

# **BACKGROUNDER**

**Ontario Media Development Corporation** 

February 16, 2011

## **Ontario Film and Television Production 2008 - 2010**

**By Format** 

•	<b>2010</b> as of Dec 31, 2010		<b>2009</b> as at Dec. 31, 2009		<b>2008</b> as at Dec. 31, 2008			
	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	20	62.6	28	99.2	15	26.6		
Television Series <sup>1</sup>	104	467.9	106	488.3	127	453.5		
Television Movies, Mini-series, Specials, Pilots <sup>2</sup>	58	115.6	63	86.8	58	64.5		
<b>Total Domestic</b>	182	646.1	197	674.4	200	544.6		
Foreign								
Feature Film	20	159.3	9	161.8	9	79.0		
Television Series <sup>1</sup>	16	119.0	6	58.0	5	16.0		
Television Movies, Mini-series, Specials, Pilots <sup>2</sup>	12	39.9	13	52.3	9	31.6		
Total Foreign	48	318.2	28	272.1	23	126.6		
TOTAL	230	964.3	225	946.4	223	671.2		

### **Animation vs. Live Action**

Domestic						
Animation	14	77.7	16	49.5	23	86.4
Live Action	168	568.5	181	624.9	177	458.3
<b>Total Domestic</b>	182	646.2	197.0	674.4	200	544.6
Foreign						
Animation	7	36.0	4	63.1	4	15.8
Live Action	41	282.1	24	208.9	19	110.8
Total Foreign	48	318.1	28.0	272.0	23	126.6
TOTAL	230	964.3	225.0	946.4	223.0	671.2

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.

#### **2010 PRODUCTION ACTIVITY NOTES**

- Ontario's domestic production remained stable overall contributing \$646 million.
   Television movies of the week grew 33.2% to \$115.6 million from \$86.8 million in 2009, with the number of productions down slightly at 58 versus 63 in 2009, but with an increase in budgets. Domestic animation spending increased to \$77.7 million in 2010 versus \$49.5 million in 2009 a 57 per cent increase.
- In 2010 overall foreign production spending increased by \$46 million to \$318 million up 16.9 per cent. The total number of foreign productions increased from 28 to 48, a 21 per cent increase over the previous year. Foreign television series spending spiked in 2010 contributing \$118.9 million compared to \$58 million in 2009 -- a 105.1% increase reflecting the quality productions that U.S. networks are sending to Ontario, including: DreamWorks'/Turner Network Television's Falling Skies; NBC/Universal Television's Warehouse 13 (entering its third season); and 20<sup>th</sup> Century Fox/A & E Network's Breakout Kings.
- Foreign feature film productions jumped to 20 from 9 in 2009, but budgets dropped slightly reflecting a trend towards lower budgets for indie productions due to the ongoing financial crisis in the U.S. Top productions in 2010 included Summit Entertainment's RED (nominated for a Golden Globe Award); Universal's re-make of The Thing and Morgan Creek Productions' Dream House.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> The number of television series does not include cycles which began production in the previous year.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> Productions with fewer than six episodes.

- On the domestic side, 14 OMDC Film Fund-supported features shot in 2010, including: Score:
   A Hockey Musical; Sophie; Take This Waltz; Sacrifice; Down the Road Again; La Sacrée;
   The Guantanamo Trap (documentary); The Maiden Danced; Entitled; Longfellow; If I
   Were You; I'm Yours; The Talking Cure and November Gale
- On the television front a number of series, both domestic and foreign, are returning for 2011, including: CTV's Flashpoint; NBC/Universal TV's Warehouse 13; Shaftesbury Films'/CTV's The Listener; a re-make of Nikita from Warner Bros Television; E1 Entertainment's Rookie Blue.
- 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 2011 is already promising: OMDC's Film Commission division is busy scouting for 2011, and a number of high-profile productions are in prep for winter shoots. These include the feature films **Total Recall** and **Silent Hill 2**, a number of TV movies and pilots including **12 Dates of Christmas**, and various new and returning episodic series including **Combat Hospital**, **Nikita**, **King** and **Rookie Blue**.

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