



MOTION PICTURE ASSOCIATION - CANADA
ASSOCIATION CINÉMATOGRAPHIQUE - CANADA

WENDY NOSS, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Hon. Christian Paradis, PC, MP
Minister of Industry
C.D. Howe Building
235 Queen Street
Ottawa, Ontario
Canada K1A 0H5

September 20, 2011

Dear Minister Paradis:

The Motion Picture Association of American (MPAA) and its Canadian counterpart, the Motion Picture Association - Canada / Association cinématographique - Canada, serve as the voice and advocate for the major international producers and distributors of motion pictures, home entertainment and television programming. MPAA members include Paramount Pictures Corporation, Sony Pictures Entertainment Inc., Twentieth Century Fox Film Corporation, Universal City Studios LLC, Walt Disney Studios Motion Pictures, and Warner Bros. Entertainment Inc.

I am writing to request a meeting for the newly appointed Chairman and CEO of the MPAA, former U.S. Senator Christopher J. Dodd, when he is in Ottawa with me on October 18, 2011. While I appreciate the constraints of your busy schedule, I would like to take the opportunity to introduce you to the Senator at this critical time to discuss our industry at work in Canada, and the significance of copyright protection for creative works to Canadian jobs, businesses and the economy.

In Canada, the total volume of film and television production alone was more than \$4.9 billion last year, generating more than 117,000 full-time equivalent jobs (FTEs). The production studios associated with the Motion Picture Association - Canada are key contributors to the foreign location production (FLS) industry in Canada, in total valued at more than \$1.5 billion annually. US-based producers, in fact, accounted for 77% of all FLS projects in Canada, generating 35,900 FTE jobs last year alone.

Foreign location production benefits Canada because it provides jobs for local performers, crews, and other dependent businesses, economic activity through spending to production-related vendors and general suppliers, and direct and indirect tax revenues. The economic benefits go well beyond production alone: numerous related industries benefit through film and television distribution, theatrical exhibition, retail sales, manufacturing, broadcasting, film festivals and others. Moreover, foreign production serves as an essential support to the Canadian production community, regarded by domestic industry as a source of knowledge and technical transfer, affording Canadians the opportunity to work with global talent, and a vital element in the development of a sustainable production community with a diverse client base.

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This is a critical time for our industry. The theft of motion picture and television productions, particularly in the digital environment, threatens the economic vitality of our business, and the livelihoods of the working men and women who depend on it. Such theft also destroys the ability of those who finance and produce filmed entertainment to recoup their investment, and in turn, the ability of film artists to continue to create.

A strong and vibrant motion picture and television industry creates jobs, supports businesses, and drives national and local economies. The Senator and I look forward to meeting with you to discuss how we can work together to ensure that the creative products produced by the hard-working people in the motion picture and television industry are respected and protected so that the industry will continue to thrive as one of the most creative, innovative, and productive industries.

For administrative purposes, I have asked David Dyer, our Ottawa consultant with The Capital Hill Group, to follow up with your office in the coming days to confirm an appointment. David may be reached at (613) 235-0221, ext. 236, or dyer@capitalhill.ca.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'W. Noss', with a stylized, flowing script.

Wendy Noss
Executive Director

cc. David Dyer, The Capital Hill Group