

**MEMORANDUM OF AGREEMENT on
SCRIPT COORDINATORS**

BETWEEN

Writers Guild of Canada
(herein referred to as “WGC”)

and

**The International Alliance of Theatrical and Stage Employees, Moving Picture
Technicians, Artists and Allied Crafts of the United States, its Territories and
Canada**

(herein referred to as “IATSE”)

(Jointly, the “Parties”)

WHEREAS the jurisdiction of Script Coordinators has been an issue of contention between the Parties;

WHEREAS the Parties recognize that Script Coordinators are entry-level positions and vulnerable to exploitation;

WHEREAS the Parties recognize the additional and intersectional vulnerability of Script Coordinators who are Black, Indigenous or People of Colour (BIPOC), or persons from underrepresented groups;

WHEREAS the Parties recognize that Script Coordinator may be a temporary position for aspiring screenwriters;

AND WHEREAS the Parties agree that workers are best protected when they are members of a union or guild;

THE PARTIES AGREE AS FOLLOWS:

1. When the primary function and the majority of the regular day-to-day tasks of any individual working in the writer’s room on a production are administrative in nature, then the IATSE affirms their jurisdiction over that role. The position will be classified as a **Script or Story Coordinator**.
2. When the primary function and regular day-to-day tasks of any individual working in the writer’s room on a production are creative in nature, then the WGC affirms their jurisdiction over that role. The position will be classified as a **Story Editor** or **Writer**.
3. If a Script Coordinator is given any creative work, that work is under the jurisdiction of the WGC and will be contracted as a Story Editor or Writer under a

WGC agreement. In these instances, individuals may be concurrently under the jurisdiction of the IATSE and WGC, where the IATSE represents the administrative work and WGC represents the creative work.

4. The Parties affirm their respective jurisdiction based on the work performed, regardless of the title assigned by productions to the work. In order to ensure that workers are contracted and compensated in a manner that is properly reflective of the work performed, the Parties agree to actively uphold, support and not challenge in any manner each other's jurisdictional claims as set out herein.
5. The Parties commit to work collaboratively to ensure that Script Coordinators have access to union and guild representation across Canada and over all phases of production, including development.
6. In the event an individual does not wish to become a union or guild member, they will not be required to join. However, they will be expected to comply with the requirements for non-members working under the respective jurisdiction of the Parties.
7. The Parties agree to review their fees with a view to minimizing barriers and maximizing benefits to Script Coordinators. To this end, the Parties have begun discussions on the following:
 - a. Waiving initiation fees, especially for diverse persons
 - b. Transition of RRSPs
 - c. Application of health care benefits
8. The Parties agree to collaborate on training and professional development for Script Coordinators.
9. The Parties agree to work collaboratively in the spirit of this agreement, to protect Script Coordinators and facilitate a smooth transition as individuals move between their respective jurisdictions.

Signed in Toronto, Canada on August 30, 2023.



Victoria Shen
Executive Director
Writers Guild of Canada



John M. Lewis
International Vice President
& Director of Canadian Affairs
IATSE