

Appointment of Members to the Toronto Film, Television and Digital Media Board

Date: September 21, 2023
To: Civic Appointments Committee
From: General Manager, Economic Development and Culture
Wards: All

REASON FOR CONFIDENTIAL INFORMATION

This report deals with personal matters about identifiable individuals who are being considered for appointment to the Toronto Film, Television and Digital Media Board.

SUMMARY

This report recommends the appointment of 22 individuals to the Toronto Film, Television and Digital Media Board for the remainder of the current term of City Council.

RECOMMENDATIONS

The General Manager, Economic Development and Culture, recommends that:

1. City Council appoint the 22 individuals listed in Confidential Attachment 1 to the Toronto Film, Television and Digital Media Board, at pleasure of Council, for a term of office ending on November 14, 2026.
2. City Council direct that the balance of confidential information contained in Confidential Attachment 1 remain confidential as it relates to personal matters about identifiable individuals being considered for appointment to the Toronto Film, Television and Digital Media Board.
3. Council waive the residency requirement of the Public Appointments Policy and appoint candidate TFB2-231 in Confidential Attachment 1, at pleasure of Council, for a term of office ending November 14, 2026.

FINANCIAL IMPACT

The honoraria provided to public members of the Toronto Film, Television and Digital Media Board are already included within the 2023 Council Approved Operating Budget for the Economic Development and Culture Division and will be included in future year Operating Budgets.

The Interim Chief Financial Officer and Treasurer has reviewed this report and agrees with the information as presented in the Financial Impact Section.

DECISION HISTORY

City Council at its meeting of February 7, 2023, re-established the Toronto Film, Television and Digital Media Board for the 2022 - 2026 term of Council: <https://secure.toronto.ca/council/agenda-item.do?item=2023.EX2.1>

COMMENTS

Mandate of the Toronto Film, Television and Digital Media Board

The screen-based production industry is a significant component of Toronto's economic, social, and cultural fabric. The City of Toronto recognizes the need to continue work begun in the previous term of Council to strengthen and grow the industry to ensure the competitiveness and the viability of the sector.

The mandate of the Film, Television and Digital Media Advisory Board is to provide advice to City Council on:

- a) Promoting the health, attractiveness, competitiveness and viability of the Toronto screen sector;
- b) Achieving long-term sustainable economic growth and job creation for the Toronto screen sector
- c) The issues and opportunities of the sector, as identified by the broader industry;
- d) Enhancing local and global positioning and branding of the city and its screen industry sector;
- e) Establishing Toronto as a respected global centre of excellence for screen industries; and
- f) Identifying emerging issues and trends of significance at provincial, national and international levels.

Composition of the Toronto Film, Television and Digital Media Board

The Toronto Film, Television and Digital Media Board is composed of 26 members, as follows:

- four members of City Council, including the Night Economy Champion
- a representative from Computer Animation Studios of Ontario (CASO)
- a representative from Film Ontario
- a representative from Motion Picture Association (MPA)
- 19 additional industry stakeholders, representing a range of sectors within Toronto's content production industry

Committee members must be eligible and meet certain qualifications

In addition to the general eligibility requirements set out in the Public Appointments Policy, Public members appointed to the Advisory Committee will be representative of the following industry sectors and stakeholders:

- a) Production and post-production;
- b) Studios;
- c) Industry associations;
- d) Unions and Guilds;
- e) Marketing and promotion firms;
- f) Communications, media and content deliverers (broadcasters, cable, telecom and internet companies);
- g) Digital Media;
- h) Educational and training institutions;
- i) Suppliers;
- j) Financiers and funders;
- k) Copyright owners;
- l) Creators;
- m) Support services (e.g. legal, financial, accounting, physical and technical infrastructure companies); and
- n) Partners (e.g. local business, film festivals).

Continuity of Service

To continue the effective work of the Toronto Film, Television and Digital Media Board, the reconstituted advisory body includes 31% returning members from the previous membership group. It is intended that this composition will preserve institutional learning achieved in the previous term regarding how best to work with the City, while at the same time encouraging fresh voices and diverse perspectives contributed by new members.

Term of Office

The term of office for public members to the Toronto Film, Television and Digital Media Board coincides with the term of City Council. Therefore, the public members appointed to the Toronto Film, Television and Digital Media Board would serve, at pleasure of Council for a term ending November 14, 2026. As per the Public Appointments Policy,

the limit on length of service for any appointee is a 2 consecutive terms of 4 years, for a limit of 8 consecutive years.

How appointments to advisory bodies are governed

The appointment of public members to the City's Council Advisory Bodies falls under the Public Appointments Policy. Members are appointed by City Council on recommendation of the Civic Appointments Committee for members of the public and Striking Committee for the members of City Council.

Diversity data for the recommended public members of the Toronto Film, Television and Digital Media Board

Diversity data on the 22 recommended public and association board members, collected through the Confidential Voluntary Diversity Information Survey which accompanies each application, is attached as Confidential Attachment 1.

Public release of names of recommended candidates

The names of recommended candidates will be publicly reported once the Civic Appointment Committee forwards its recommendations to City Council.

CONTACT

Marguerite Pigott, Film Commissioner and Director of Entertainment Industries
marguerite.pigott@toronto.ca

SIGNATURE

Patrick Tobin
General Manager, Economic Development and Culture
Patrick.tobin@toronto.ca

ATTACHMENTS

Confidential Attachment 1 – List of Recommended Candidates, Qualifications, and Confidential Voluntary Diversity Information Summary, and Applications for Appointment to the Toronto Film, Television and Digital Media Board.