the intellectual-property-driven economic engine that is fueled by our creativity can go into a higher gear," says Geoff Kulawick, President, Linus Entertainment.



(FROM LEFT) ROSE BELLOSILLO, DIR. OF DEVELOPMENT OF HOT DOCS, MICHAEL MCNAMARA, NATIONAL CO-CHAIR OF DOC & MARKHAM STREET FILMS, SAMANTHA HODDER, E.D. OF DOC, MINISTER DI COCCO, BRETT HENDRIE, MANAGING DIR. OF HOT DOCS AND AND CHRIS MCDONALD, E.D. OF HOT DOCS

"DOC is thrilled with the announcement of the funding of DOCspace through the Creative Cluster Fund," says Samantha Hodder, Executive Director, Documentary Organization of Canada (DOC). "The content industries are on the cusp of a seismic shift in how audiences interact with their information and entertainment. As an industry organization that acts in the interest of independent documentary filmmakers, we see this as a unique opportunity, at a critical time, to bring documentary content into the digital era."

"OMDC is thrilled with the variety and scope of these projects. This fund encouraged new partnerships among the cultural and creative industries to come up with innovative solutions for some of the business challenges they face," says Kristine Murphy, OMDC's CEO (A). "We look forward to seeing these projects move forward in the next few months." For a full list of all the exciting projects and their partnerships go to www.omdc.on.ca.



(FROM LEFT) SENECA COLLEGE'S LAURA JO GUNTER AND BASIL GUINANE OF HUMBER COLLEGE MINGLE WITH MINISTER DI COCCO AND OMDC CHAIR KEVIN SHEA

OMDC News, Deadlines and Supported Events

OMDC is very pleased to advise stakeholders that Minister of Culture Caroline Di Cocco and Minister of Finance Greg Sorbara jointly announced on February 22 that the enhanced 18 per cent rate for the **Ontario Production Services Tax Credit (OPSTC)** will remain in place until March 31, 2008. In making this announcement the Ministers have demonstrated their commitment to the film and television industry and sent a clear signal that Ontario is a great filming location.

March 7-10 | **The International Marketplace at Rogers Wireless Canadian Music Week (CMW)** brings the world to your doorstep! A reminder that OMDC, in partnership with Foreign Affairs and International Trade Canada, and Canadian Heritage, and supported by Canadian Independent Records Production Association (CIRPA) and Canadian Association for the Advancement of Music & the Arts (CAAMA) is again proudly hosting The International Marketplace at CMW. Now in its fourth year, The International Marketplace is an opportunity for national and international music delegates to interact face-to-face, share ideas and much, much, more! Don't miss this opportunity! For more information contact Kathy Hahn at 416-314-6876 or e-mail khahn@omdc.on.ca, or visit OMDC's website at www.omdc.on.ca.

March 21-22 | **ICE 2007 - Interactive Content Exchange**. ICE is a high-level conference dedicated to the business of content on interactive platforms - mobile, games, social media and broadband. It's the world's coolest interactive media business event in the world's coolest province! Over a two-day period ICE sessions will offer delegates an executive-level interactive exchange and big picture opportunities to explore ideas, models and markets. OMDC is very pleased to become a Platinum Sponsor of ICE 2007. The ICE Market, a component of ICE 2007, is being *powered by the Ontario Media Development Corporation* through the Entertainment and Creative Cluster Partnerships Fund. In addition to offering panels and hands-on sessions with top content innovators, aggregators and buyers in digital media from around the world, the ICE Market also provides delegates with access to interactive tools that are geared to help them get the most out of their experience at the event. The custom-designed delegate area facilitates peer-to-peer networking and content sharing and allows delegates to book meetings with speakers and other delegates online. ICE 2007 will take place at The Carlu in Toronto. For more information visit ice07.com.

OMDC Board Member Profile: Sheldon Wiseman



Sheldon Wiseman

Sheldon Wiseman is an award-winning television and feature film executive producer. Trained as a lawyer, Sheldon is President and Chief Executive Officer of Amberwood Entertainment, a Canadian-based fully integrated multifaceted production and distribution company. He has structured, packaged, arranged financing for and executive produced productions with budgets totalling more than \$200 million. Many of the productions have won significant awards and recognition including Gemini, Cable Ace and ACT Awards.

He has extensive international marketing experience, he has negotiated co-production arrangements with European partners on various projects, and has handled productions for multinational clients including Universal and Mattel.

Sheldon is an accomplished cook and, as a hobby, founded and operated for over twenty years a high-end food and catering store operating in both Ottawa and Toronto while continuing to practice law and produce.

Sheldon lives with his wife of 37 years in Ottawa. They have three grown children and a dog.

Upcoming Events & Industry Deadlines

Sign up for free as an **Academy Affiliate** and receive complimentary admission to Canadian films at cinemas across Canada and a whole lot more. Plus, you'll have a direct line to the latest information about the Genie, Gemini and Prix Gemmeaux happenings – the awards that celebrate the film industry – all when you register as an Academy Affiliate. The benefits of Academy membership are yours by simply registering at www.academy.ca/affiliates.

April 13 | Deadline for entries for the **Canadian Newsstand Awards**. The awards presentation will take place on June 5 at Magazines University in Toronto. For details see www.newsstandawards.ca.

May 18 | **CFC Media Lab** is currently accepting applicants for their fall 2007 session for the TELUS Interactive Art & Entertainment Program (IAEP). IAEP is Canada's first post-graduate program for new media training and production, based on a philosophy that compelling new media content is created through a collaborative process harnessing a wide range of creative skills, knowledge and talent. For more information contact medialab@cfccreates.com.

May 28-June 1 | **Toronto Technology Week (TTW)**. A celebration of Canada's Largest Technology Hub. Toronto's Information and Communication Technology (ICT) industry cluster will come together to celebrate being the largest high-tech hub in Canada and the third

largest in North America at Toronto Technology Week. A series of activities will take place to showcase the depth and breath of Toronto's high technology sector. For information contact Alicia Bulwik, Project Director at 416-392-1289 or e-mail abulwik@toronto.ca or call David Forde, Chair, Toronto Technology Week at 416-760-3344 or e-mail dforde@profectio.com.

June 4-6 | **Magazines University**. Annual conference for the Canadian magazine industry at The Old Mill Inn & Spa, Toronto. For information see www.magsu.com.

June 13-15 | **MagNet** – Canada's magazine conference takes place in downtown Toronto June 13 to 15. For information see magazinescanada.ca.

June 15 | **National Magazine Awards** ceremony showcases the best of Canadian magazine content. For more information see magazineawards.ca.

June 29 | Deadline to apply to participate in the **Ontario Wireless & Mobile Content Trade Mission** to CTIA Wireless & Entertainment 2007, San Francisco, October 22 to 25. Led by the Ontario Ministry of Economic Development and Trade. Space is limited to eight Ontario wireless and mobile content companies. For more information contact Mauricio Ospina at 416-325-6151 or reach him by e-mail at mauricio.ospina@edt.gov.on.ca.

Congratulations!

Congratulations to **marblemedia Inc.**! marblemedia's project *Shorts in Motion: The Art of Seduction*, selected in the first round of OMDC's Interactive Digital Media Fund, went on to be the only project by a Canadian company to receive and win the "Best Made for Mobile Video Service" award at the 12th annual Global Mobile Awards (GSMA) in Barcelona, Spain. *Shorts in Motion* is a candid and comic multi-platform anthology of 10 original two-minute movies written and directed for mobile phones. For a full list of the GSMA Award winners visit gsmawards.com.

On February 13, the **2007 Genie Awards** were announced. *Bon Cop, Bad Cop* took best picture and *The Rocket* scored the most Genies. Ontario's **Jennifer Baichwal's** documentary *Manufactured Landscapes* collected a Genie for Best Documentary. See all the winners at genieawards.ca.

On February 23, the **2007 ACTRA Awards** were announced at The Carlu in Toronto. Shirley Douglas presented Wendy Crewson with ACTRA Toronto's Award of Excellence. Gordon Pinsent who starred in *Away From Her* took home the ACTRA Award for Outstanding Performance - male.

Maria Del Mar took home the ACTRA Award for Outstanding Performance - female for her performance in *Terminal City*. The new ACTRA Award for Outstanding Performance-voice went to Len Carlson (posthumous award), *Atomic Betty*.

Bruce McDonald's film *The Tracey Fragments* premiered at the 57th annual Berlin Film Festival and won the Manfred Salzgeber Prize.

National Screen Institute has selected participants for its **2007 NSI Global Marketing MIPTV Training Program** in Cannes, France this coming April to approach international distributors, broadcasters and potential co-producers with their market-ready projects. This professional development training is offered in partnership with Telefilm Canada, Trade Routes Canada and CanWest Global. Five participants were chosen from Ontario:

- Joanne P. Jackson, Brilliant Red Media – Ajax
- Anthony Leo, Aircraft Pictures – Toronto
- Bill Mantas, MantasVision Productions Inc. – Toronto
- John May, Heroic Film Company – Toronto
- Ngozi Paul, Ngozika Productions Inc. – Toronto

Upcoming Awards, Festivals and Markets

Mar. 5-9	Game Developers Conference, San Francisco. gdconf.com
Mar. 7-10	25th Canadian Music Week, Toronto. cmw.net/cmw2007/index.asp
Mar. 8	Playback Innovation Forum. Toronto. production-innovations.playbackmag.com
Mar. 9-18	South by Southwest. Austin, Texas. 2007.sxsw.com
Mar. 21	BookNet Canada Technology Forum, Toronto. bookcanada.com
Mar. 21-22	New Media Business Alliance's ICE 2007 (formerly known as iSummit). The Carlu, Toronto. nmba.ca
Mar. 22-25	Tokyo International Anime Fair. Tokyo, Japan. tokyoanime.jp/en
Mar. 23-April 1	Cinefranco –10th Annual Celebration of International Francophone Cinema. Toronto. cinefranco.com
Mar. 27-29	CTIA Wireless 2007. Orlando, Florida. ctiawireless.com
Mar. 31	Canadian Society of Cinematographers Gala Dinner. Westin Prince Hotel, Toronto. csc.ca/awards
April 1	Juno Awards. Saskatoon, Saskatchewan. junoawards.ca
April 11-15	ReelWorld Film Festival, Toronto. reelworld.ca
April 12-14	AFCI Locations Trade Show, Santa Monica, Calif. afci.org
April 14-15	MIPDoc, Cannes, France. mipdoc.com
April 14-19	National Association of Broadcasters, Las Vegas. nab.org
April 16-18	London Book Fair, London UK. londonbookfair.co.uk
April 16-20	MIP-TV International Television Market, Cannes, France, Featuring MILIA World Interactive Forum. miptv.com
April 19-29	HotDocs Canadian International Film Festival, Toronto. hotdocs.ca
April 22-24	FITC Festival of Interactive & Creativity, Toronto. fitc.ca
April 23	WGC Canadian Screenwriters Awards, Toronto. wgc.ca
April 24-27	Bologna Children's Book Fair, Bologna, Italy. bookfair.bolognafiere.it
April 24-27	SHOW Canada, Niagara Falls. showcanada.ca

E-mail your news and events by the third Thursday of each month to newsletter@omdc.on.ca

To add or remove yourself from this newsletter list, e-mail Reception@omdc.on.ca

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