



**INDEPENDENT  
PRODUCTION  
FUND**

**ANNUAL REPORT**

**2009**

**[www.ipf.ca](http://www.ipf.ca)**

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## MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

Like most of the world, the IPF went through some turbulent financial times during 2009. The global economic situation put the brakes on a lot of projects for many of us. However, the IPF did not let things that were out of its control, demoralize us. On the contrary, it relied on its lengthy experience collaborating with other private Funds to inject some fresh ideas into the industry. For many years, the IPF has provided administrative and management services to other Funds: the Bell Broadcast and New Media Fund, the Canwest Alberta Fund and the Cogeco Program Development Fund. Recognizing that the IPF's capacity to invest in dramatic television series was significantly affected by the economic impact on the value of its endowment, the IPF proposed a creative solution to one of its long-standing funding partners. The Cogeco Fund graciously accepted to revise its mandate to expand its funding beyond movies-of-the-week to include dramatic series for both private and public broadcasters. The IPF's leadership in this initiative reaffirms its long-term vision and commitment to ensure the support of the Canadian television industry.



Despite the financial challenges, the IPF still succeeded in funding several dramatic series as well as professional development projects that are so essential to the growth and promotion of the industry.

At its recent Annual General Meeting, the IPF confirmed its mandate and will continue to support dramatic television series, with its Cogeco Fund partner, and in recognition of evolving technologies, will fund drama series created for any platform. It's a new reality that we are adapting to.

I wish to thank my colleagues on the Board of Directors who bring their experience and vision to the boardroom table. It is with great sadness that we note that one of the chairs is now vacant, following the death of an original IPF Board member, Peter Mortimer. Peter made an exceptional contribution to the IPF over 18 years with his integrity and dedication to the industry. He will be missed.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'C. Ohayon'.

Charles Ohayon  
President

# BOARD OF DIRECTORS

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## **1. Charles Ohayon – President (beginning September 2009)**

Charles Ohayon has worked in television, advertising and film since 1979. He produced commercials at Films 24 and feature films and TV series at Cléo 24 where he was President. From 1994 to 1998 he was the Director General of Programming (Television) for the Société Radio-Canada. He was a member of the Board of Directors of the APFTQ and the CTF as well as the Academy of Canadian Cinema and Television. In 2005, he took a one year mandate as General Manager to reorganize the operations of l'Institut national de l'image et du son. He is President of the board of directors of the Academy of Canadian Cinema and Television- Quebec section.

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## **2. Roman Melnyk – Vice President**

Roman Melnyk is a lawyer and former television executive. Among other positions, he was formerly Vice President, Business Affairs at CTV and Network Program Director and Executive Director of Media Operations at the CBC.

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## **3. Steve Ord**

Steve Ord is an independent media consultant with more than 20 years of media experience. He most recently held the position of Executive Vice President, Alliance Atlantis Communications, where he was responsible for business and operational aspects of AAC's international television distribution division and content business. Prior to joining AA, he was Manager of Business Affairs at Telefilm Canada. He previously worked in policy consulting with Paul Audley & Associates. He is also a part-time graduate level instructor at the Schulich School of Business (York University).

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## **4. Heather McGillivray**

Heather McGillivray is a lawyer with experience in distribution and production as co-owner of Ironstar Communications. She also has experience in broadcasting as a former Vice President, Programming for Family Channel.

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## **5. Peter Mortimer**

Peter Mortimer (1937-2009) was President of the Board Council until September 2009. He was a writer/ producer and international communications policy consultant and a member of the Board of Directors and Selection Committee of the Cogeco Program Development Fund.

## **6. Denise Robert**

President of Cinémaginaire Inc., Denise Robert produced more than thirty films, some achieving the highest rewards, such as an Oscar in 2004 for Best Foreign Language Film for The Barbarian Invasions. She recently produced Émile Gaudreault's Father and Guns, which became the number one French-language film at the box-office in Quebec and Canada; Claude Meunier's first movie Honey, I'm in love, as well as coproduced Eric-Emmanuel Schmitt's Oscar and the Pink Lady. Her work was recognized with numerous awards such as Knight in the Order of Arts and Letters (Chevalier de l'Ordre des Arts et des Lettres) for her influential role in the promotion of French culture throughout the world. She is member of the prestigious Academy of Motion Picture Arts and Sciences, as well as the British Academy of film and Television.

## **7. Robert Roy**

Robert Roy is a consultant to the television Industry. He was a member of the Board of Directors and Selection Committee of the Cogeco Program Development Fund from 1993 to 2006. He has occupied many different executive positions for a variety of film and television organizations and associations in Canada and internationally. He has been a member of the Board of Directors of the IPF since its inception in 1991 and was Vice-President for many years.

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# TRIBUTE TO PETER MORTIMER

1937-2009

The Canadian film and television industry lost one of its strongest supporters in September 2009. Cancer claimed the life of Peter Mortimer, a gentleman and scholar, an independent film producer and story-teller

Peter's experience as a television series producer in the 1960's in his native United Kingdom served him well after his move to Canada in 1972. The improvement of the Canadian industry was his goal. Under his watch at the Ontario Ministry of Culture, the Academy of Canadian Cinema and Television was founded. Working with the federal government and Communications Minister Francis Fox, he created the film policy that led to the establishment of Telefilm Canada. Later, he joined the Board of the Foundation to Underwrite New Drama (now the Harold Greenberg Fund), one of several Funds that he participated on. A visionary and a policy enthusiast, Peter was the Executive Vice-President of the Canadian Film and Television Producers Association and then the Director of Government Relations for the newly formed CFTPA.

In 1991 Peter was appointed to the Board of Directors of the Maclean Hunter Fund, now the Independent Production Fund. He served as its Chair from 1995 to 2006. He was also a member of the Board of Directors of the Cogeco Fund and its Selection Committee from 1992 to 2009.

That's the "official version" of his career. Now, more about the man, Peter Mortimer.

Peter had a great sense of humour that delighted and entertained his colleagues. He loved good food and wine, and was a master chef himself. Peter was a Classics scholar and a voracious reader of history. He served as a British Military Intelligence officer. He was a racing car driver of Mini-Coopers. In the swinging 60's in London, he was even a fashion photographer! No trying task was too demanding of him, no broken appliance too demanding of his repair skills and no good deal too far or too complicated to overlook.

Peter leaves behind his wife, Maria Topalovich, their two daughters, Sasha and Catherine, and grand-daughter Julia, and many admiring friends and colleagues.

Thank you Peter, for your sense of duty, your intelligence, your thoughtfulness, your integrity and honour.

## ADMINISTRATION AND OVERVIEW



**Andra Sheffer**  
Executive Director



**Claire Dion**  
Associate Director



**Charles Zamaria**  
Financial Director

### TORONTO OFFICE

**Carly McGowan**  
Project Manager

**Astrid Rosemarin**  
Project Coordinator

#### Independent Production Fund

2 Carlton St., Suite 1709,  
Toronto, Ontario M5B 1J3  
Tel: (416) 977-8966  
Fax: (416) 977-0694  
E-mail: [info@ipf.ca](mailto:info@ipf.ca)

[www.ipf.ca](http://www.ipf.ca)

### MONTRÉAL OFFICE

**Joanne Duguay**  
Coordinator

**Huguette Giroux**  
Executive Assistant

#### Le Fonds indépendant de production

4200, boul. St-Laurent, bureau 503,  
Montréal (Québec) H2W 2R2  
Tél. : (514) 845-4334  
Télécopie : (514) 845-5498  
Cour. élec. : [fipinfo@ipf.ca](mailto:fipinfo@ipf.ca)

[www.ipf.ca](http://www.ipf.ca)

#### WHAT IS IT?

Equity investments for the financing of dramatic television series and grants for professional development programs. New in 2010: production financing for dramatic series created for any platform.

#### WHO IS IT FOR?

Canadian independent producers with a private Canadian broadcaster first-window licence commitment (or hosted on a Canadian portal or webcasting service – in 2010).

#### HOW DO YOU GET IT?

The Board of Directors evaluates all eligible applications based on quality, creativity, business plans and financial viability.

[www.ipf.ca](http://www.ipf.ca)

# STATISTICS

## INVESTMENTS IN THE CANADIAN TELEVISION INDUSTRY

	Investment (\$)		Number of Projects	
Category	2009	1991 - 2009	2009	1991 - 2009
Series	1,125,000	46,186,608 <sup>(1)</sup>	6	246 <sup>(2)</sup>
Professional Development	138,000	3,846,625	11	300
Total	1,263,000	50,033,233	17	546

<sup>(1)</sup> Includes \$647,678 in funding for Pilots 1991-1998

<sup>(2)</sup> Includes 17 pilots funded 1991-1998

## SERIES INVESTMENT BY LANGUAGE

	Dollars Invested (\$)		Number of Projects	
	2009	1991 - 2009	2009	1991 - 2009
English	800,000	29,193,226	4	143
French	325,000	16,345,704	2	86
Total	1,125,000	45,538,930	6	229

## SERIES



### DEGRASSI: THE NEXT GENERATION, CYCLE 9A

Epitome Pictures Inc.  
13 x 30 minutes; CTV

Exec P: Linda Schuyler, Stephen Stohn  
P: Linda Schuyler, Stephen Stohn  
D: Philip Earnshaw

Season 9 remains true to the principles of Degrassi, telling stories of first experiences that balance gritty realism and infectious humor from a young person's point of view.



### DURHAM COUNTY, SEASON III

Back Alley Durham 3 Films Inc., Durham 3 Productions (Muse) Inc.  
6 x 60 minutes; TMN, Movie Central

Exec P: Michael Prupas, Janis Lundman, Adrienne Mitchell, Laurie Finstad-Knizhnik, Noel Hedges  
P: Claude Paiement  
D: Adrienne Mitchell, Charles Binamé

Mike Sweeney is now part of a task force that covers intense crimes along the 401 Toronto/Durham highway corridor, investigating the brutal murder of young boys who were drug runners. He is faced with tragedy as his pregnant wife Audrey dies, leaving Mike with a new baby and new suspicions about a colleague.



### NI PLUS NI MOI

Sphère Média inc.  
6 x 60 minutes; Séries +

Exec P: Jocelyn Deschênes  
P: Sophie Pellerin, Mélanie Lamothe  
D: Jean-Philippe Duval

Jean-Philippe and Isabelle, a young couple in their 30's, have been together for 11 years. Just when they are about to buy their dream home and start a family, Jean-Philippe, a marketing consultant, is told to "reconnect with the real world" by taking on a job as cook and dish-washer in a popular local restaurant – or risk losing his job. Under a false identity, he begins his double-life, confusing those around him.



## SERIES CONT'D



### SHATTERED

Shattered Productions I Ltd.

13 x 60 minutes; Canwest Showcase

Exec P: Debra Beard, Hugh Beard, Noreen Halpern,  
Kim Clements, John Morayniss, Laszlo Barna,  
Jon Cooksey

P: Ian McDougall

D: Kari Skoland

SHATTERED is a character-driven police procedural series. Kyle Loggins, a police detective, suffers from a multiple personality disorder which has a major impact on his job and his unique investigative abilities to solve crime.



### STELLA AND SAM

Stella and Sam Productions Inc.

26 x 11 minutes; Family Channel

Exec P: John Leitch

P: John Leitch, Michelle Melanson

D: Ray Jafelice

Based on the best-selling pre-school book series by Marie-Louise Gay, Stella and Sam focuses on the relationship between inquisitive but shy five-year old Sam and his outgoing big sister Stella. Fred, Stella and Sam's dog, provides the series with much comic relief.



### TOUTE LA VÉRITÉ

Sphère Média 2008 inc.

20 x 60 minutes; Groupe TVA

Exec P: Jocelyn Deschênes

P: Sophie Pellerin, Mélanie Lamothe

D: Lyne Charlebois

Behind every crime, there's a good story and fascinating characters: the Crown Attorneys. Toute la vérité follows three brave lawyers as they take on criminal and sex crime cases, and work on the pre-trial team. From trial to trial they face new risks – while trying to balance it all with their personal lives.

# PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT AND TRAINING

ACADEMY OF CANADIAN  
CINEMA AND  
TELEVISION

## **24<sup>th</sup> Annual Gemini Awards**

October 19-20 / November 14,  
2009

Toronto, Ontario / Calgary,  
Alberta

## **24<sup>e</sup> Gala des Prix Gémeaux (2009)**

17 & 20 September, 2009  
Montréal, Québec

ALLIANCE FOR  
CHILDREN AND  
TELEVISION

## **Awards of Excellence 2009**

June 3, 2009  
Toronto, Ontario

## **Prix d'excellence 2010**

May 27, 2010  
Montréal, Québec

ALLIANCE FOR  
CHILDREN AND  
TELEVISION

## **Children, Youth and Media Conference 2009**

November 19, 2009  
Toronto, Ontario

ATLANTIC FILM  
FESTIVAL  
ASSOCIATION

## **Strategic Partners**

September 18-20, 2009  
Halifax, Nova Scotia

CANADIAN FILM CENTRE

## **CFC Prime Time Television Program**

September, 2009 – February 2010  
Toronto, Ontario

CANADIAN SCREEN  
TRAINING CENTRE

## **Summer Institute of Film & Television 2009**

May 26-31, 2009  
Ottawa, Ontario

CREATIVE WOMEN  
WORKSHOPS  
ASSOCIATION

## **Women in the Director's Chair (WIDC) 2009**

December 2009 – January 2010  
Banff, Alberta; Vancouver, British  
Columbia; various other locations  
across Canada

INSTITUT NATIONAL DE  
L'IMAGE ET DU SON

## **Télesérie 2009 – L'Éveil**

April 13 to June 17, 2009  
Montréal, Québec

VANCOUVER  
INTERNATIONAL FILM  
FESTIVAL

## **24<sup>th</sup> Annual Vancouver Film and TV Forum**

September 29 – October 3, 2009  
Vancouver, British Columbia

WORKSHOPS  
TRADE FORUMS  
TELEVISION FESTIVALS  
SEMINARS

# CANWEST ALBERTA FUND

The Canwest Alberta Fund (“CAF”) is administered as a Program of the Independent Production Fund. It was established by Canwest MediaWorks Inc. as a result of CRTC Decision 2007-168, to support Alberta’s independent production community by financing the production of priority television programming produced by Alberta production companies for Canadian broadcasters. Three million dollars were invested in the past two years into the production of 20 television dramas, documentaries and lifestyle programming, as well as the development of 15 projects. The Fund operates under Managing Director Jane Bisbee, based in Edmonton.

## CAF RECIPIENTS 2008/2009

### PRODUCTION

#### ANASH AND THE LEGACY OF THE SUN-ROCK

Panacea Productions

Producers: Josh Miller, Carol  
Geddes

Director: Carol Geddes

Broadcaster: APTN

Inspired by Tlinglit oral tradition, this half-hour animated/live-action series depicts the quest of Anash and his servant Kole as they attempt to fulfill an ancient prophesy reuniting the pieces of the Sun-Rock to restore peace to their land.

#### CAUTION: MAY CONTAIN NUTS

Mosaic Entertainment

Producers: Camille Beaudoin,  
Jake Chapman,  
Eric Rebalkin

Director: Bruce Pirrie,  
Dana Andersen

Broadcaster: APTN

From pop culture to Native culture - nothing is off limits. This sketch comedy series goes where few in TV dare, treating all sacred cows with the respect they deserve: lots of barbecue sauce and plenty of heat.

#### DONNER DOWN

Corkscrew Media

Producer: Brent Kawchuk

Director: Joel Stewart

Broadcaster: CMT

One lonely Christmas Eve, a young veterinarian, sadly lacking in the spirit of the season, has a strange visit from a man in a red suit with an injured reindeer.

#### FISH OUT OF WATER

Joe Media Group

Producers: Katery Legault,  
Neil Grah

Director: Neil Grah  
Broadcaster: APTN

Host Don Kelly is a First Nations guy with an office job who each week explores part of his culture with a different Aboriginal elder.



**Anash and the Legacy of the Sun-Rock**  
Panacea Productions



**Caution: May Contain Nuts**  
Mosaic Entertainment



**Donner Down**  
Corkscrew Media

# CAF RECIPIENTS 2008/2009

## PRODUCTION CONT'D

### IT'S JUST FOOD

Corkscrew Media

Producers: Paula Davies,  
Scott Henuset

Director: Blake Horobin

Broadcaster: Viva

This cooking series presents tips and tricks to simplify the process of cooking for the culinary newbie.

### MIXED BLESSINGS

Prairie Dog Productions

Producer: Jesse Szymanski

Director: Francis

Damberger

Broadcaster: APTN

A Ukrainian plumber and a Cree waitress from Fort McMurray are still trying to bring their kids, in-laws, boyfriends and cousins into one big happy family in this comedy series.

### RIDE GUIDE BIKE 2009

Ride Guide Productions

Producer: Kevin Pennock

Director: Kevin Pennock

Broadcaster: High Fidelity HD TV

This series gives mountain bike fans a glimpse of the best rides, and the life of mountain biking pros.

### RIDE GUIDE SNOW 2009

Ride Guide Productions

Producer: Kevin Pennock

Director: Kevin Pennock

Broadcaster: High Fidelity HD TV

The series *Ride Guide Snow* travels the world for snowboarders and skiers in search of the deepest powder.

### RODEO: AN ETERNITY OF SECONDS

Birds of a Feather Productions

Producer: Brad Brough

Director: Guy Clarkson

Broadcaster: Canwest Global

*Rodeo* chronicles a year in the lives of the men and women competing in one of the most dangerous contemporary spectacles in North America. Exploring the lore and mystique of the 'Old West', the series will deliver the behind the scenes human story of this amazing spectator sport.

### TERRI CLARK: LIVE AT MISSION HILL

Corkscrew Media

Producers: Brent Kawchuk,  
Scott Henuset

Director: Joel Stewart

Broadcaster: CMT

One of Canada's favourite country artists performs in a spectacular west-coast setting.

### TIPPING POINT

Clearwater Media

Producer: Niobe Thompson

Directors: Tom Radford, Niobe Thompson

Broadcaster: CBC

This two-hour documentary investigates the challenges facing Alberta's oilsands in the 'Age of Obama' by following the scientists, experts, Aboriginal leaders, along with American and Canadian policy maker.



**Fish Out of Water**  
Joe Media Group



**Mixed Blessings**  
Prairie Dog Productions



**Rodeo: An Eternity of Seconds**  
Birds of a Feather Productions

# CAF RECIPIENTS 2008/2009

## PRE-DEVELOPMENT

<b>BOOM</b> Panacea Entertainment Drama series	<b>DISASTER WATCH</b> Corkscrew Media Light information series	<b>ONE LAST SHOT</b> Nomadic Pictures MOW	<b>SPIN</b> Seven24 Films Drama series
<b>BREAKING THE ICE</b> Meltwater Productions Documentary	<b>FEAST</b> Joe Media Group Light information series	<b>PROMISELAND</b> Mosaic Entertainment Comedy series	<b>THE DUMP</b> ImagiNation Film and Television Comedy series
<b>DARK FIELD</b> Burns Films Drama Series	<b>FIRST LITTLE MOSQUE ON THE PRAIRIES</b> Reel Girls Media Documentary	<b>SAM STEELE</b> Chaos a film company Drama series	<b>THE BABY CLIFF</b> Electric Juice Productions Light information series

## DEVELOPMENT

<b>FORT MAC ATTACK</b> Corkscrew Media Comedy special CBC
<b>MAKING PEACE WITH WAR</b> Reel Girls Media Documentary Super Channel and CTV