



The Actors' Fund of Canada
The lifeline for Canada's entertainment industry



MEDIA RELEASE

DIRECTORS GUILD OF CANADA - ONTARIO CONTRIBUTES \$50,000 TO ACTORS' FUND OF CANADA

DGC Ontario Doubles Regular Annual Donation in Honour of Fund's 50th Anniversary

**July 14, 2008
For Immediate Release**

TORONTO – DGC Ontario has announced a \$50,000 contribution to the Actors' Fund of Canada in honour of the Fund's 50th Anniversary – an amount that doubles its regular yearly \$25,000 donation to the Fund.

The Actors' Fund is the lifeline for Canada's entertainment industry. Performers and people working behind the scenes in film & TV, theatre, music and dance can apply for emergency financial aid from the Fund, which recently set a new record for the amount of financial aid delivered to industry members in a single year, topping half a million dollars in the 12-month period that ended on March 31. The Fund has helped over 10,000 entertainment industry workers recover from illness, injury or other circumstances causing severe economic and personal hardship since it was founded in 1958.

The \$50,000 contribution is a highlight of the Fund's 50th anniversary year. During the past year, many members of unions and guilds were served by the Fund and these organizations have made special donations in light of the Fund's 50 years of service to the entertainment industry. Commenting on the significance of the contribution, Actors' Fund Executive Director David Hope expressed the Fund's appreciation for the remarkable gesture, saying, "We have received many special contributions from unions, guilds and individuals this year but the fact that DGC Ontario has not only increased, but actually doubled its support during our anniversary year is incredibly generous and speaks to the terrific relationship between our two organizations. The Actors' Fund and DGC Ontario have been working closely together for years and the Actors' Fund has provided financial aid to many DGC Ontario members during that time. DGC Ontario has been an extraordinary contributor to the Fund and the impact of their support has been tremendous.

Ron Haney, CEO & Executive Director of DGC Ontario says, "The Actors' Fund is one of those resources that you seldom hear about until you need it, and then you are very thankful that it exists. Many of our members have been assisted by the Fund over the years and we are proud of our long-standing relationship with this vital organization. This successful 50th anniversary year is an excellent example of what can be achieved when our community works together."

The Directors Guild of Canada - Ontario (DGC Ontario) proudly represents 1,500 key creative and logistical personnel in the film and television industry. Our members cover all areas of direction, design, production and editing. DGC Ontario negotiates and supports a collective agreement to ensure safe and fair working conditions of our members. We also lobby extensively on issues of concern for members and our industry partners.

The Actors' Fund of Canada is a registered charity that has paid out over \$3.5 million in rent payments, grocery money, utility payments and other basic living expenses in the last 10 years. Performers, creators, technical staff and other production team members can benefit from the Fund, which receives no government funding and is wholly sustained by support from individuals and entertainment industry organizations.

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