



DGC Ontario – 2024 AGM – Directors Caucus Representative Report

2023 was another roller coaster of a year for our industry. The labour disputes south of the border caused an undeniable effect on our local landscape, the ripple effects we are still feeling. As you can imagine in a year like this, there was much work happening behind the scenes as your Executive Board, the staff, and everyone at the Guild worked tirelessly to look after its Members, preserve and amplify their work and opportunities, and navigate the tricky waters. Low production numbers and lessened opportunities called for us all to lean on our resiliency. But there is always hope to be had, especially as production numbers for 2024 slowly begin to rise.

One of the most exciting things to come out of 2023 was the relaunching of the Short Film Fund. The Short Film Fund Working Group, of which I'm a member, spent 2023 planning and finalizing the details of the Fund and hiring a Fund Manager. The Short Film Fund officially relaunched in early 2024, and I look forward to celebrating the four films created through the Fund upon their completion.

A collaboration with the Picture Editing Caucus saw the creation of a new database to act as a resource for directors looking for editors willing to collaborate on their demo reels and short films. This database may come in handy if, for example, you are still working to get your materials ready for directors.ca. We have seen an uptick in the number of producers utilizing directors.ca, and I encourage all directing Members to sign up and/or get their profile up to date.

I'd like to remind you that DGC-O offers a yearly education bursary to Members which can be used for professional development and continuing education opportunities that are not available through the DGC Professional Development and Training Program. The bursary can provide additional support for those wanting to sharpen their tools during downtime.

Directing can feel like a solitary pursuit but in actuality we are part of a beautiful community of storytellers. I encourage Directors to get involved in the Guild. Participate in Caucus meetings, take advantage of the many training initiatives provided by DGC-O and the NDD, come to events and networking opportunities. I truly believe we are at our strongest when we are connected and collaborative.

As always, I am available to chat and connect. I'd love to hear your ideas and input and get to know you and your work. There's lots in the works for the Directing Caucus in 2024. I look forward to sharing it with you.

Warmly,

Lisa Rose Snow
Directors Caucus Representative, DGC-O