



**“Their fight is our fight”
International Affiliation of Writers Guilds Supports WGA Strike**

For immediate release

Montreal – November 15, 2007 – Leaders of major writers’ guilds from around the world – representing more than 21,000 screenwriters internationally – pledge to take action in support of the WGA strike against multi-national media conglomerates.

At the annual International Affiliation of Writers Guilds’ meeting in Montreal, Canada, screenwriters announced an International Day of Solidarity on Wednesday, November 28, 2007. Writers will demonstrate in Australia, Ireland, New Zealand, English and French Canada, United Kingdom, Mexico and France.

“Their fight is our fight,” asserts Rebecca Schechter, President, Writers Guild of Canada. “Screenwriters around the world are entitled to receive their fair share of revenues from the internet, and that is what our American colleagues are fighting for.”

Katharine Way, Chair, Writers Guild of Great Britain, argues that “The future of our industry is shifting toward new media. Writers have always had to fight for a small share of the revenues generated from their work and this case is no different.”

Audrey O’Reilly, Chair, Irish Playwrights and Screenwriters Guild, added that “Our solidarity means that no self-respecting screenwriter in any country will undermine the US strike. The overwhelming majority of our members will never take work from striking American colleagues because the fight now taking place in the US is a fight for screenwriters across the globe.”

Tim Pyre, President, Australian Writers Guild, says that “the IAWG urges the international corporate giants to share just a few more drops from their buckets of money with the creators – without whose work their TV shows, movies, webisodes and downloads would not exist. The networks and studios must return to the negotiating table without delay.”

The International Day of Solidarity on Wednesday, November 28, 2007, will demonstrate the resolve of the worldwide screenwriting community.

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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