



# Highlight Reel **2024**

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This year, the BC Branch of the CMPA celebrated its 30th anniversary, but our story began long before that. In 1948, when television had yet to arrive on the scene, the Association of Motion Picture Producers & Laboratories of Canada was formed. Fast forward through the years, and after many name changes — AMPPLC, CFTA, CFTPA — we became the **Canadian Media Producers Association** (CMPA) to better reflect our members, independent producers.

In recognition of a powerhouse BC production community and the unique regulatory and legislative environment in this province, the **BC Producers Branch of the CMPA** was established in 1994.

Over the past three decades, the team in Vancouver has grown from one staff member, focused solely on labour and industrial relations, to a team of **six**, serving over **160 member companies** across a wide range of activities. The BC Branch engages in government advocacy, training, mentorship, industry development, stakeholder relations, export missions, EDI initiatives, sustainability and climate action, member networking, and, of course, collective bargaining, where it all started.



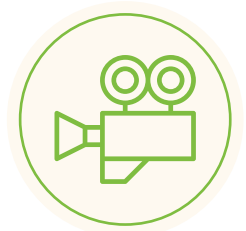
CMPA-BC GR Committee (Brian Hamilton, Michelle Morris, Tracey Friesen, Haydn Wazelle) with BC Liberal Leader Kevin Falcon and team



Liz Shorten, Tracey Friesen, Minister Lana Popham, BC Premier David Eby, Haydn Wazelle

## BC Industrial Relations

The BC IR team continued diversity and inclusion work throughout the year while preparing for negotiations with the DGC BC, the BC Council of Film Unions, and UBCP/ACTRA.



The joint CMPA/AMPTP/BCCFU Reconciliation, Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion Committee launched a five-year Special Program to enhance diversity within the Council unions. The program allows employers to develop new training programs to assist individuals from traditionally underrepresented groups to enter the BC motion picture workforce and work toward membership in the BCCFU unions.

The CMPA-BC also worked together with the AMPTP and the DGC BC to produce a Diversity & Inclusion report analyzing established programs in the industry and identifying barriers to entry. At the Actsafe Motion Picture Standing Committee we collaborated to set new strategic priorities for the development of future health and safety programs and training to be delivered by Actsafe.

### We also:

Worked with the CMPA's **National Industrial Relations team** to conclude negotiations for a new Writers Guild of Canada Independent Production Agreement (IPA).

Negotiated a deal with the **DGC BC** for the renewal of the current Collective Agreement, which expires on March 31, 2025.

Commenced preparations for **upcoming negotiations with ACTRA, the BCCFU and UBCP**, taking place before the end of March 2025.

# Stakeholder & Government Relations

With a provincial election in BC this year, the CMPA-BC was busy.

We invited producer members to meetings with MLAs and candidates to share their on-the-ground experiences as entrepreneurs based in their ridings. We also participated in Screen BC hosted 'speed-dating' events with candidates from both the BC NDP and BC Conservative parties.

While the whole motion picture industry raised issues around BC's competitiveness on a national and global stage, CMPA-BC worked tirelessly to ensure domestic producers' unique offerings and challenges were well heard through all the pre-election lobbying efforts and activities. Meanwhile, CMPA-BC applauds Creative BC, which invested over \$3M in nearly 40 feature films produced by independent BC production companies, through its Domestic Motion Picture Fund. This is crucial financial support for leveraging national funds and international partnerships.

## We also:

Initiated a national research project, **Canada's Emissions Footprint**, to establish a benchmark of the Canadian film & television sector's emissions and support the industry in collectively setting targets for reduction and a path to zero.

Supported the expansion of BC's pilot bespoke **sustainability training bursary initiative** to a national level, with 10 companies receiving support to level up their green production practices.

Furthered relations with producers in Yukon Territory, given the synergies between the two regions, by attending **Screen Production Yukon Association's first annual conference**, and the Available Light Film Festival.



Allegiance set visit with NDP government representatives and Creative BC



# Member, Industry & Export Development

CMPA-BC continued supporting members with unique, focused, programs emphasizing international export development and domestic networking.

One notable collaboration this year was with BC Books, Creative BC and VIFF for our BC Books on Screen. Publishers and producers had the opportunity to connect in one-on-one meetings, participate in informal networking and hear about the latest industry trends and case studies. It also provided a new avenue for producers to discover potential intellectual property for development and co-production projects.

## We also:

Offered a delegation of emerging producers the opportunity to attend the **Whistler Film Festival**, where they'll participate in networking events and one-on-one meetings with filmmakers, producers, and industry leaders.

Executed our first-ever **interprovincial delegation to Toronto**, providing ten producers with travel support and in-person meetings with Executives from CBC, Bell Media, Rogers Sports & Media, Blue Ant, Neshama and Elevation Pictures. Producers were also provided an opportunity to attend a networking event with CMPA members in Toronto.

Supported members at international markets, including **Content London** and **Berlinale**, facilitating networking opportunities, one-on-one meetings, and providing travel support.



Leena Minifie & Jenni Baynham

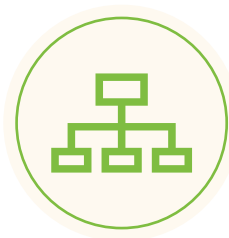


Kelly Milner, Raila Gutman, Andrew Addison, Amy Lennon



### Outgoing 23/24 Branch Council

(L-R) Andrew Williamson (Cedar Island Films), Cathy Schoch (Omnifilm Entertainment), Emily Alden (Brightlight Pictures), Joy Haskell (Firediva Productions), Kim Dent Wilder (Mainframe Studios), Lori Massini (Thunderbird Entertainment), Tex Antonucci (LARK Productions), Michelle Morris (Lily Pictures), Sabrina Roc (Wojack Productions), Trevor Hodgson (First Look Media)



## Branch Operations & Council

Our BC Branch is dedicated to supporting and advocating for 160-plus members who create across various genres throughout the province. Additionally, we:

- Celebrated two significant employment milestones, including CMPA Chief Operating Officer Liz Shorten's 15-year anniversary, and Ryan MacArthur's ten-year anniversary at the CMPA.
- Hosted two networking events, including our summer social and holiday gathering, for members to connect with one another and industry partners.

Thank you to our outgoing 23/24 Branch Council members for their contributions and commitment to the industry during their two-year term. We welcome and look forward to working with our newly elected 25/26 Branch Council.



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Bob Wong, Brishkay Ahmed, Leena Minifie, Dominique Roy,  
Lauren Gilles, Jacob Crawford, Jenni Baynham, Kate Kroll



Jacob Crawford, Bob Wong



Dominique Roy, Andrew Morris, Kulbinder Saran Caldwell