

CMPA Bulletin: MOW Director's Cut Time

August 24, 2026

During the negotiations for the 2025-2028 DGC BC Collective Agreement, the DGC BC raised concerns that Made-for-Television Movie/Movie of the Week (MOW) Directors were not always provided sufficient time for the preparation of the Director's Cut under Article A-8.8(b) or were not provided sufficient notice of the time allocated for the Director's Cut.

CMPA-BC and the DGC BC agreed to the attached Letter of Understanding (LOU) to address these concerns in the context of the current MOW industry.

The terms of the LOU apply when a Director of a MOW is provided **less** than the time set out in Articles A-8.8(b)(iii) and (iv):

A-8.8 The Director shall be allowed at least the following minimum time allowances for the preparation of the Director's Cut:

(b) On television motion pictures:

- (iii) having a running time of ninety (90) minutes or less, but more than sixty (60) minutes, within fifteen (15) days;*
- (iv) having a running time of two (2) hours or less, but more than ninety (90) minutes, within twenty (20) days;*

Provisions of the LOU are applicable to MOWs with a running time of more than sixty (60) minutes and up to two (2) hours.

The following procedure applies when the time for the Director's Cut is less than as set forth in A-8.8 (b) (iii) or (iv), as applicable to the running time of the MOW:

- 1) At the time of the initial offer, **the Producer must notify the Director and/or their representative, in writing**, how many days will be provided for the Director's Cut. An email shall be considered sufficient written notice.
- 2) **The number of days for the Director's Cut must also be included in the "Additional Production Notes" field at the end of page 2 of the DGC BC Schedule C (Production Notice) and sent to the DGC BC at:**
production@dgcbc.com

- 3) **If the Director's Cut time needs to be reduced after the Schedule C has been submitted, the Producer must notify** the DGC BC and the Director and/or their representative in writing.

When fewer than five (5) days are to be provided for the Director's Cut, written approval from the DGC BC is required. Approval will not be unreasonably withheld.

- 1) When making a request to the DGC BC to reduce the time for the Director's Cut to **fewer than five (5) days, the Employer should state the reason(s) for the reduction and may provide supporting documentation** along with the Schedule C (Production Notice) to facilitate an expedient response. The DGC BC shall provide a written response to the Employer's request within three (3) business days.
- 2) **If the Employer requires a response in less than three (3) business days for valid business reasons**, then the Employer should notify the DGC BC of the reason(s) for an urgent request **at the time of submission**. The DGC BC will respond to such urgent requests in writing within twenty-four (24) hours of the Employer making the request in writing.
- 3) **If the Director's Cut time needs to be reduced to fewer than five (5) days after the Schedule C has been submitted, the Employer will advise the DGC BC and the Director and/or their representative in writing.** The Employer should state the reason(s) for the reduction and may provide supporting documentation to the DGC BC to facilitate an expedient response.
- 4) Urgent requests should be directed to:

Rob Larson rlarson@dgcbc.com (Cell 604-817-1728)

CC: Alexis Hinde ahinde@dgcbc.com

In the unlikely event Rob is not available you can also contact:

Kendrie Upton kupton@dgcbc.com

Catherine Middleton cmiddleton@dgc.ca

The Letter of Understanding will remain in effect until the expiry of the 2025-2028 Collective Agreement on March 31, 2028.

While the LOU is in effect, the CMPA-BC and the DGC BC will meet to monitor the effectiveness of the notification provisions, and the DGC BC has agreed to not file grievances concerning the length of time for the Director's Cut on MOWs.

If you have questions about this Letter of Understanding, please contact the CMPA-BC Industrial Relations team:

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