

BACKGROUND

Ontario Media Development Corporation

February 17, 2010

Ontario Film and Television Production 2007 - 2009

By Format

	2009		2008		2007	
	as at Dec. 31, 2009		as at Dec. 31, 2008		as at Dec. 31, 2007	
	Number of Projects	Production \$ left in Ontario	Number of Projects	Production \$ left in Ontario	Number of Projects	Production \$ left in Ontario
	Production \$ = millions of dollars					
Domestic						
Feature Film	28	99.2	15	26.6	25	75.7
Television Series ¹	106	488.3	127	453.5	79	326.0
Television Movies, Mini-series, Specials, Pilots ²	63	86.8	58	64.5	60	96.9
Total Domestic	197	674.4	200	544.6	164	498.6
Foreign						
Feature Film	9	161.8	9	79.0	14	224.9
Television Series ¹	6	58.0	5	16.0	6	16.1
Television Movies, Mini-series, Specials, Pilots ²	13	52.3	9	31.6	15	51.5
Total Foreign	28	272.1	23	126.6	35	292.4
TOTAL	225	946.4	223	671.2	199	791.0

Animation vs. Live Action

Domestic						
Animation	16	49.5	23	86.4	N/A	N/A
Live Action	181	624.9	177	458.3	N/A	N/A
Total Domestic	197	674.4	200	544.6	N/A	N/A
Foreign						
Animation	4	63.1	4	15.8	N/A	N/A
Live Action	24	208.9	19	110.8	N/A	N/A
Total Foreign	28	272.0	23	126.6	N/A	N/A
TOTAL	225	946.4	223	671.2	N/A	N/A

Data represent expenditures of all productions using OMDC-administered incentives and services. Data do not include television commercial, corporate video, music video, or broadcaster in-house production. Figures include live action and animated production. Data reflect the production expenditures in Ontario during the year and do not always reflect the total budgets of the projects. There may be productions that shot in Ontario that are not included in these totals due to the timing of project applications.

All dollar figures are in millions of Canadian dollars. Dollar figures have not been adjusted for inflation.

Totals may not add due to rounding.

¹ The number of television series does not include cycles which began production in the previous year.

² Productions with fewer than six episodes.

2009 PRODUCTION ACTIVITY NOTES

- Ontario's domestic production remained strong in 2009 contributing \$674.4 million, a 23.8 per cent increase over 2008. Although the total number of domestic productions remained similar to the previous year, their overall budgets were significantly larger in 2009. Domestic feature film activity rose from 15 to 28 productions, seven of which received direct support from the OMDC Film Fund. The average domestic feature film production budget increased by 99.8 per cent over 2008. Despite the number of domestic television series decreasing from 127 (2008) to 106 in 2009, overall budgets of many of these series were larger, contributing \$488.3 million. Television Movies, mini-series, specials, pilot activity all remained steady with an overall spend increasing from \$64.5 million in 2008 to \$86.8 million 2009, a 34.6 per cent increase in budgets.
- In 2009, overall foreign production spending increased by \$145.4 million to \$272 million -- up 114 per cent. This increase was in part attributed to the Ontario Government's enhancements to the Ontario Production Services Tax Credit (OPSTC) announced on June 30, 2009. The OPSTC was expanded from 25 per cent of eligible labour to include all eligible Ontario production costs. The total number of foreign productions increased from 23 to 28.

- Foreign feature numbers remained stable compared to 2008, but budgets increased, contributing \$161.8 million - a 104.7 per cent jump from 2008. Foreign TV series production activity also saw a similar number of shows compared to 2008 but with significantly larger budgets, contributing \$58.0 million - an increase of 262 per cent total spend. Television movies, mini-series, specials and pilots increased from nine to 13 representing a 34.6 per cent jump in production dollars spent, leaving \$52.3 million dollars in the province's economy.
- Among the foreign productions that led to the big increase in 2009 were: Universal Studios' **Scott Pilgrim vs. The World**, set in Toronto and starring Brampton native Michael Cera; ABC Studios' new television series **Happy Town**, which will be airing this spring; and the fourth installment in the Resident Evil franchise, **Resident Evil: Afterlife**, shot in Stereoscopic 3D.
- On the domestic side, seven OMDC Film Fund-supported projects shot in 2009 including: **Oliver Sherman** and **Longfellow** (both shot in Northern Ontario); **The Bang Bang Club**; **A Beginners Guide to Endings**; **Barney's Version**; **The Love Child of Andy Warhol** and **Yoko Ono** and **The Untitled David Suzuki**.
- On the television front a number of series, both domestic and foreign, are returning for 2010, including: CTV's **Flashpoint**; NBC/Universal TV's **Warehouse 13** and Shaftesbury's **Connor Undercover** for The Family Network. In addition, several brand new series, including Shaftesbury's **Baxter**, USA Network's **Covert Affairs** and the Cartoon Network's **Unnatural History**, have already announced they will be shooting in Ontario this winter/spring, and numerous other productions are close to making announcements or are actively scouting for spring shoots.
- Ontario's world-class facilities and competitive tax credits also attracted a number of productions shot outside the Province to do their post-production and visual effects here. The Ontario Computer Animation and Special Effects Tax Credit (OCASE) helped Ontario's computer animation and visual effects companies show a strong performance during the year
- The outlook for 2010 is already promising: OMDC's Film Commission division is scouting a number of projects for 2010. [A number of high-profile productions are currently up and running for winter shoots.](#) These include the foreign features: **Red** (Summit Entertainment, starring Bruce Willis and Morgan Freeman); **Dream House** (Morgan Creek) directed by Jim Sheridan; the seventh installment in the hugely successful **Saw** series shooting in 3D and Universal's prequel of **The Thing**. The OMDC-supported domestic feature film **Score: A Hockey Musical** began shooting in early February.

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