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Best Director and Picture

March 5, 2018

Ontario's THE SHAPE OF WATER wins Four Oscars

Ontario stories, locations and production talent were celebrated on the Oscar stage last night as **THE SHAPE OF WATER** won four[®] Academy Awards. The Ontario Media Development Corporation's blueprint for a robust film industry supported the production of Guillermo del Toro's **THE SHAPE OF WATER** whose four Oscars[®] included: **Best Picture**--Guillermo del Toro & J. Miles Dale, **Director**--Guillermo del Toro, **Production Design**--Paul Denham Austerberry (Production Design); Shane Vieau and Jeffrey A. Melvin (Set Decoration) and **Music (Original Score)**--Alexandre Desplat, from a total of 13 nominations.

THE SHAPE OF WATER contributed more than \$20 million to the provincial economy through employment, equipment purchases and visual effects.

More than 1,500 Ontarians were employed in the creation of **THE SHAPE OF WATER** in an industry that supported more than 35,000 jobs in 2016 and contributed \$1.7 billion to Ontario's economy, fueled in part by significant provincial investments and the province's highly skilled workforce.

Also nominated and celebrated in the category **BEST ANIMATED FEATURE** was Ontario's **THE BREADWINNER** co-produced by Ontario's Aircraft Pictures.

The Ontario Film Commission's competitive financial incentives continue to help grow a vibrant production sector that features world class creative talent, infrastructure and innovative technology making the province a leading production centre.

Ontario's starring role in the 90th Academy Awards included:

- **BEST PICTURE WINNER** | Ontario Producer J. Miles Dale won the **BEST PICTURE** Oscar[®] with Guillermo del Toro for **THE SHAPE OF WATER**.
- **ONTARIO CREW** | The entire crew and all department heads—except the Director and Cinematographer—are from Ontario.
- **STARRING ROLES** | Hamilton and Toronto had starring roles in **THE SHAPE OF WATER** with key locations ranging from Hamilton City Hall, Massey Hall, the Elgin Theatre, Lakeview Restaurant and the University of Toronto's Scarborough Campus featured prominently.
- **ANIMATION** | **THE BREADWINNER** nomination for Best Animated Feature – This OMDC supported film, was executive produced by Angelina Jolie and produced by Ontario's Aircraft Pictures along with Ireland's Cartoon Saloon, Luxembourg's Melusine Productions. As the province's economic development agency for the creative sectors, OMDC hosted a B2B event that brokered the deal between Aircraft Pictures securing the film rights to this award-winning book by Ontario author Deborah published by Ontario's Groundwood Books.

Supporting a vibrant production industry is part of our plan to create jobs, grow our economy and build Ontario's creative industries.

QUOTES

"Congratulations to producer J. Miles Dale, director Guillermo del Toro and the entire crew of THE SHAPE OF WATER on your Oscar wins! Thank you Guillermo for choosing Ontario in which to live and work and for being an industry champion. Ontario stories and productions are having a moment on the world stage.

This recognition is the result of a well-developed industry program that helps market, promote and support Ontario as a world-class production centre and create the right conditions to help our film and TV industry succeed."

— Mark Sakamoto, Board Chair, Ontario Media Development Corporation

"These award-winning films celebrate the incredible content, locations and production talent in Ontario. We're delivering a perfect mix of talent, environment, competitive financial incentives and government support that help create first-class films that are made in Ontario and enjoyed and celebrated around the world. We continue to experience year-over-year growth in this vital sector that contributes significantly to the province's economic growth and supports thousands of jobs."

— Karen Thorne-Stone, President and CEO, Ontario Media Development Corporation

QUICK FACTS

- Every \$1 million of film and TV production in Ontario generates 21 jobs.
- There are currently 19 productions in pre-production or underway in Ontario.
- Ontario continues to be Canada's leading jurisdiction for film and television production.
- As part of Ontario's first Culture Strategy, the government established a film and TV advisory panel to provide advice on keeping Ontario a top production jurisdiction.

Info & Photos

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Photos for THE SHAPE OF WATER:

1. Deluxe Toronto [THE SHAPE OF WATER](#)
 - a. Photo caption: Deluxe Toronto post-production team for THE SHAPE OF WATER (L-R): Nathan Robitaille, Ontario Producer J. Miles Dale, Brad Zoern, Director Guillermo del Toro, Christian Cooke, Nelson Ferreira, Filip Hosek, Cam McLauchlin, Sidney Wolinsky, Rob Hegedus, Doug Wilkinson
2. [Hamilton City Hall as advertising agency](#)
3. [Hamilton City Hall as advertising agency](#)
4. [University of Toronto Scarborough Campus exterior as government research facility](#)
5. [Interior of University of Toronto Scarborough Campus as government research facility commissary](#)
6. [Lakeview Restaurant as Pie Shop interior](#)
7. [Lakeview Restaurant as Pie Shop exterior](#)
8. [Massey Hall exterior as movie theatre exterior](#)