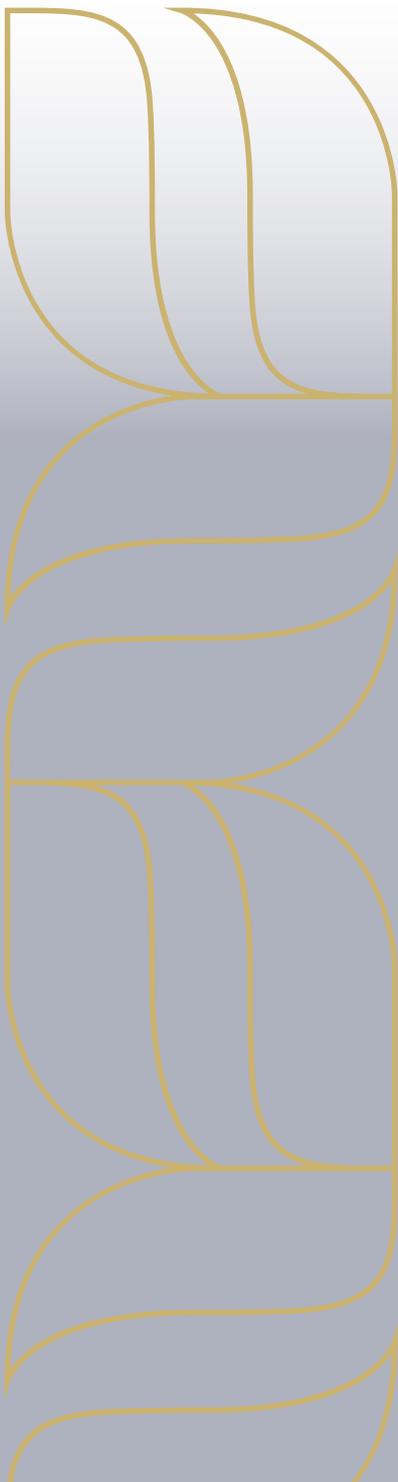




INDIGENOUS
SCREEN
OFFICE

**ANNUAL
REPORT
2021-22**

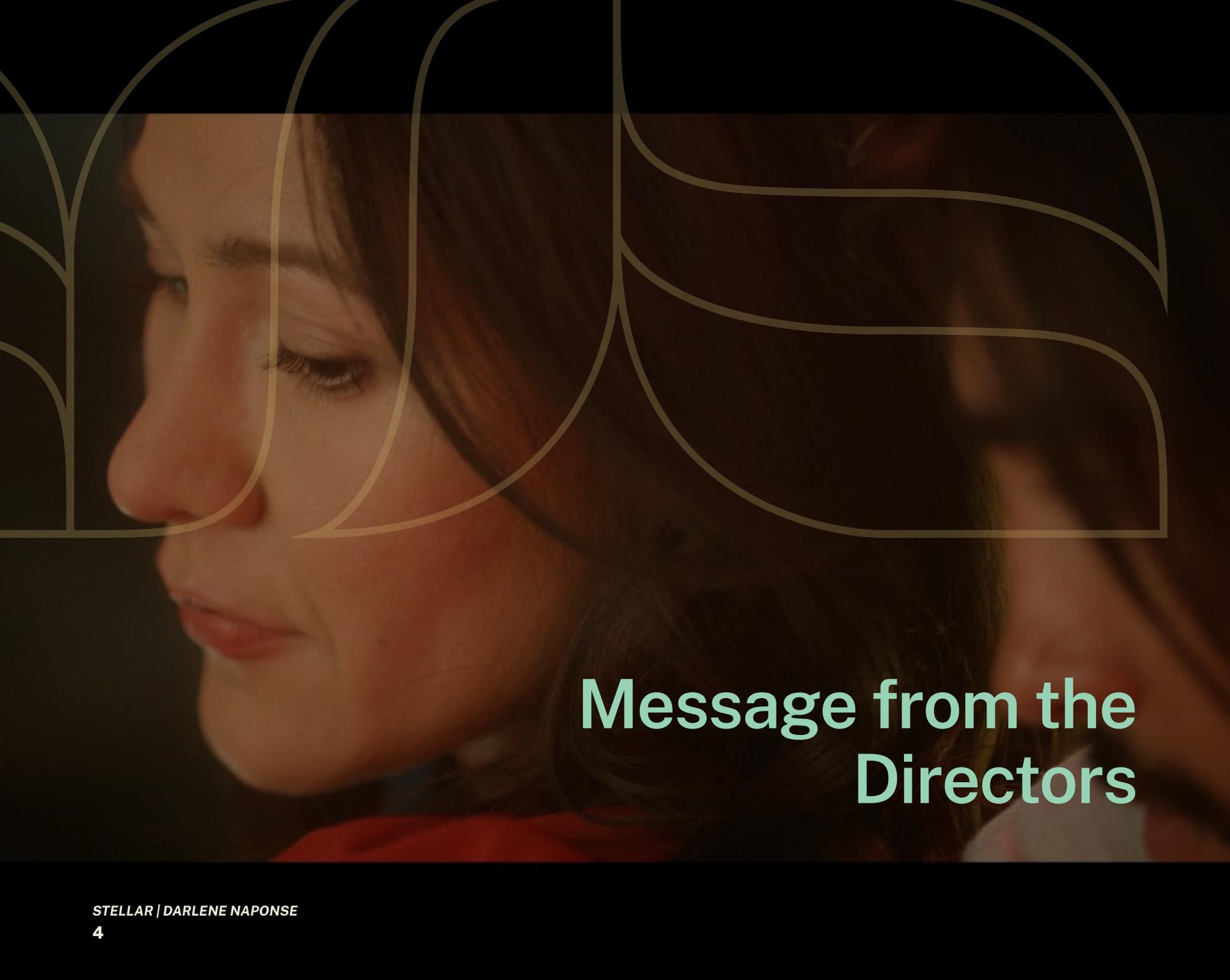






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Message from the Directors

The Indigenous Screen Office (ISO) is not yet five years old and the milestones we have achieved, particularly over this last year and outlined in this report, have put us on the path to meet the needs of the rising Indigenous screen sector for years to come. We have met the challenges of this critical moment and demonstrated the power of Indigenous leadership at a time when it is needed as much as our stories are.

Following the announcement of a three-year federal budget allocation of \$13m per year in April 2021, the ISO had less than a year to administer the full first year's allocation. This meant building a new team based across the country, designing the Story Fund and Sector Development funding framework and programs, and launching the ISO Apply portal and newly designed website to support our applicants. We are proud to report that the ISO disbursed over \$11m in funding last year to Indigenous-owned companies and independent creators, and an additional \$1.3m to organizations supporting the growth of a robust Indigenous screen sector.

We continued to build on our partnerships, including our Netflix-funded training program and the Sundance Native Filmmakers' Lab, and develop new initiatives such as our pilot Directors' Fellowship

Program with the Directors' Guild of Canada. We also built on our relationships with founding partners APTN, CBC, CMF, CMPA and Telefilm Canada. Collaboration has been and will continue to be a cornerstone of our approach and key to our rapid evolution as Canada's only independent Indigenous screen-based fund.

Another key activity last year was the release of the report *Building Trust and Accountability: Report on Eligibility in the Indigenous Screen Sector*, which the ISO commissioned with APTN, conducted by Archipel Research and Consulting. This is a valuable resource for ISO and other funders, and will inform ongoing discourse, policies, and best practices for managing Indigenous-specific funding and opportunities.

The next two years are crucial for ISO, as we demonstrate the need for and vitality of our work and make the case for permanent funding starting in 2024. If Bill C-11 is passed as anticipated, the revised Broadcasting Act will finally update the references to Indigenous broadcasting and content, removing qualifying language that has limited investment into our storytelling and arming the CRTC with broader scope and tools to ensure Indigenous storytelling is supported appropriately. We are

pleased to see these changes and have supported other community-based screen organizations with their own submissions to this process.

These advances, combined with ISO's programs and recognized leadership in the sector, put us in a strong position to see permanent funding become reality. This will allow Indigenous storytelling to flourish, and for that to in turn, to allow our communities to continue to rebuild, restore and reclaim what has been taken. We are privileged to serve in this way.

Chi Miigwetch,



A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Kerry Swanson'.

Kerry Swanson
Co-Executive Director



A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Jesse Wentz'.

Jesse Wentz
Co-Executive Director

The Indigenous Screen Office (ISO) Overview

The Indigenous Screen Office (ISO) is an independent Indigenous-led national advocacy and funding organization serving First Nations, Inuit and Métis creators of screen content in Canada. ISO policies and activities are grounded in and informed by Indigenous knowledge(s), which means respecting Indigenous ways of knowing, seeing, doing, acting, and listening. We acknowledge, and strive to uphold the principles of respect, reciprocity, responsibility, and relevance in our working relationships.

The creation of the ISO in 2017-18 was the result of decades of advocacy from Indigenous industry professionals and creators who identified that an organization supporting Indigenous storytellers was a crucial component to a healthy and robust media landscape in Canada. Since then, the ISO has grown to become North America's largest Indigenous screen fund and is looked to as a leader in the sector.

VISION

A thriving Indigenous screen industry that uplifts people and communities through storytelling on screen.

MISSION

To foster and support narrative sovereignty and cultural revitalization by increasing Indigenous storytelling on screens and promoting Indigenous values and participation across the sector.

MANDATE

To deliver relevant, responsive, and innovative funding and strategic opportunities that responds to the needs of Indigenous screen-based creators. We fund content creation, professional development, and sector capacity building.



ISO Staff

ISO STAFF

Kerry Swanson
Co-Executive Director

Jesse Wentz
Co-Executive Director

Kristy Assu
Director of Funding

Jean-François D. O'Bomsawin
Director of Marketing and Communications

Nicole Hill
Finance Manager

Tash Naveau
Program Manager • Story Fund

Kaya Wheeler
Program Manager • Special Initiatives

Isabelle Ruiz
Program Manager • Sector Development

Natalie Dunlop
Program Coordinator

Ava Brown-Mantha
Executive and Communications Assistant

CONSULTANTS

Kim Wheeler and Marcia Nickerson
Sarah Brazauskas • Annual Report Graphic Design

ISO BOARD

Jean La Rose
Chair

Brock Roe
Vice Chair

Thomas Darnay
Treasurer

Dorothy Christian
Secretary

Daryl Kootenay
Board Member

Romani Makkik
Board Member

Shirley Adamson
Board Member

MEMBERSHIP

Danis Goulet
Lisa Jackson
Jennifer Podemski
Judith Schyuler
Julie O'Bomsawin





ISO Funding Programs and Disbursements

Following the approval of a \$13m annual contribution agreement with Canadian Heritage, the ISO developed a comprehensive funding framework that organizes disbursement in two key categories. The **Story Fund** focuses on creation - the development, production and supporting activities that get content made and in front of audiences. Over \$10.4m was disbursed through the Story Fund in the last fiscal year. **Sector Development** supports our mandate to build a robust Indigenous screen sector in Canada, that includes

employment and professional advancement across all platforms and types of roles. Over \$1.3m was spent in sector development funding to applicants, with additional funding supporting strategic initiatives through partnerships, including an additional \$450k in funding support from Netflix. ISO has developed the General Funding Policy Guidelines document to communicate broad policies that extend across all programs, and each individual program also has specific guidelines.

ISO FUNDING AT A GLANCE

STORY FUND, SECTOR DEVELOPMENT AND NETFLIX PROGRAMS

\$12.3M

TOTAL DIRECT CONTRIBUTIONS

206

NUMBER OF APPLICATIONS

162

NUMBER OF RECIPIENTS

10

PROVINCES AND TERRITORIES REPRESENTED

STORY FUND

DEVELOPMENT FUNDING

The ISO development program proved to have one of the highest applicant rates throughout the country. 2021-22 Development Funding went to 70 applicants that included a range of single projects and slate development for companies to support the development of original intellectual property by Indigenous content creators. Through this initiative the Indigenous Screen Office provided support in the amount of \$20,000 for single projects for individuals and companies and \$40,000 for two or more projects for companies.

On top of this, the ISO partnered with Creative BC and Rogers to top up all of the successful grant recipients in British Columbia for a total of \$213,500.00 - which translated into a 35% top up for 30 BC development recipients.

\$1,629,000

TOTAL ISO FUNDING

70

TOTAL # OF FUNDING RECIPIENTS

29

INDIVIDUALS

41

COMPANIES

PRODUCTION FUNDING

The production program is one of the ISO's new programs to roll out in 2021-22 and the largest fund to date, providing \$8,147,000 in support to the Indigenous screen sector.

Through this fund we have supported projects in a wide range of mediums including but not limited to: TV, film, web, gaming, apps, and VR/AR/XR, which have led to the creation of new content and jobs for the sector. This program supported creatives at all levels of their career, from emerging to some of Canada's most respected and experienced Indigenous creators. ISO funding contributions in production ranged from \$10,000.00 to \$500,000.

\$8,147,000

TOTAL FUNDING

51

TOTAL # OF FUNDING RECIPIENTS

40

COMPANIES

10

INDIVIDUALS

1

COLLECTIVES

ENHANCEMENTS FUNDING

The Enhancements envelope was designed to provide enhanced support to Indigenous-owned screen content companies for feature films and TV series. This support was intended to bring projects to the completion stage and focuses specifically in four areas: completion of the production and post production phases; digital enhancements including VFX; sound design and color grading; and support for access to markets and audiences.

\$731,000

TOTAL FUNDING

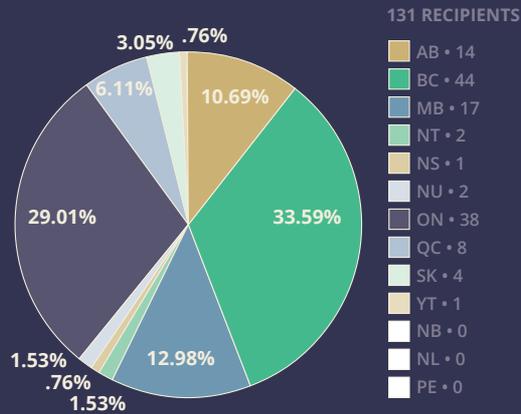
11

TOTAL # OF CONTRIBUTIONS

Story Fund Statistics

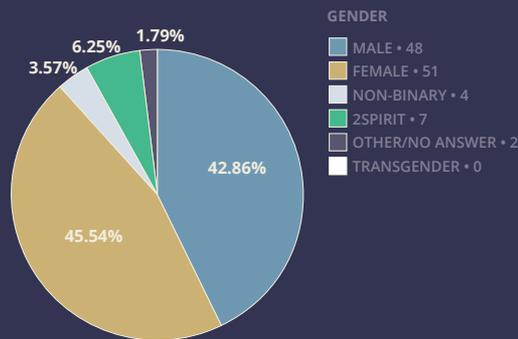


STORY FUND: BY PROVINCE

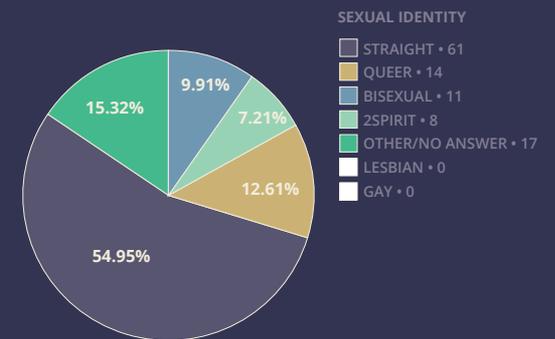


VOLUNTARY INFO FROM RECIPIENTS

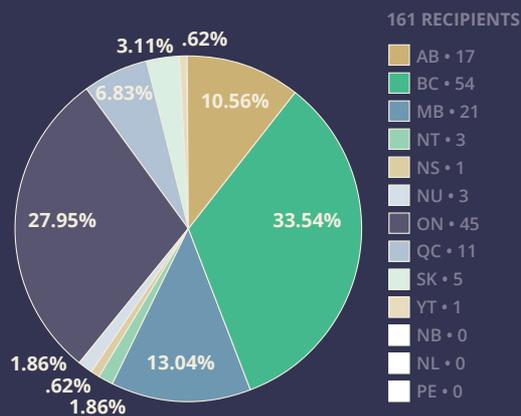
GENDER



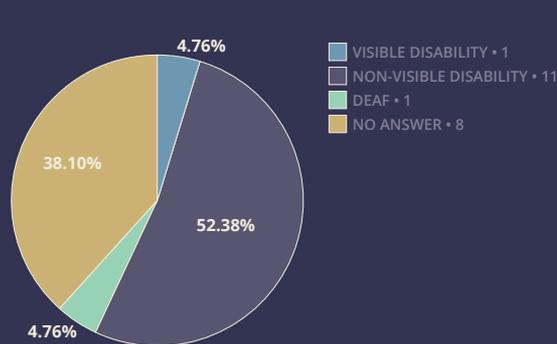
SEXUAL IDENTITY



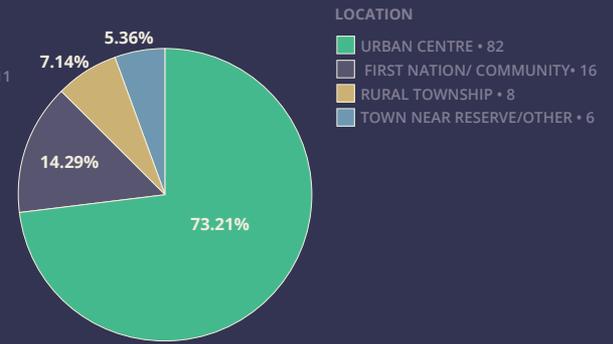
ALL (STORY FUND + NETFLIX + SECTOR)



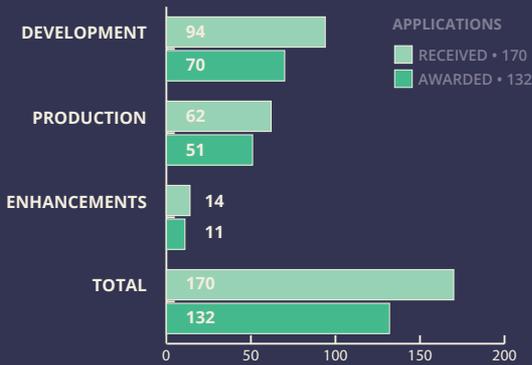
ABILITIES



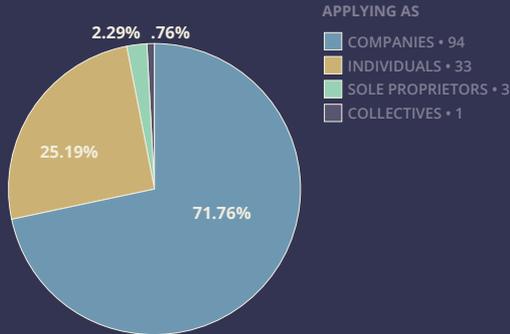
LOCATION



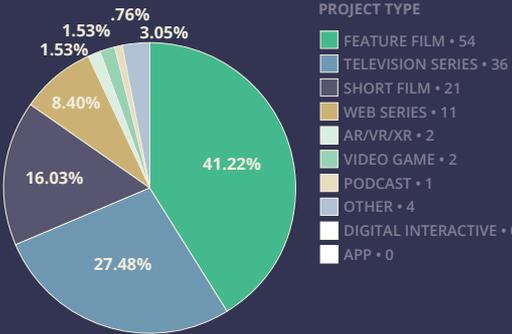
APPLICATIONS RECEIVED & AWARDED



APPLYING AS:



PROJECT TYPE

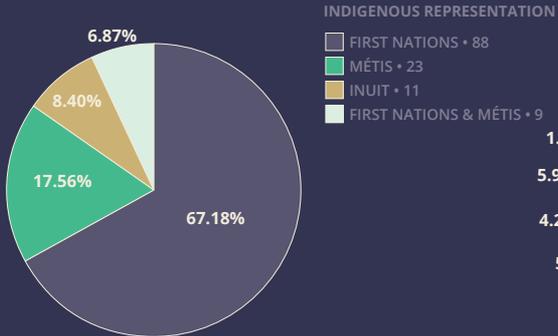


INDIGENOUS LANGUAGE PROJECTS

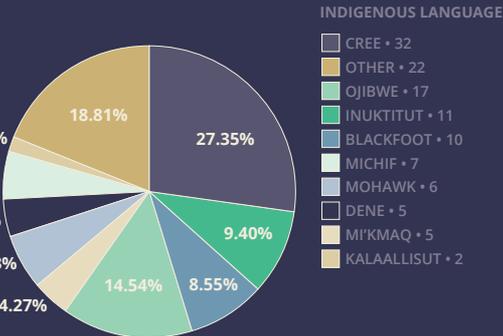
67.18%

88 OF 131 STORY FUND PROJECTS INCLUDE INDIGENOUS LANGUAGE

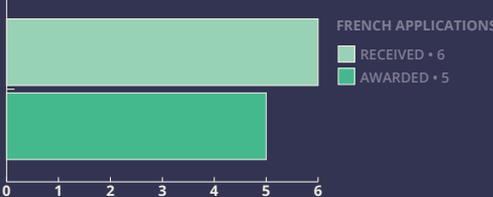
INDIGENOUS REPRESENTATION



INDIGENOUS LANGUAGE



RECEIVED & AWARDED IN FRENCH



INDIGENOUS LANGUAGE %

90%+ INDIGENOUS LANGUAGE USED
16 OF 36 PROJECTS (44.44%)

50%+ INDIGENOUS LANGUAGE USED
7 OF 36 PROJECTS (19.44%)

30%+ INDIGENOUS LANGUAGE USED
13 OF 36 PROJECTS (36.11%)

SECTOR DEVELOPMENT

SECTOR DEVELOPMENT

The ISO provided sector development support to 11 different companies or organizations representing seven provinces across the country. Projects included training in production and business development; capacity building for organizations; community and youth programs, and international collaboration. Through this program, the ISO was able to support larger investments in projects that have the potential to provide broad support and advance the profile of and opportunities for the Indigenous screen sector. Funding contributions in sector development ranged from \$17,000 to \$245,000.

\$1,384,000

TOTAL FUNDING

11

TOTAL # OF CONTRIBUTIONS

SECTOR DEVELOPMENT HIGHLIGHTS

Tantoo Cardinal's Tap Root Actors Academy (AB): ISO is proud to be one of the first funders of this community-based program spearheaded by award-winning and iconic screen and stage actor Tantoo Cardinal. Focused on youth programming and cultural expression through performance, the program is based in Cardinal's home community of Kikino, Alberta.

“In my 50+ years in this business I have noticed the lack of focus on our stories, in this case, Métis stories. I have had to pick up on my own personal history in haphazard ways - due to the Silence hiding forbidden stories... emerging from a society where we had been outlawed. Each time I learned more about who we are as Indigenous Peoples I grew stronger. I intend on sharing that experience...”

Tantoo Cardinal

Actor and Tap Root Actors' Academy Founder





Inuit TV (NV): ISO supported the hiring and training of a new leadership model for the burgeoning broadcaster, which includes the mentorship of two new Co-CEO's. This will support the growth not just of the organization, but of the larger Inuit screen sector. Inuit TV is a new cable channel broadcasting to three territories with a focus on Inuit culture and the Inuktitut language.

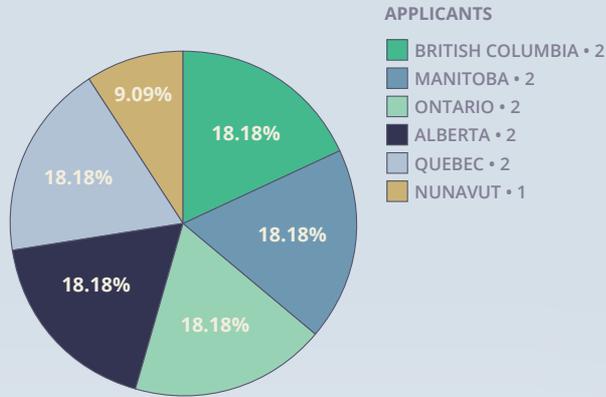
“It’s a collection of our stories, our lives, and we’re telling our stories for Inuit, for us. What we’re also craving for is to be able to see the rest of our fellow circumpolar world.”

Lucy Qavavaug
Co-CEO, Inuit TV (CBC interview)

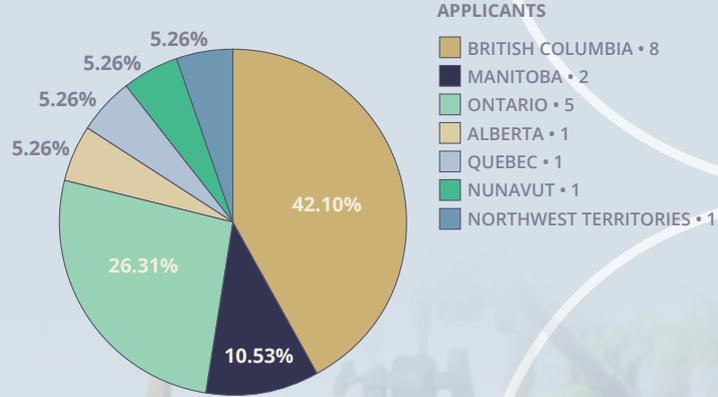
Arctic XR (MB): Support for this exciting international collaboration was directed to five circumpolar artists from Canada, via the Abijijwan New Media Lab (University of Winnipeg), to each create an original short 360 degree film. The works will premiere alongside six Sami films at the Sami Pavilion at the Venice Biennale, as part of the extended programming for the Sami Film Institute’s ARRAN 360° project. The Canadian films will also screen at the Arctic Arts Summit in Whitehorse and Toronto’s Nuit Blanche. ISO is working with program partners SFI, Aabijijwan, Inuit Futures, CMF as well as Telefilm Canada to explore and support further international showcases for the project.

SECTOR DEVELOPMENT / NETFLIX APPLICANT STATISTICS

SECTOR DEVELOPMENT



NETFLIX



Partnership Programs and Strategic Initiatives

NETFLIX APPRENTICESHIP AND CULTURAL MENTORSHIP PROGRAM

The ISO completed its third successful year of partnering with Netflix on what was our first-ever funding program. With support confirmed for the upcoming year, ISO is pleased to report the disbursement of over \$1.3m since the program's launch in 2019, with 68 Indigenous apprenticeship and mentorship projects supported in total since that time. The partnership has been renewed for its fourth year in 2022-23. This innovative program delivers funding in two distinct streams:

1. Apprenticeships: where Indigenous trainees can advance their career through hands-on learning, primarily on-set but also in production offices and in animation studios. The idea is to create tangible career development opportunities by supporting hands-on learning.

2. Cultural mentorships: this creates the opportunity for Indigenous key creatives to engage with knowledge keepers, language speakers, Elders and community leaders and mentors in the development and pre-development stages of their projects.

Marie Clements' company Aayasew Ooksana received support from the program in 2021, for the highly anticipated feature film and tv series *Bones of Crows*, to be released this year.

"The ISO/Netflix support of Indigenous training on our production [was] a game changer. It enabled us to not only continue to develop Indigenous talent in front of and behind-the-scenes, but it allowed us to invest in each other, the stories we are passionate about telling and each other's future productions."

Marie Clements
Director/Producer, *Bones of Crows*

\$450,000

TOTAL 2021-22 FUNDING

19

TOTAL # OF FUNDING RECIPIENTS

10

CULTURAL MENTORSHIPS

40

APPRENTICESHIPS

STRATEGIC INITIATIVES

ISO Strategic Initiatives are achieved by identifying and creating strategic partnerships with Indigenous-led initiatives, industry stakeholders, and institutions. The ISO pursued partnerships in areas that provide new opportunities, innovation, access and/or training for Indigenous screen storytellers. Often, these are areas where gaps have been identified by the community who have first-hand knowledge and experience of the most urgent challenges and opportunities to be addressed.



“This mentorship changed my life, and I’m incredibly thankful to the staff, cast and crew of the ISO, DGC and The Handmaid’s Tale.”

Jessie Anthony
DGC Director Fellow

PROGRAM HIGHLIGHTS

DIRECTORS GUILD OF CANADA PARTNERSHIP

ISO worked with DGC National to pilot a new fellowship program for Indigenous Directors. The full program will be launched in 2022-23 following a successful pilot that saw four directors supported with on-set opportunities on high-profile projects. The program pairs a mid-career Director who has worked on web series, short films, and/or feature films, and is looking to move into episodic directing for television, with a DGC production. During the 2021-22 fiscal year, the ISO and DGC ran this as a pilot project placing four Indigenous Director Fellows on shows in Canada:

- **JJ Neepin** (Cree) and **Adeline Bird** (Afro-Anishnabe), Director Fellows on Little Bird - Crave limited series being shot in Manitoba
- **Darlene Naponse** (Anishinaabe), Director Fellow on Three Pines - Amazon Prime series shot in Montreal
- **Jessie Anthony** (Onondaga Nation, Beaver Clan), Director Fellow on The Handmaid’s Tale - Hulu television series shot in Toronto

“Having the opportunity to mentor on a massive show like The Handmaid’s Tale and with the incredible director, Dana Gonzales, has allowed me to focus on the next level of my career. I had the chance to learn and understand how much work and thought goes into a show of this magnitude, and it has inspired me to continue working towards my goals as a storyteller. This mentorship changed my life, and I’m incredibly thankful to the staff, cast and crew of the ISO, DGC and The Handmaid’s Tale.”

Jessie Anthony
DGC Director Fellow

“We’re proud of the opportunity this partnership creates for emerging Indigenous directors to hone their craft and gain hands-on experience in the industry. This initiative will also allow the Guild to move towards a more representative membership at a time of increasing global demand for diverse and original storytelling.”

Warren Sonoda
DGC President



SUNDANCE NATIVE FILMMAKERS LAB

This is the third year the ISO has partnered with the Sundance Institute to support one Indigenous storyteller in Canada to take part in their Native Filmmakers Lab. Prior to the ISO's partnership in 2019, this program was only available to US-based content creators. The Lab focuses on the specific development of Indigenous storytellers who are working on feature films and episodic work. During the Lab, Fellows will hone their storytelling and technical skills in a hands-on and supportive environment, including one-on-one feedback sessions with advisors and roundtable discussions, and a focus on script writing and development. After two years online, the Lab went back to in-person with the intensive component held in Santa Fe, New Mexico, and the group will meet again at Sundance 2023.

Out of 29 applications, Justin Ducharme (Métis) of Manitoba was selected for his episodic series titled "Positions," based on his short film of the same title.

BANFF WORLD MEDIA FESTIVAL: INDIGENOUS SUMMIT AND DIVERSITY OF VOICES PROGRAM

Support from ISO's fiscal year 2021-22 was directed towards an expanded partnership with the Banff World Media Festival, which took place in June 2022. ISO supported the launch of the festival's first in-person Indigenous Screen Summit, a one-day pitch forum with fifteen Indigenous producers pitching feature films, scripted drama series and scripted comedy series. The event included a breakfast hosted by ISO, an Elder territorial welcome, and networking breaks. Hosted on the Sunday before the festival, the event was one of the most talked about of the festival, with standing room only. ISO will engage all participants to track results generated by the event but early feedback is that production and distribution deals are pending for some of the projects pitched.

ISO also expanded our partnership on Banff's Diversity of Voices Program for the fourth year, this time providing travel support to 20 Indigenous participants in the program to attend in person.



“As a queer Indigenous filmmaker who is committed to telling contemporary narratives about Queer, Trans and Two-spirit (2S) characters my access to funding has been limited. My last two short films were almost entirely self-funded. [This opportunity] is important to me because it tells me that our stories matter, and that our larger community is interested in seeing stories about 2S individuals who represent us as complex fully realized people. Since the ISO’s inception I have been able to access funding for projects I want to make, so I’m forever grateful for all they do to see varied Indigenous representation on screen.”

Justin Ducharme • Mentoré Sundance

2021-22 Fiscal Year Recipients

RECOMMENDERS

PRODUCTION

Steven Davies • Snuneymuxw, BC
Barbara Todd Hager • Métis, BC

DEVELOPMENT

Alexandra Lazarowich • Cree, ON
Victoria Anderson-Gardner • Eagle Lake/Ojibwe, ON
Cheyanna Kootenayoo • Dene/Cree, BC

NETFLIX

Jordan Waunch • Métis, BC
Isidra Cruz • Cree/Mexican, ON

FUNDING RECIPIENTS

PRODUCTION

100022390 Manitoba LTD. • Jordan Molaro, MB
10612464 Canada Inc. • Sarah Seronde, QC
11703234 Canada Inc. • Jonathan Lawrence, MB
Amplify Season 2 Inc. • ON
Andrew Pitawanakwat • Anishnaabe, ON
April Johnson • Métis/Cree/Settler, BC
Ayasew Ooskana Pictures • BC
Bawaadan Productions • ON
Bezhigo Maiingan • BC
Blackfoot Nation Films • BC
Bottom of my Shoe Productions • MB
Buffalo Song Productions Inc. • AB
Café Daughter Productions Inc. • ON
Candace Maracle • Kanien'kehá:ka, ON
Cayenne Médias Inc. • QC
Eagle Bear Films • BC
Eva Thomas Inc • ON
Fanning Feathers Productions Ltd. • ON
Flying Up Moon Inc. • AB
Ice Road Productions Inc. • BC
Igluralaaq 1 Inc. • NU
Jay Cardinal Villeneuve • Nêhiyawî-Cree/Métis, BC
Jeffrey's Turn Inc. • ON
Kaniehtio Horn-Batt Ent Inc. • ON
Kassiwi Média Inc. • QC
Kelton Stepanowich • Cree/Métis, AB

Kistikian Pictures • MB
Makwa Creative Inc. • ON
Marcel Petit • Métis/Cree, SK
Mixtape • ON
Nechako Films • BC
One Foot Tapping Media Inc. • ON
Pallasite Films Inc. • ON
Prairie Fox Entertainment • AB
Real World Media Inc. • BC
Red Marrow Media • NU
Resolution Productions Inc. • QC
Skoden Entertainment • SK
Smayaykila Films Inc. • BC
Spotted Fawn Production • BC
Stoney Film Projects Ltd. • AB
Tania Larsson • Gwich'in/Swedish, NT
The Feather • SK
Tipishkum Productions Inc. • NT
Trevor Solway • Blackfoot, AB
Trynton Cinema Inc. • BC
Turquoise Sky Entertainment Inc. • AB
Turtle Mountain Media • MB
Tyrel Lougheed • Sto:Lo, AB
Vandal Productions Inc. • BC
Wanderer Entertainment Inc. • ON

DEVELOPMENT

102136639 Saskatchewan Limited • Tessa Cook, SK
10612464 Canada Inc. • Jeff Barnaby, QC
11703234 Canada Inc. • Jonathan Lawrence, MB
Akia Films Inc. • Siku Allooooloo, BC
Akiwan • ON
Amanda Kindzierski • Salteaux Ojibwe/Métis, MB
Baswewe Films • ON
Bezhigo Maiingan • BC
Bradley Paul • Anishinaabe/Plains' Cree, ON
Cameron Watts • Tseshaht, BC
Cayenne Médias Inc. • QC
Chelsey Mark • Métis, MB
Code Breaker Films Ltd. • MB

Crosscurrent Productions Inc. • BC
Devonshire Productions Inc. • ON
Doug Winnipeg • Blackfoot, AB
Eagle Bear Films • BC
Eva Thomas Inc. • ON
Evelyn Pakinewatik • Anishinaabe, ON
Everett Sokol • Métis/Cree, AB
Experimental Forest Films • BC
Firediva Productions Inc. • BC
From the Shadows • BC
Gaayangaay Productions Ltd. • Haida/Cree, ON
Jamuna Galay-Tamang • Tamang, Dënësųlinë-Métis, German & Ukrainian, BC
Janet Hanuse • Wuikinuukv, Nak'waxda'xw, Gwa'sala, BC
Jarret Twoyoungmen • Îethka, AB
Jay Cardinal Villeneuve • Nêhiyawî-Cree/Métis, BC
Cinethetica Corp, Jerry Wolf • Waywayseecappo/Vietnamese, ON
Julia Rayanne • Cree/Saulteaux/Scottish, BC
Justin Neal • Skwxwú7mesh/Filipino/European, BC
Kaniehtiio Horn-Batt Ent Inc. • Kanienkehaka, ON
Kassia Ward • Cree, AB
Kassiwi Média Inc. • QC
Katarina Ziervogel • Anishinaabe/Mohawk/German, MB
Kerriann Cardinal • Cree-Métis, BC
Kevin Lee Burton • Swampy Cree, MB
Kistikan Pictures • MB
Kwassen Productions Inc. • BC
Mamao Pictures Ltd. • Cree/Métis, BC
Mitchell Saddleback • Cree, BC
Mixtape • ON
Orca Cova Media • BC
Pass Through Productions Inc. • BC
Piercing Voice Pictures Inc. • ON
Portraits From A Fire Productions Inc. • BC
Princess Space Monster Films • NS
Rachel Garrick • Nishnawbe, ON
Red Fox Productions Inc. • BC
Renae Morriveau • Saulteaux/Cree, BC
Rogue River Films Inc. • BC
Ryan Atimoyoo • Cree, BC

Ryan Cooper • Ojibwe, MB
Seawolf Productions Inc. • BC
Shaelyn Johnston • Anishinaabe/Irish-Canadian, BC
Spirit Moon Productions • ON
Stories First Productions • BC
Taqqu ECE Development • ON
Tasha Hubbard • Cree, AB
Theola Ross • Cree, ON
Tiffany Ayalik • Inuit, BC
Tiger Mister Productions Inc. • Anishinaabe, ON
Tohkapi Cinema Ltd. • BC
Turtle Mountain Media • MB
Twin Witts Inc. • MB
Wanderer Entertainment Inc. • ON
Wapanatahk Media Inc. • BC
White Bear Films Inc. • MB
Wolfwalker Productions Inc. • ON
Yukon Land Claim Film Inc. • YK

ENHANCEMENTS

Almost Forever • AB
Finality of Dusk Inc. • MB
Isuma Distribution International • QC
Mixtape SB Productions Inc. • ON
Night Raiders East • ON
Nish Media • QC
Rosie Films Inc. • ON
Running Home Productions Inc. • ON
Taqqu Productions Inc. • ON
Visuelles Productions Inc. • BC
Wanderer Entertainment Inc. • ON

NETFLIX

Blackfoot Nation Films Inc. • BC
Eagle Bear Films • BC
Big Makwa Pictures Inc. • MB
Shaun Anderson • Cree/Métis, NWT
Tanis Parenteau • Métis, AB
11998862 Canada Inc. (Nish Media) • QC

13365441 Canada Inc., Jeremy Nelson • Métis/English, ON
Wanderer Entertainment Inc. • ON
Real World Media Inc. • BC
Makwa Creative Inc. • ON
White Bear Films Inc. • MB
Skoden Entertainment Inc. • SK
Firediva Productions Inc. • BC
Kim Senklip Harvey • Syilx and Tsilhqot'in, BC
Eva Thomas Inc. • ON
Acimow Media Ltd. • BC
Jay Cardinal Villeneuve • Nêhiyawî-Cree/Métis, BC
Fanning Feathers Productions Ltd. • ON
Jonelle Belcourt • Cree, AB

STRATEGIC INITIATIVES

Jessie Anthony • Onondaga Nation (Beaver Clan), BC
Adeline Bird • Afro-Anishnabe, MB
JJ Neepin • Cree, MB
Justin Ducharme • Métis from Manitoba, BC
Darlene Naponse • Anishinaabe, ON

SECTOR DEVELOPMENT

Tantoo Cardinal's Tap Root Actors Academy • AB
Inuit TV Network • NU
aabijjiiwan New Media Lab - University of Winnipeg • MB
Café Daughter Productions Inc. • ON
Inuit Futures in Arts Leadership - Concordia University • QC
imagineNATIVE Film + Media Arts Festival • ON
Corporation Wapikoni Mobile • QC
National Screen Institute - Canada (NSI) • MB
Women in Film & Television Vancouver • BC
IM4 XR Lab - Emily Carr University of Art & Design • BC
Board of Governors of The Banff Centre - Indigenous Arts • AB



Organizational Development and Capacity Building

In the last fiscal year, ISO expanded from three full-time employees to eight. We created and hired the following new full-time positions, in addition to two Co-Executive Directors and Executive Assistant, to support the delivery of our mandate:

- Director of Funding
- Program Manager, Story Fund
- Program Manager, Sector Development
- Program Manager, Strategic Initiatives
- Finance Manager

The priority for last year's hiring was to build a funding team in order to deliver on our requirements to Canadian Heritage. Additional hires for the 2022-23 fiscal will continue to support the organization's capacity and include:

- Director of Marketing and Communications
- Program Coordinator
- Communications and Social Media Coordinator

ISO has two bilingual employees based in Quebec, one of whom is Francophone. ISO operates as a "remote office" and employs Indigenous talent from across the country, with employees based in Ontario, Quebec,

British Columbia, and Manitoba. ISO has partnered with the National Film Board and the National Screen Institute to provide part-time office space for some employees. ISO works with a number of Indigenous professional consultants to support research, communications and strategic planning.

ISO is committed to our values of care, and provides a competitive compensation package for employees that includes fully paid health benefits and a pension plan, both were implemented in the first year of our Canadian Heritage funding allocation, another organizational milestone.

THREE-YEAR STRATEGIC PLAN

In March 2022, the ISO team gathered in person for the very first time for a facilitated strategic planning session with Marcia Nickerson. This followed a comprehensive research phase that included interviews with ISO board members, members circle and funding clients.

The strategic plan is included as a complimentary document to this report and outlines the following four key priorities for ISO in the coming three years:

1. LEAD Systemic Change in the Canadian Screen-based Industry

2. GROW Audience Appreciation and Access to Indigenous Screen Content

3. INVEST in a Connected Talent Stream

4. BUILD a Thriving Organization

FUNDING PROGRAM REVIEW

Following the strategic planning process, the ISO funding team participated in an intensive program review and development process to support enhanced program delivery for 2022-23. Program changes include the redesign of Enhancements into two distinct funding streams: Finishing Fund and Marketing, Promotion and Distribution Fund. Two new programs were also developed as a result of identifying gaps in the program review: a New Media Fund and a Travel Fund to support creators participation in sales and distribution markets and professional development opportunities.



Communications and Media Relations

CAFE DAUGHTER | SHELLEY NIRO-CIRCLE BLUE

In September 2021, the Indigenous Screen Office launched our new website along with the ISO Apply online application portal to support the roll-out of our new suite of funding programs - a huge accomplishment given the extremely tight timeline.

A second milestone occurred in February 2022, with the release of **Building Trust and Accountability: Report on Indigenous Eligibility in the Indigenous Screen Sector**. The report was authored by Indigenous-owned Archipel Research and Consulting.

It was commissioned by the ISO and APTN after hearing from the Indigenous screen community that leadership was needed in determining consistent approaches to eligibility, specifically in relation to Indigenous identity, in the sector. This work began in January 2021 with the initial call for Letters of Interest, followed by extensive consultations, surveys and town halls.

The **Building Trust and Accountability: Report on Indigenous Eligibility in the Indigenous Screen Sector** was launched at

a virtual news conference in February 2022, generating a number of media articles and ongoing conversations with other funders and organizations around ISO policies and practices.

The ISO continues to engage the Indigenous screen community via social media platforms to disseminate ISO programs, news releases, Storytellers profiles, while also sharing out news and information related to the Indigenous Screen Office and Indigenous filmmaking community.

SOCIAL MEDIA STATISTICS

FACEBOOK

3,217

FOLLOWERS

153,613

REACH

TWITTER

3,246

FOLLOWERS

408,100

IMPRESSIONS

INSTAGRAM

2,577

FOLLOWERS

5,399

REACH

LINKEDIN

374

FOLLOWERS

8789

IMPRESSIONS

Note: An impression is the number of people who saw any content from the Page or about the Page, including posts, stories, ads and social information from people who interact with the ISO Page and more. Reach may include multiple views of posts by the same people.

FINANCE

ISO continues to strengthen its fiscal policies and processes, and has completed the initial visit with the Canadian Heritage audit team to support best practices. ISO's audit and the new management systems we have put in place demonstrate prudent fiscal management in a year of rapid growth.

Our total annual budget for 2021-22 was just over \$14m and we were able to deliver our first full federal allocation from start to finish while building our organization over an 8-month period. During this time, we also negotiated a two-year contribution agreement of \$26m with Canadian Heritage that will take us to 2024, at which time we are optimistic that we will secure permanent funding to continue delivering on our mandate and building on our success.

ISO will continue to diversify our budget and revenues by working with partner organizations on strategic funding programs and initiatives. During the last fiscal year, ISO worked to secure additional funding for programs and strategic initiatives to support 2022-23 activities from Netflix, CMF, Telefilm, CBC and APTN.

Funders and Partners

CORE FUNDING



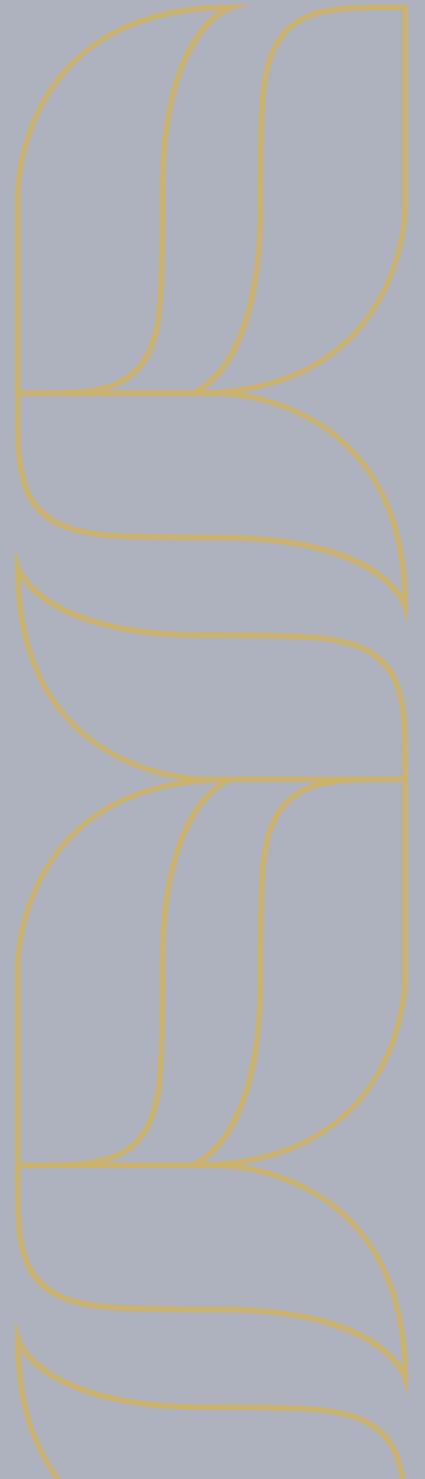
PROGRAM PARTNERS



FOUNDING PARTNERS







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