



Toronto and Montreal – November 28 – For Immediate Release

Screenwriters in Canada take part in worldwide Demonstration of Support

Screenwriters in Toronto and Montreal took to the streets today to show their support for their WGA colleagues striking in the United States. Writers Guild of Canada (WGC) members were supported in their demonstration by a variety of other organizations including SARTEC, ACTRA, the Writers' Union, Directors' Guild of Canada, Canadian Media Guild, the Montreal Film Group, and other arts groups.

Maureen Parker, Executive Director, Writers Guild of Canada, says, "we walk the line today with colleagues worldwide to tell the studios we expect them to bring fairness and good faith to their side of the bargaining table. That begins by recognizing a basic principle: screenwriters deserve a fair share of the revenues generated by the content they create – regardless of where they live."

Rebecca Schechter, President, Writers Guild of Canada, addressed the crowd in front of the Sony Centre, saying "Screenwriters deserve respect, recognition and fair treatment for the work they do. That's true in the US and that's true in Canada."

At the rally in Montreal, WGC National Forum delegate Anne-Marie Perrotta noted that "The new technologies are the future of television, and screenwriters are fighting for their place in that future. This is not only about screenwriters today, but it is about the next generation of screenwriters."

Part of the International Affiliation of Writers Guilds' Day of Solidarity, Writers Guild of Canada members demonstrated their support with colleagues in Australia, Ireland, New Zealand, United Kingdom, Mexico and France.

The International Affiliation of Writers Guilds (IAWG) is an international body representing guilds of professional screenwriters. The IAWG works to further the cause of screenwriters worldwide by lobbying governments to adopt writer-friendly legislation and through collective action, mutual support and common representation internationally. The IAWG includes representatives from the Australian Writers Guild, the Irish Playwrights and Screenwriters Guild, the New Zealand Writers Guild, the Société des auteurs de radio, télévision et cinéma (SARTEC), the Writers Guild of America, East, the Writers Guild of America, West, the Writers Guild of Canada, and the Writers Guild of Great Britain.

The Writers Guild of Canada (WGC) represents more than 1,800 English-language professional screenwriters across Canada who create the distinctly Canadian entertainment we enjoy on our televisions, movie screens, radios and computers – such as dramatic TV series and movies, feature films, documentaries, animation programs, comedy and variety series, children's and educational programming, radio drama, corporate videos and digital media productions.

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