

For Immediate Release
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English-language film and TV production in Quebec falls to lowest level in twenty years, says new report

Montreal, Quebec – Today, the Quebec English-language Production Council (QEPC) released its annual report on English-Quebec film and TV production for 2015-16. *The Canadian Regional Audiovisual Production Report, 1996-97 to 2015-16* is the most complete source of information on official language minority production (OLMC) in Quebec.

Domestic OLMC production fell from its peak of \$306 million in 1999-2000, to a record low of \$127 million in 2015-16. During this time, the Quebec share of national English-language production fell from 22% to 7%.

Theatrical production has been extremely volatile. Moving from a peak of \$132 million in 2009-10 to hit a record low of \$18 million in 2015-16.

TV production has been declining consistently from its \$184 million peak in 2006-07 to \$110 million in 2015-16. This decline has resulted in the loss of TV talent to Toronto, Vancouver, and Los Angeles. Programs that have not been financed by the Canadian Media Fund (CMF) have been hardest hit, falling from \$85 million to \$49 million in the last four years.

The CMF's Anglophone Minority Incentive (AMI) fund is the one bright spot in this picture. CMF-funded TV production has increased from \$42 million to \$61 million over four years, including many successful drama series such as *Bellevue*, *Mohawk Girls*, *21 Thunder*, *The Disappearance*, and *19-2*.

"These trends demonstrate that with a strong regulatory regime, English-language production can thrive in Montreal. Without strong measures such as the CRTC's Canadian content quota and the CMF's Anglophone Minority Incentive fund, Quebec's official language minority production will continue to decline.", said Kirwan Cox, QEPC Executive Director.

For further information, contact Kirwan Cox, Executive Director, QEPC, 450-451-4664, qepec@bell.net

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About the QEPC

The **Quebec English-language Production Council** represents the English-language production industry in Quebec. Our members include major producers of English-language television programs, feature films, and other media, as well as ACTRA-Montreal. Together, we have over 2,500 members representing about 80% of the people working in the English-language industry in Quebec.