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## **Ontario film and television production hits new heights in 1998**

**ONTARIO FILM  
DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION**

**SOCIÉTÉ DE  
DÉVELOPPEMENT DE  
L'INDUSTRIE  
CINÉMATOGRAPHIQUE  
ONTARIENNE**



Toronto, Ontario – Ontario’s film and television production activity set a new high in 1998, contributing a record total of \$743.2 million in production dollars to the provincial economy, according to data compiled by the OFDC. The figures released today represent expenditures in Ontario by productions accessing OFDC-administered incentives and services in 1998.

The 1998 figure is an impressive \$108 million or 17 per cent increase over 1997’s \$635.1 million, which was itself a record-breaking year.

Figures to date indicate that domestic production activity dropped to \$396.2 million compared to the record set in 1997 of \$414.3 million. However, the final domestic activity for 1998 is expected to grow as companies continue to file throughout 1999 for 1998 productions eligible for the Ontario Film and Television Tax Credit (OFTTC). Similarly, the level of animation activity is expected to increase as the Ontario Computer Animation and Special Effects Tax Credit (OCASE) becomes operational in 1999.

This year’s overall increase was attributed to the sharp increase in foreign production attracted to the province. Foreign production started strong in early 1998 and continued through into December. Fuelled by the low exchange rate and federal and provincial production services tax credits, foreign activity hit a record \$347 million, a jump of 57.2 per cent over 1997.

“In addition to Ontario’s 11 per cent labour-based tax credit incentive which attracts foreign producers to the province, Ontario’s reputation as a centre of excellence for highly-skilled performing and production personnel, well-developed infrastructure, and diversity of filming locations keeps foreign producers returning to the province,” said Marcelle Lean, Chairperson of the OFDC.

An unprecedented 21 foreign feature films shot in the province in 1998, generating Ontario expenditures of \$176.3 million. The number of foreign television movies, specials and mini-series also increased, up from 42 projects in 1997 to 51 in 1998, leaving a record \$170.7 million in the province. (see attached comparison chart)

Television series production continues to be the economic engine for the domestic sector generating \$263.5 million or 67 per cent of the domestic production total. Seven larger-budget series - *Traders*, *Total Recall 2070*, *Power Play*, *La Femme Nikita*, *PSI Factor*, *Wind At My Back*, and *Gene Roddenberry's Earth: Final Conflict* - alone contributed \$137 million to the provincial economy.

The OFDC saw a rise in the number of live action series from 39 in 1997 to 51 in 1998. Of the increase in the number of series projects, seven were attributable to OFTTC harmonizing its genre eligibility to include educational, institutional, variety and magazine format production to match the federal government's tax credit program.

"Production activity – both domestic and foreign – is good for the unions, guilds and associations that supply highly-skilled personnel," said Judy Watt, OFDC's Acting Chief Executive Officer. Again, gross income rose as did the number of people employed in the industry – unions report membership increases of about 10 per cent, a repeat of 1997's increase. Boosting the payroll this year was a growth in the magnitude of productions being produced here. Larger and more complex productions required more behind-the-scenes crew preparation time.

As usual, the bulk of Ontario's production activity took place in Toronto. The Toronto Film and Television Office compiled data showing that a total of \$684.5 million in production dollars were left in the Toronto economy in 1998.

Ontario's myriad of different "looks" was put to good use by the industry again this year. HBO's *Vendetta* shot for three weeks in Kingston, transforming sections of its historic downtown into turn-of-the-century New Orleans. Durham Region saw a flurry of activity, with the town of Uxbridge welcoming a number of shoots, including: *Dash and Lilly*, *Anne of Green Gables: The Continuing Story*, *A Map of the World*, and *eXistenZ*. Hamilton's Copps Coliseum played itself in the hockey series *Power Play* and the city also stood in for Washington D.C. in Disney's *The Pooch and the Pauper*.

The OFDC is an agency of the Ministry of Citizenship, Culture and Recreation and provides a range of innovative programs and services to stimulate the growth of the province's film, television, and digital media industry.

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*Please note that the production data above do not include television commercial, corporate video or music video production, and may include some live action broadcaster-owned productions. Data reflect the production expenditures in Ontario during 1998, and do not necessarily reflect the total budgets of the projects.*



# FILM AND TELEVISION PRODUCTION IN ONTARIO 1998

## DOMESTIC PRODUCTIONS

### Television Series

A Repair to Remember II  
Animorphs  
The Artists' Specials  
Bonnie Stern Entertains  
Business in the New Millennium  
Code Name: Eternity  
\*Cold Squad II  
Comedy Now!  
Comics  
Countdown to a Dream  
Cover Me  
\*Da Vinci's Inquest  
Dear America  
Due South  
Exhibit A: Secrets of Forensic Science II  
Fast Track  
Flesh and Blood  
Flightpath III  
Foolish Heart  
Full Moon There  
Gene Roddenberry's Earth: Final Conflict I, II  
Goosebumps  
Grouille-toi / Get a Life II  
Gzowski in Conversation  
Highlander: The Raven  
Homes by Design III  
In Rehearsal  
Inside Country IV  
It Seems Like Yesterday II  
Jett Jackson (a.k.a. Silverstone)  
Jonovision  
Judaism: Quest for Meaning  
La Femme Nikita III  
Little Men  
Monster by Mistake – The Series

Pet Project  
Power Play  
PSI Factor: Chronicles of the Paranormal III  
Reading the Sacred  
Real Kids, Real Adventures  
Riverdale II  
Scandals: Then and Now  
Spoken Art IV  
The Theory of Eerie (a.k.a. Eerie Indiana)  
The Tom Green Show II  
Total Recall 2070  
Traders III, IV  
Trouble in Mind  
The Uncommon Touch  
The Wedding Show  
What's For Dinner IV  
Whole Notes  
Wild by Nature  
Wind at My Back III, IV  
Witness to Yesterday  
Zoboomafoo

\*Interprovincial co-production with Ontario expenditures.  
Shooting occurred in another province

*Domestic Productions continued on next page*



# FILM AND TELEVISION PRODUCTION IN ONTARIO 1998

## DOMESTIC PRODUCTIONS *(CONTINUED)*

### Movies for Television, Mini-series, Pilots and Specials

After  
After Darwin  
Ambrose Small  
Anne of Green Gables – The Continuing Story  
Canadian Geographic Presents Canadian Huskies  
Canadian Geographic Presents White Grizzlies  
The Coming Disasters  
Dance of Life, Dance of Death  
Dead Aviators  
Deadly Seas  
Debbie Travis / Mag Ruffman Live Special  
Divorce: What I See  
Escape From Earth  
External Affairs  
Happy Christmas, Miss King  
In the Name of the Family  
Influenza  
Jenny and the Queen of Light  
Justice  
Ken Danby: Behind the Mask  
Life and Times of Ted Rogers  
Nightworld: Parkland  
Nuclear Sharks: Cold War Submarine Adventures  
Oh What a Feeling  
Our House  
Poor Child  
Quake NYC 8.2  
Sea People  
Sir Wilfrid Laurier and the Romance of Canada  
Striking Poses  
Summer's End  
These Arms of Mine  
Win, Again

### Feature Films

American Whiskey Bar  
The Bad, The Bold and The Beautiful  
Blackheart  
Clutch  
Danger Lurks  
Dead Silent  
eXistenZ  
Father  
The Five Senses  
Four Days  
Grizzly Falls  
The Highwayman  
Jacob Two-Two Meets the Hooded Fang  
The Life Before This  
Love Letters Trilogy: Art Lovers  
Motel  
New Blood  
Revelation  
Silver Wolf  
Sunrise  
The Three Hundred and Ninety-First  
Top of the Food Chain  
Water Damage

### Animation

Blazing Dragons II  
Bob and Margaret  
Franklin II  
Hoze Houndz  
Little Bear IV  
Panda Bears Daycare/Ruffus the Dog  
Role Polie Olie  
Stickin' Around II



# FILM AND TELEVISION PRODUCTION IN ONTARIO 1998

## FOREIGN PRODUCTIONS

### Movies for Television, Mini-series, Pilots and Specials

The Agency  
Aldrich Ames: America Betrayed  
Brimstone  
The Carolyn McCarthy Story  
Dangerous Evidence  
Dash and Lilly  
Deep in My Heart  
The Defenders  
Devil's Arithmetic  
Different  
Direction Canada  
Execution of Justice  
Freak City  
Free Fall  
Giving Up The Ghost (a.k.a.Hobson's Choice)  
Happy Face  
Ice  
In Your Shoes  
Jacqueline Susann Story  
Labour of Love  
Last Man on the List  
Locked in Silence  
Love Letters  
Love Songs  
Mail to the Chief  
Marciano  
Marriage Fool  
Mean Streak  
Mind Prey  
Mr. Music  
Murder in a Small Town  
Murder She Purred  
My Father's Shadow  
Naked City II  
No Further Questions  
No Greater Love  
Passion of Ayn Rand

Pirates (prep only)  
The Pooch and the Pauper  
Prime Time Crime: Cliffhanger  
Prime Time Crime: Don't Touch My Daughter  
Prime Time Crime: The Promise  
Prime Time Crime: Salt of the Earth  
Secret Path  
Sirens  
Small Vices  
Storm of the Century  
Ultimate Betrayal  
The Unicorn's Secret  
Vendetta  
West Wing

### Feature Films

Abbie  
Boondock Saints  
Bride of Chucky  
The Corruptor  
Detroit Rock City  
Dick  
Gossip  
In Too Deep  
Killing Moon  
Lazarus and the Hurricane  
Lisbon Sisters (a.k.a. The Virgin Suicides)  
Map of the World  
Mercy  
New Jersey Turnpikes  
Prisoner of Love  
Pushing Tin  
Resurrection  
Superstar  
Third Miracle  
Three To Tango  
Urban Legend



## Ontario Film and Television Production 1996-1998

	1998		1997		1996	
	Number of Projects	Production \$ left in Ontario	Number of Projects	Production \$ left in Ontario	Number of Projects	Production \$ left in Ontario
<b>Domestic</b>						
Feature Film	23	58.2	20	38.0	21	54.6
Television Movies, Mini-series, Specials, Pilots, Docudramas	33	52.1	35	65.9	27	50.8
Television Series*	51	263.5	39	279.6	27	172.0
Animation**	6	22.4	11	30.9	-	-
<b>Total Domestic</b>	<b>113</b>	<b>396.2</b>	<b>105</b>	<b>414.3</b>	<b>75</b>	<b>277.4</b>
<b>Foreign</b>						
Feature Film	21	176.3	13	98.2	12	146.8
Television Movies, Mini-series, Specials, Pilots, Docudramas	51	170.7	42	118.6	37	101.7
Television Series	-	0.0	1	3.9	1	4.4
<b>Total Foreign</b>	<b>72</b>	<b>347.0</b>	<b>56</b>	<b>220.8</b>	<b>50</b>	<b>252.8</b>
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>185</b>	<b>743.2</b>	<b>161</b>	<b>635.1</b>	<b>125</b>	<b>530.2</b>

\* The number of 1998 domestic television series does not include cycles which began production in 1997. Previous years' numbers may include cycles begun the year before.

\*\* Statistics for animated productions were not collected until 1997

Please note that the production data above represent expenditures of all productions serviced by the OFDC and do not include television commercial, corporate video or music video production, and may include some live-action broadcaster-owned productions. Data reflect the production expenditures in Ontario during the years and do not always reflect the total budgets of the projects.

All financial figures are in millions of Canadian dollars. Financial figures have not been adjusted for inflation.

### Five Year Comparison of Production Dollars Left in Ontario

