

# ORGANIZATIONS

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## ACTRA

Association of Canadian  
Television and Radio Artists

105 Carlton Street, Toronto,  
Ontario M5B 1M2 Tel.: 363-6335

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### THE CBC "BRINGING CANADIANS TOGETHER"?

The matter of utmost concern just now to ACTRA and its members is undoubtedly the CBC.

ACTRA has been attempting to make it plain that the current work permit issue is just one symptom of an arrogant, autocratic attitude which has developed among CBC personnel at many levels, which predicates against the type of programming the CBC should be producing, in terms of its mandate from Parliament, in terms of the creative resources available in this country - in terms of plain commonsense.

This same unresponsive attitude recently precipitated what the newspapers have described as a "revolution" among the CBC Radio Arts producers.

The CBC's promotional tag is "Bringing Canadians Together". But in fact what the CBC is bringing us is based on the lowest common denominator philosophy of most commercial broadcasters, is aimed principally at audiences well-served by other channels, and is far from being distinctively Canadian.

The situation on the CBC/ACTRA Agreements has been fully reported in special bulletins to all members. Briefly:

- o the impasse in negotiations on the Television Performer Agreement has not been resolved, despite efforts on ACTRA's part
- o the CBC has taken the position that it will not implement the Writers' Agreement and the Radio Performer Agreement, both ratified by the ACTRA members, until negotiation and ratification of the Television Performer Agreement have been completed

o the relationship between ACTRA members, performers and writers, and the CBC is therefore governed, until further notice, by the 1973/76 Agreements.

N.B. This is the position in the second week of February. If there is any change a bulletin will go out to members immediately.

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## BCFIA

British Columbia  
Film Industries Association

916 Davie Street, Vancouver, B.C.  
(604) 684-4712

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Things in British Columbia are certainly coming together. The Social Credit government in the person of Mrs. Grace McCarthy has responded to much pressure from the British Columbia Film Industry Association and has informed BCFIA that plans are in the works for the appointment of a Film Development Officer. The position will be advertised in BC and hopefully it will not take long to fill. FIA has asked Mrs. McCarthy to consult with them in drawing up the requirements for the position. Hopefully this job creation will make the difference in securing the future of British Columbia as a film centre.

Since 1970 BC has been the centre of a number of major motion picture productions. **Carnal Knowledge** was shot here as was **McCabe and Mrs. Miller**, **Russian Roulette**, **Journey Into Fear**, **Christina**, **The Supreme Kid**, TV movies **Sunshine**, **Hey, I'm Alive**, **Revenge for a Rape** and several others. Because of a lack of sophisticated selling techniques the province has had to depend on producers "discovering" it over and over. We have in BC excellent film technicians in IATSE Local 891, whose members have resumés stretching back for years over many major productions not only in Canada but in Britain and the United States. The talent pool of ACTRA and Equity is vast and experienced. With the exception of Toronto and Montreal our talent forms the largest group in Canada. In the Directors Guild we have many experienc-

ed assistant directors, production assistants and in Bob Gray and Bob Linnell two of the best production managers in the country.

We have always had the benefit in British Columbia of being a great place to live, and we therefore have a disproportionate number of talented people for our size. Many people have come here from other film centres throughout the world, for a variety of reasons. Some have come to be away from the ulcer cycle that we have all experienced in other places, some wanted to raise families - all want to work and have been willing to create their own job market.

This is not a dropout situation. We have in the province a group of dedicated film professionals who want to bring business to BC. Within the BCFIA we have close to 800 members, all of whom spend a good part of their working lives creating the very job market to which they belong. Thank God for Mrs. McCarthy. This is the first measure of support we have received from any provincial government in BC.

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## CSC

Canadian Society of  
Cinematographers

22 Front St. West  
Toronto, Ontario

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The Ottawa chapter of the Canadian Society of Cinematographers has been reactivated.

Guests at the meetings so far have included Herb Lightman from the American Society of Cinematographers, and Budge Crawley who screened **Man Who Skied Down Everest**. Michel Brault screened one of his first films and, more recently, Ian Matheson, C.S.C., screened **Melancholy Occasion**, a CBC-Ottawa drama production. Also, Braun Electric has given a Arri-SR demonstration.

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David McNicoll