

Writers Guild of Canada Elects New President

The newly elected council's term runs from May 1, 2024, to April 30, 2026.

For immediate release

Toronto, ON | May 9, 2024 — The Writers Guild of Canada (WGC) is pleased to announce that Montreal-based writer/showrunner and Quebec Region member Bruce Smith is the new president, elected by WGC council to serve the 2,500 members of the Guild from May 1, 2024, to April 30, 2026. Bruce was creator and showrunner of “Street Legal” on CBC. He was previously showrunner of CTV’s award-winning “19-2” for its four-season run, and for “Cracked” on CBC. Bruce has worked on numerous dramas, such as “Durham County,” and written multiple award-winning movies-of-the-week and miniseries, including “John A: Birth of a Country,” which won a 2013 Canadian Screen Award.

“We’re very excited to welcome Bruce as President,” says WGC Executive Director Victoria Shen. “He brings a wealth of knowledge and passion for the craft. He is a well-respected leader in the industry, having previously won the WGC Showrunner Award in 2015, and the McGrath Service Award in 2019. We have worked closely together over the past few months during our negotiations with producers. He is a fierce advocate for screenwriters across the country.”

WGC council members are elected for two-year terms and are responsible for setting policies and overseeing Guild activities.

“It is an honour to be elected as WGC president,” says Bruce Smith. “I am looking forward to building on the Guild’s past successes and continuing to fight for Canada’s screenwriters. WGC members can count on me to champion Canadian content, and ensure Canadian writers receive the respect they deserve.”

In addition to electing a new president, Central Region member Amanda Smith (“Travelers”) was elected as vice president, and Atlantic Region member Michael Amo (“Pure”) was re-elected as treasurer. Other WGC council members include Central Region Councillors Jeremy Boxen (“Killjoys”) and Anthony Q. Farrell (“Shelved”), as well as Pacific Western Region Councillors Sarah Dodd (“Cardinal”) and Jason Filiatrault (“Young Drunk Punk”).

The WGC is grateful to the three councillors whose terms have now ended: Alex Levine (“Orphan Black”), Marsha Greene (“The Porter”), and Anne-Marie Perrotta (“Big Top Academy”). Alex has been on council since 2018, serving as president from 2021–2024. In addition to stewarding governance issues within the Guild, Alex has been a key spokesperson for screenwriters on various policy issues throughout his term. Marsha has been on council since 2018, serving as vice president from 2021–2024. She is an industry and WGC advocate for Inclusion, Diversity Equity, and Accessibility (IDEA), and has been the chair of the WGC’s IDEA committee since 2020. Anne-Marie was elected to council in 2008, and has been instrumental in advancing

working conditions for animation writers in the industry. She has also chaired the WGC Awards Committee for many years.

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ABOUT THE WGC

The Writers Guild of Canada represents 2,500 professional English-language screenwriters across Canada, the creators of Canadian entertainment enjoyed on all screens. wgc.ca