

ONTARIO MEDIA DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION

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

Canadian Internet Project Launches *Canada Online! 2007* at Ryerson

On September 24th at Ryerson University, *Canada Online! The Canadian Internet Project 2007* was launched. This important study is the second volume of an ongoing, longitudinal research project comparing patterns and trends in Canadians' Internet use over time. OMDC's President and CEO Karen Thorne-Stone emceed the event, where findings from the study were presented by co-investigators Charles Zamaria and Dr. Fred Fletcher. OMDC was a funder of this study.

Did You Know ...

- Downloading and listening to music online is the most popular entertainment-related activity, undertaken by more than half of all Internet users (56%);
- Other popular online entertainment activities include visiting television program websites (46%), playing games (43%), and downloading or watching videos (40%);
- 38% of adult Canadians have purchased a book online, making books the most common online purchase in Canada

The full report of *Canada Online! 2007* can be found on OMDC's website at <http://www.omdc.on.ca/AssetFactory.aspx?did=6324>



OMDC President and CEO Karen Thorne-Stone gives remarks at the *Canada Online! 2007* launch at Ryerson University.



Dr. Jeff Cole, Founder, World Internet Project. Professor Charles Zamaria, Principal Investigator and Dr. Fred Fletcher, Co-Investigator, Canadian Internet Project.

New Profile of the Ontario Computer Animation and Visual Effects Industry Released

A new OMDC-funded profile of the Ontario Computer Animation and Visual Effects (VFX) industry is the first of its kind. *Economic Profile of the Ontario Computer Animation and Visual Effects Industry*, conducted by Nordicity Group Ltd. and commissioned by the Computer Animation Studios of Ontario (CASO), examines the economic profile of the industry and develops financial,

corporate and employment baseline indicators for future market analysis and comparison. The study estimates revenue, output volume, employment information and future market opportunities for this vital industry. The profile can be found on OMDC's website at <http://www.omdc.on.ca/AssetFactory.aspx?did=6319>

OMDC News, Program Deadlines and Supported Events



Retiring OMDC Board member Melinda Rogers (third from left) is honoured for seven years' service by (l-r) Culture Minister Aileen Carroll, Chair Kevin Shea and Vice-Chair Peter Steinmetz.

The OMDC Tax Credits Department will be speaking at several venues in the coming weeks:

- Oct. 29 – OMDC will be giving a presentation on the Ontario Book Publishing Tax Credit (OBPTC) to students in the book publishing program at Centennial College.
- Oct. 23 – OMDC tax credit representatives will be participating on a financing panel at the 2nd Annual *Entertainment Industries Summit* at St. Andrew's Club and Conference Centre. Please contact Insight Information for registration and further details.
- Nov. 6 – OMDC tax representatives will be participating on a financing panel for cross platform content at one of the seven sessions planned as part of the *NBC Universal Convergent Media Program* in conjunction with WIFT-T at the Spoke Club. Please contact WIFT-T for registration and further details.

Oct. 8-10 - Popkomm, Berlin, Germany. OMDC is proud to support the **Canada Stand** and **Canadian Blast Showcase** at Popkomm, organized by CIRPA. The Canada Stand activities include a full complement of business and networking activities targeted to supporting Canadians in the international marketplace. Information is available at cirpa.ca

Oct. 22-Nov. 1 - OMDC is pleased to provide support for a new initiative from International Readings at Harbourfront (IRAH). As part of the 29th annual **International Festival of Authors (IFOA)**, seven international publishing industry professionals will participate in a four-day pilot program of inter-industry dialogue. Set to become an annual event, the **International Visitors Programme, "I.V."**, will open the door for interaction between invited international guests and professionals in the Canadian book industry, with the goal of

furthering the reach of Canadian authors' work abroad and will include a series of scheduled one-on-one meetings.

Oct. 23-26 - OMDC is pleased to sponsor the International Buyers Program (IBP) at the **Ontario Council of Folk Festivals Conference** in Ottawa for the second year and to participate on the two funding panels. The IBP is designed to connect key industry stakeholders with Ontario and Canadian cultural entrepreneurs working in the folk, roots and traditional music industry. It is a comprehensive, three and a half day business development program giving international participants the opportunity to meet with labels, artists, agents, managers, and to encourage partnerships, export activity and new business relationships. The program consists of dedicated IBP workshops/panels, one-on-one business meetings, showcases and networking events. IBP participants are required to attend a firm schedule of activities. Fourteen international delegates will be invited to participate in the activity. More info at www.ocff.ca

Oct. 28 & 29 - OMDC is supporting **GameON: Finance 2.0**. This investment summit is designed to bring investors and video game developers together to explore financing possibilities for the Canadian games industry. It takes place at the Suites at One King West in Toronto. Earlybird pricing end on October 10th. For more info please visit www.gameonfinance.com

Nov. 10-14 - OMDC is proud to support the second **CIRPA Music Mission to Asia** in Tokyo, Japan. OMDC was a proud sponsor of last year's mission and is very pleased to once again support an initiative that continues to build relationships between Canadian and Asian markets. In 2007, 20 companies generated \$1.4 million in new business and 91 deals. The Asian markets, particularly Japan and China, are becoming priority export targets for the Canadian music industry. This year the Mission will expand upon this success by adding a Pan Asian component to the itinerary and expanding the showcase opportunities from four acts to 10 acts (5 from Ontario) performing throughout the mission. Of the 19 companies participating in the mission, 14 are from Ontario. More info at www.cirpa.ca

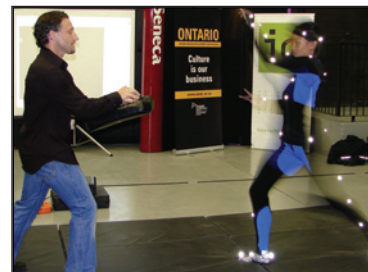
Nov. 18-19 | **Promote Your Project at nextMEDIA - Monetizing Digital Media** - In partnership with OMDC, nextMEDIA - Monetizing Digital Media will provide business development opportunities for up to 8 carefully selected screen based content producers from the new media, film and television industries. Successful applicants will be offered a 50% subsidized pass to nextMEDIA Monetizing Digital Media and the Canadian New Media Awards, plus networking opportunities via facilitated introductions and promotional opportunities through the event website and event guide. Submission Criteria Coming Soon. **For information about nextMEDIA visit www.nextmediaevents.com/mdm**

OMDC Entertainment and Creative Cluster Partnerships Fund Builds Capacity

OMDC attended the launch of the Animating Motion Capture Capacity and Training (AMCaT) Project, a joint initiative between Seneca College, Fast Motion Media, Interactive Ontario and OMDC funded through the Entertainment and Creative Cluster Partnerships Fund. AMCaT includes a new state-of-the-art independent motion capture facility for training, research, and commercial production that will enhance Ontario's competitiveness in creating cutting edge content for the screen. For more information go to <http://mocap.senecac.on.ca>.



L to r: Cheryl Quiacos; Neil Davison, Director of Operations, Fast Motion Studios; Mark Jones, Associate Chair, School of Communication Arts, Seneca College; Plato Fountidakis, CEO Fast Motion Studios; Laura Jo Gunter, Dean, Information Arts & Technology, Seneca College; Karen Thorne-Stone, President and CEO, OMDC; Kim Gibson, IDM Consultant, OMDC



Neil Davison, Director of Operations, and Cheryl Quiacos of Fast Motion Studios demonstrate motion capture technique

Photographs by James Weyman

Upcoming Events & Industry Deadlines

Oct. 10 | Deadline for entries. The National Film Board of Canada (NFB) and the **Sheffield International Documentary Festival** have issued a call for proposals for the **CROSS-MEDIA CHALLENGE**, a co-production competition for innovative, interactive, socially-engaged content with applications for mobile and broadband. One producer will receive a \$10,000/£5,000 co-production development deal with the NFB. The theme for the 2008 challenge is "environment." Projects must be documentary based. More info at nfb.ca/crossmediachallenge.

Oct. 10 | Deadline to register as a Forum Observer at the **International Documentary Film Festival Amsterdam (IDFA)**. The Forum runs from November 24-26. Although the deadline for project submissions has passed, you can still attend as an observer of Europe's largest gathering of filmmakers, television commissioning editors and independent documentary producers. The aim of the FORUM is to stimulate co-financing and co-production of new documentaries by enabling producers to pitch their project concepts to the assembled commissioning editors and other professionals, and to follow up through individual meetings. Details at www.idfa.nl/industry/forum.aspx

Oct 20-21 | **TECHNOLOGY INCUBATOR AND PARTNERS - BEST PRACTICES WORKSHOP IN SILICON VALLEY**. The Consulate General of Canada, San Francisco/Silicon Valley invites you to participate in the first Plug and Play Tech Centre Workshop at their Sunnyvale campus in Silicon Valley. Plug and Play is a successful high-tech incubator in the heart of Silicon Valley where over 150 technology start-ups from over 20 countries work closely together to build innovative companies. The focus of the workshop will be to exchange best practices between top technology centers and incubators from around the world and explore opportunities for collaboration. It may also provide an opportunity for start-up companies to meet with potential partners and investors. Plug and Play's ultimate goal is to help 1,000 start-ups from around the world secure funding and go from idea to reality in the

coming years. Interested Ontario start-ups should contact Guillaume Parent ASAP (Tel.: 415-652-8650/ Guillaume.Parent@international.gc.ca) - the availability of travel subsidies cannot be confirmed, but there are no costs to participate in the Boot Camp/Investor Forum.

Oct 23 - 26 | **Ontario Council of Folk Festivals Conference, Ottawa, Ontario** Now in its 22nd year, the OCFF conference is the key event for Ontario's Folk, Roots, and Traditional music community. Spanning four days and three nights, it's a long weekend programmed to the hilt with provocative speakers, educational seminars, engaging roundtable discussions, informal meetings, performer showcases, and the best jam sessions outside of the festival circuit, all combining to make the OCFF conference an essential and inspiring experience for its nearly 700 attendees (including artistic directors and provincial, national, and international industry organizations). For more information please visit www.ocff.ca

Oct 28 | **Playback Innovations Forum**, Toronto. The Playback Innovations Forum is a series of half-day conferences that bring together top talent, leading content creators, forward-thinking broadcasters, and mavericks of new media to explore opportunities, celebrate excellence, and push boundaries in Canadian film & television. The theme of the inaugural Forum is 'big thinkers' and the focus is on content. For more info: <http://pif.playbackonline.ca/2008/>

Oct 30 | Deadline for submissions to the **6th Berlinale Co-Production Market** (February 8-10, 2009). Projects must have secured a minimum of 30% of their required financing and be suited to co-production in order to qualify. Producers meet on location with potential co-producers, financiers, sales agents and international distributors, as well as with broadcasting and funding representatives. The Berlinale Co-Production Market team coordinates customised meeting schedules for each participant according to his or her wishes. Of the

Upcoming Events & Industry Deadlines continued

projects that participated during the first five years of the Berlinale Co-Production Market, 69 films have already been completed, equaling a success rate of 35%. Project submission forms and selection criteria are available at www.efm-berlinale.de

Oct 31 | Extended Deadline for submissions to **CFTPA Indie Awards**. All producers are encouraged to submit their entries to recognize and honour the outstanding achievements of Canadian independent producers. Note: In the case of a TV series the first episode being submitted from that series must have been released during the period October 1, 2007 and September 30th, 2008. The second episode must be aired by October 31, 2008. The Indie Awards Ceremony will take place at the Ottawa Westin on February 18th, 2009, following the Prime Time in Ottawa opening reception. Producers are encouraged to read the

rules and regulations at www.cftpa.ca and fill in the entry forms with their nominations as soon as possible.

Nov. 18-19 | **next MEDIA – Monetizing Digital Media**. Taking place in Toronto, this unique two-day event features a full programme of keynote speakers, topic driven panels and practical case studies along with numerous networking opportunities—both formal and informal. More info and registration details at www.nextmediaevents.com

Nov 27-28 | **DIG London 2008** - London, ON. Connect with Canada's leading video game developer, publisher, technology companies, service providers and emerging talent. Keynote speakers include Jade Raymond of Ubisoft Montreal, Denis Dyack of Silicon Knights, James Schmalz of Digital Extremes, Fredrik Liliegren of Redjade, Damir Slogar of Big Blue Bubble and Eric Randall of Next Level Games.

Congratulations!

The finalists for the **2008 Writers' Trust** prizes have been announced. Our congratulations to all finalists for the 2008 Writers' Trust prizes, including these nominations from Ontario publishers:

House of Anansi Press - *Cockroach* by Rawi Hage;

McClelland & Stewart – *Red Dog, Red Dog* by Patrick Lane;

Thomas Allen Publishers – *Burning Down the House* by Russell Wangersky. Congratulations to the winner of the First Novel Award, Toronto author Gil Adamson for *The Outlander*, published by **House of Anansi Press**.

The finalists for the **2008 Canadian Children's Book Centre Awards** were recently announced. Congratulations to all finalists, including these nominees from Ontario book publishers:

Norma Fleck Award for Canadian Children's Non-fiction

Maple Tree Press: *This Is My Planet: The Kids' Guide to Global Warming*; written by Jan Thornhill

Groundwood Books: *Weird Weather: Everything You Didn't Want to Know About Climate Change but Probably Should Find Out*; written and illustrated by Kate Evans

Marilyn Baillie Picture Book Award

Kids Can Press: *Lickety-Split*; written by Robert Heidbreder, illustrated by Dušan Petričić

Tundra Books: *My New Shirt*; written by Cary Fagan, illustrated by Dušan Petričić

Groundwood Books: *Pink*; written by Nan Gregory, illustrated by Luc Melanson

Groundwood Books: *Please, Louise!*; written by Frieda Wishinsky, illustrated by Marie-Louise Gay

Geoffrey Bilson Award for Historical Fiction for Young People

Tundra Books: *Eye of the Crow: The Boy Sherlock Holmes, His First Case*, written by Shane Peacock

Annick Press: *Rise of the Golden Cobra*, written by Henry T. Aubin

Included in the recently announced shortlist for the 2008 Ottawa Book Awards are the following titles from Ontario publishers:

English Non-Fiction

House of Anansi Press: *Out of Orbit* by Chris Jones

English Fiction

McClelland & Stewart: *Late Nights on Air* by Elizabeth Hay

Nightwood Editions: *Muybridge's Horse* by Rob Winger

French Fiction

Les Éditions David : *Depuis toujours j'entendais la mer* by Andrée Christensen

Les Éditions L'Interligne : *Les Porteuses d'Afrique!* by Angèle Bassolé-Ouédraogo

Les Éditions L'Interligne : *Alexandre et les trafiquants du désert* by Jean Mohsen Fahmy

Les Éditions L'Interligne : *La Jouissance des nuages de la pensée* by Gilles Lacombe

Prise de parole : *Le Chuchotement des étoiles* by Maurice Henrie

Congratulations to CARIBOU for winning the **2008 POLARIS MUSIC**

PRIZE for Canadian Album of the Year - ANDORRA. Dan Snaith is the sole member of Caribou, and he takes home \$20,000. More than 400 people attended the gala, among them key players in the Canadian music, media and corporate worlds. They were treated to performances by Vancouver's **Black Mountain**, London, Ontario city mates **Shad** and **Basia Bulat**, Toronto's **Holy Fuck**, Ottawa's **Kathleen Edwards**, Montréal's **Plants and Animals**, and Charlottetown's **Two Hours Traffic**.

Our congratulations to **Spongelab Interactive Inc.**, an Ontario-based educational gaming company, awarded first prize in the Interactive Media category of the **Science and National Science Foundation's Visualization Challenge 2008**. This award is published in the September 26, 2008 issue of the

Congratulations continued

journal *Science* (Science: Vol. 321. no. 5897, p. 1767) and featured on the National Science Foundation's website. Spongellab Interactive won for its Genomics Digital Lab: Plant Cells (GDLv3), providing students a unique view inside a plant. GDLv3 is an engaging, game-based interactive tool designed to get learners and educators excited about plants and their importance to our world. Students are given a mission to 'save' a dying plant and must identify the correct air, light, and soil conditions. GDLv3 is built around discovery-based and self-directed learning where users are highly engaged and learn by 'doing.' For example, students can choose to feed their plant water, salt water, vinegar, or soda and their plant will respond accordingly: it will flourish or shrivel.

The 23rd Annual Gemini Awards, recognizing the year's best in Canadian English-language television, return to Toronto, Ontario this fall. Canadian drama leads the 2008 Gemini Award nominations with *Murdoch Mysteries* receiving 14 nominations followed closely by

Durham County with 13 nominations; *The Tudors* and *The Englishman's Boy* received 12 nominations each. News information series *the fifth estate* received 11 nominations, while *The Border* and *CBC News: The National* tied with 9 nominations. The TV mini-series *Would Be Kings* received 8 nominations and *Across the River to Motor City* and *Mayerthorpe* each received 7. *Marketplace*, *ReGenesis*, *Rent-A-Goalie* and *Cowboy Junkies – Trinity Revisited* all amassed 6 nominations. For a full list of Gemini nominations go to: www.geminiawards.ca

The Canadian industry will gather in Toronto at the Liberty Grand on October 20th, 21st and 22nd to honour and celebrate the News, Sports and Documentary Awards, the Lifestyle, Children's and Youth Awards and the Drama, Comedy and Variety Awards. The Gemini Awards Broadcast Gala will be presented in Toronto, ON at the John Bassett Theatre on Friday, November 28, 2008 and will broadcast on E! Network and Showcase on Friday, November 28, 2008 at 9 p.m. ET.

Upcoming Awards, Markets and Festivals

Oct. 8-10	Canada Rocks Berlin at Popkomm, Berlin Popkomm.de
Oct. 9-12	TOKYO GAME SHOW (TGS) 2008 tgs.cesa.or.jp/english/
Oct 15-19	Frankfurt Book Fair frankfurt-book-fair.com/en/
Oct 20-26	Belgrade Book Fair sajam.co.rs
Oct. 21-25	CMJ Music Marathon and Film Festival 2008, New York City cmj.com/marathon/
Oct. 27-Nov 2	51st DOK Leipzig, the International Leipzig Festival for Documentary and Animated Film dok-leipzig.de
Nov. 3-5	Future Play 2008, Toronto futureplay.org
Nov. 5-12	American Film Market 2008 (AFM), Santa Monica, CA www.ifta-online.org
Nov. 6-16	Mannheim-Heidelberg Film festival mannheim-filmfestival.com/en/
Nov 7-11	Magazines Canada School for Advertising Sales magazinescanada.ca/events
Nov. 10-14	Canadian Music Mission to Asia.
Nov. 19-23	Association of Film Commissioners International (AFCI) Cineposium 2008 Wellington, New Zealand, afci.org
Nov. 20-30	International Documentary Film Festival Amsterdam (IDFA), Netherlands. www.dfgdocs.com
Nov. 27-28	DIG London Game Developers Conference, London Convention Centre. London, Ontario diglondon.ca
Nov.28	The Gemini Awards Broadcast Gala, John Bassett Theatre, Toronto ON to be broadcast by Canwest Broadcasting on E! Network and Showcase at 9 pm ET. academy.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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The contents of this newsletter do not necessarily reflect the views of OMDC Upcoming Awards, Festivals and Markets

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