2025

ASSESSMENT OF NORTHERN ONTARIO'S

FILM AND TELEVISION PRODUCTION INDUSTRY



CULTURAL INDUSTRIES ONTARIO NORTH

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1.0 BACKGROUND AND HISTORY

For years, film and television producers were known to occasionally chase a screen-based story north of Toronto, but it was not until 2001 when feature film *Men with Brooms* was filmed in Sudbury, Ontario, that the idea of achieving consistent economic gains through the screen-based industry gained serious steam in the North. That year, local artists and technicians were introduced to an industry that rewarded creativity. Community members experienced the excitement of a celebrity appearance. Local business owners found opportunities to expand. A new industry was born.

In the following years, other municipalities followed suit. Parry Sound, North Bay, and Sault Ste. Marie began servicing incoming productions, as producers discovered a wide array of fresh, unseen locations fit for the screen. Not long after, Thunder Bay and Timmins joined the regional roster of film-friendly communities. Music and Film in Motion (MFM), at the time an upstart, regionally focused not-for-profit organization committed to the arts, took notice and started offering production consultations and support programs for incoming producers and homegrown creatives. In 2012, MFM was reincorporated as Cultural Industries Ontario North (CION).

As interest from producers grew, MFM/CION, along with community leaders across Northern Ontario, worked to tap regional funding incentives that could further attract, support, and develop film and television projects. The Northern Ontario Heritage Fund Corporation (NOHFC), an agency of the government of Ontario with a mandate to create jobs and stimulate the regional economy, introduced in 2005 a funding program for motion pictures that would pave the way for an over twenty-year economic growth period: the 'Film and Television Program'.

Independent feature film *Killing Zelda Sparks* holds the title of the first project to receive funding through the NOHFC's new model in the form of a grant-loan combination of \$250,000. This formula would attract annual increases in production activity for years and help launch the careers of local filmmakers like North Bay's Robert Budreau, who in 2006 completed his directorial debut, *That Beautiful Somewhere*, with NOHFC funding. Since then, Budreau has directed or produced a slate of feature films, most of which were shot in Northern Ontario, including *Born to Be Blue*, the Chet Baker biopic starring Ethan Hawke.

Over time, an eager workforce emerged to answer a rise in calls for skilled labour as production activity across Northern Ontario increased steadily. Local production crew members now had

access to consistent work opportunities, and many established themselves as heads of departments tasked with overseeing, managing, and training incoming waves of new crew. By 2009, the rate of production increased substantially as producers from Ontario and beyond discovered the benefits of filming in Northern Ontario. Through its financial incentives, accessible locations, and growing workforce, the region was well positioned to service mid-sized productions with modest budgets (\$3 million – \$6 million).

The NOHFC's film fund formula was revised in 2012, eliminating the loan portion but retaining the 50% matching grant with a contribution of \$500,000 for most productions (and a maximum contribution of up to \$2 million for projects with budgets exceeding \$10 million). This revision may have reduced the region's capacity to attract larger budget feature productions through up-front support, but it also increased access to funding for higher numbers of small-to-mid budget productions that can, more consistently, secure full funding through a combination of private and public investments before the cameras roll. From this change, both the overall volume of production activity and the number of on-the-job training opportunities for emerging Northerners increased.¹

Early returns on investment under this new formula include the Cannes Film Festival-favourite *Sleeping Giant* (2014); the critically acclaimed wilderness thriller *Backcountry* (2013) by first-time director Adam MacDonald; *Remember*, (2014), Atom Egoyan's second Northern Ontario film; the period horror feature *The Witch* (2014), which had an \$8M opening box office; and *Antibirth* (2015), the dark Sundance Film Festival-favourite starring Chloe Sevigny and Natasha Lyonne.

2012 also saw that introduction of two substantial precursors to annual increases in the economic growth of Northern Ontario's film and television production industry. In Sudbury, private sector investors, including Sudbury-born-Actor-turned-businessman David Anselmo, opened the doors to the Northern Ontario Film Studios (NOFS), which has since established itself as a hub for a range of production services and activities. In North Bay, Canadore College introduced its Digital Cinematography diploma program in response to the growing demand for skilled film technicians at the regional level.

By 2016, NOFS' influence on regional production attraction strategies was paying off, and it expanded its operations to North Bay with a dedicated production space that offered the new

¹ <u>NOHFC Film Fund</u>: 2021. Accessed May 2025.

resources and infrastructure to service higher numbers of film and television projects annually. That same year, CEO of NOFS/Hideaway Pictures David Anselmo signed a 3-year, \$100 million deal with Los Angeles-based Motion Picture Corporation of America (fast forward a bit to 2021 and the deal was re-upped as a 25-picture deal worth an estimated \$150 million).²

Now with added infrastructure and crew capacity, Northern Ontario's film and television production industry entered a period of rapid growth which culminated in a record-breaking 2015/2016 that saw over 53 productions shot in the North, including high-budget TV Series like *Cardinal* (Sudbury and North Bay), *Eyewitness* (Parry Sound), *Bad Blood* (Sudbury), *Letterkenny* (Sudbury) and *Slasher* (Sudbury). The region was poised for exponential growth and talks surrounding major infrastructure investments in Northern Ontario picked up quickly. Regionally, a rise in both grassroots filmmaking and Indigenous storytelling through the motion picture medium was taking shape (evidenced by the introduction of the Weengushk Film Institute in 2012 which offers post-secondary accredited filmmaking courses in Manitoulin Island).

Production numbers across Northern Ontario from 2017-2019 remained high, with Sudbury and North Bay emerging as the majority holders of the annual average of 32 film or television projects during this period. In 2019, Hideaway Pictures invested \$2 million dollars into a permanent, turn-of-the-century studio backlot in Powassan for season 1 of *When Hope Calls*, which continues to act as a catalyst and attraction for film production.

Throughout 2020, the COVID-19 pandemic all but neutralized commercial filmmaking practices at a global scale, with most projects rescheduled, temporarily shelved, or abandoned altogether. Northern Ontario was not unique in experiencing significant and economically challenging drops in production activity, but the region had a built-in advantage that would prove a golden ticket for film projects previously destined for traditional markets: population density. While social distancing protocols and rising cases of COVID-19 posed a challenge for film production in population-dense markets such as Toronto, Northern Ontario offered a safer and viable means toward film production which generated over 19 film or television project in 2020 alone (roughly 10 short of recent annual averages). In fact, it was during this time when Sudbury hosted *Resident Evil: Welcome to Raccoon City* – the highest budget feature film ever to film in Northern Ontario at roughly \$55 million.³

² <u>Hideaway Pictures News</u>. Accessed May 2025.

³ Data derived from CION's film and television production tracking.

Post-pandemic recovery for the film and television production industry was swift in Northern Ontario. By 2021, the region was back on track to break records again, with 31 projects hosted in Sudbury, North Bay, Sault Ste. Marie, and Thunder Bay. However, it was not long before the unprecedented demand for film and television content creation in the post-COVID-19 era reaggravated underlying sustainability and growth concerns as they pertained to regional workforce and infrastructure capacities. High-budget TV Series like *Shoresy* (Sudbury), *Letterkenny* (Sudbury), *When Hope Calls* (North Bay), and *The Lake* (North Bay) provided longer employment windows for the majority of Northern Ontario's film workforce, while independent feature films across the region faced challenges in hiring from dwindling pools of local candidates. Additionally, the balance of experience and availability proved a consistent concern for incoming producers who hoped to hire high-level production crew members (i.e. Production Managers, Line Producers, Production Accountants, Heads of Departments) from within the region but often had to source and accommodate workers from external markets, ultimately increasing production costs.

Crew capacity during the Summer of 2022 was the wind that shifted the sails of Northern Ontario's film and television production industry from attraction-based toward development-based strategies. Recent successes in production attraction at the municipal and regional levels led to a record-breaking season where more than 10 productions occurred concurrently – and were vying for access to local crews – within a 3-month window in Sudbury, North Bay, and Sault Ste. Marie. In total, the region hosted 37 film or television projects in 2022. Although a remarkable achievement that produced significant economic gains for the North, this period unified producers, stakeholders, and on-the-ground representatives in the understanding that an immediate investment toward growing and upskilling Northern Ontario's film production workforce was necessary to not only grow the regional industry, but to sustain it.

In late 2022, CION, in consultation with regional, provincial, and national stakeholders, expanded its workforce development activities to include a robust, union-led educational series named 'The Northern Ontario Film Crew Training Sessions' program in response to producer concerns surrounding regional crew capacity. Two editions of the program were deployed in 2023 (Winter and Fall) and produced 187 graduates in Sudbury, North Bay, Sault Ste. Marie, and Timmins – over 60 of which have entered the film and television production workforce as of November 2024 and accumulated over 190 verifiable production credits.

Although early signs pointed to high production volumes in 2023, Northern Ontario, not unlike other North American production jurisdictions, was severely impacted by the SAG-AFTRA and Writers Guild of America Strikes from May – November 2023. In fact, production numbers dropped more than 40%, from 37 in 2022 to 21 in 2023, representing the lowest total production output in Northern Ontario since 2013 (not including 2020). Even still, the region persisted as a likely destination for fully Canadian film and television projects less impacted by the Hollywood strikes. The economic impact of film and television production regionally was comparatively less affected, in part due to higher-budget domestic TV series like *SkyMed* (North Bay) and *Shoresy* (Sudbury).

Hopeful for a bounce-back year in 2024, Northern Ontario stakeholders were eager to see returns on investments from recent infrastructure additions and upgrades across the region's most active film and television production jurisdictions. Notably, White Owl Film Studios, Northern Ontario's first pop-up soundstage was built in Wahnapitae First Nation (roughly 30 minutes from Sudbury); Stardust Pictures Studios, a new studio space in Sault Ste. Marie, serviced its first production in 2023; Mukwa Studios, a converted warehouse in Nipissing First Nation retrofit specifically for *SkyMed*, opened its doors to new productions.

Ultimately, the impacts of the 2023 Hollywood Strikes were felt well into the new year, and 2024 did not meet anticipated results for film and television production in Northern Ontario. An estimated 21 projects entered production, primarily in North Bay (10) and Greater Sudbury (8), and high-budget television series continued to lead the charge with *SkyMed Season 3* (North Bay), *Shoresy Season 4* (Sudbury), and *When Hope Calls Season 2B* (North Bay). 2024 did see a slight increase in independent Canadian films with modest budgets, like *Violence* (Sudbury) and *Blood Lines* (North Bay) which both had production budgets of roughly \$5 million, potentially signaling a shift in philosophy for the northern screen-based sector: the primary challenge now was one of attraction and retention.

Amid recent industry-wide challenges, Northern Ontario was relatively sheltered in that it continued to service high-budget, domestic television series, and provided a pathway for midbudget, domestic film development. Workforce capacity during this period also presented as less of an immediate issue, as the region's inventory of established and experienced workers was able to meet reduced crew requirements from 2023/2024 (although capacity in certain departments including Accounting, Production, and Locations were still limited).

Looking at 2025, where early signs point to the return of major television series, and an increase in inquiries from producers representing mid-budget feature films suggests a potential wave of domestic independent production in Northern Ontario, stakeholders are eager to reap the benefits of recent investments at the workforce and infrastructure levels that aimed to capitalize on what 2022 showed was possible. The ebbs and flows of the film and television production industry are natural, and Northern Ontario has shown a unique resilience to sector-wide challenges that helped sustain its position as a prime destination for content creation. It's time now to grow.

2.0 ABOUT CION

Cultural Industries in Ontario North (CION)

Cultural Industries Ontario North (CION) is dedicated to stimulating and promoting the film, television, and music production industries in Northern Ontario and does so by providing educational programming to cultivate the advancement of Northern Ontario's emerging talent. CION works within the boundaries of Northern Ontario, which includes a population of nearly 800,000, millions of hectares of vast natural landscapes, and six major cities equipped to host audiovisual productions. CION continues to connect artists and technicians with opportunities and resources across the region and assists with outreach and consultations to advance their projects and careers.

CION's ongoing advocacy for Northern Ontario's production output is carried out to further develop Northern Ontario's thriving cultural industries. Making significant progress in several key areas, CION provides up-to-date resources, professional development opportunities, networking events and diverse workforce training, both in-person and virtually for the film and music industries. Recently, CION expanded its digital infrastructure; enhancing the functionality of its online database for film crew and industry professionals; introducing a Regional Resources database for the production industry; and initiating a dynamic Film & TV Project Pitch Exchange program (connecting producers with municipal stakeholders to help explore Northern Ontario's amenities, incentives, and locations).

CION's commitment to developing Northern Ontario's workforce has been at the forefront of its work since the organization's inception in 2012. CION's Crew Database represents a hotbed for hiring regional production crew members who are deemed eligible labour in the context of meeting regional funding requirements. This commitment is also exemplified through the Media Arts Production: Practiced, Employed, Developed (MAPPED) initiative – a program designed to provide crucial support to the film and television production sector by partially subsidizing the wages of promising production crew members from Northern Ontario.

3.0 THE CURRENT STATE OF NORTHERN ONTARIO'S FILM & TV PRODUCTION INDUSTRY

Film and Television Production in Northern Ontario

As per Ontario Creates <u>2023 Film & Television Production Statistics</u>, the film and television production industry's contributions to the provincial economy in 2023 generated 25,862 high-value full-time equivalent direct and spin-off jobs for Ontarians.⁴ Competitive financial supports administered by the Federal and Provincial governments continue to attract foreign and domestic producers to the province, and Northern Ontario is no exception.

Northern Ontario has significantly bolstered the economic influence of provincial film and television productions, positioning itself as a vital contributor to the provincial economy through two decades of impressive customer service that continues to attract incoming productions and foster homegrown projects.

Recent mid to large-sized domestic film and television productions that engaged Northern Ontario suppliers, vendors, and talent, and greatly contributed to Ontario's economic impact in 2023, include Season 2 of *SkyMed* (North Bay) Season 2 & 3 of *Shoresy* (Greater Sudbury), *Everything's Going to Be Great* (North Bay), and *40 Acres* (Greater Sudbury). Smaller-budget productions that increased the province's industry profile with successful festival and theatrical runs include *In a Violent Nature* (Sault Ste. Marie) and *Seeds* (North Bay).

Chart A below provides an overview of the production volumes in both Ontario and Northern Ontario from 2016 to 2023.⁵ Between these years, Ontario hosted a total of 2,017 film and television productions, 11.45% (or 228 projects) of which were filmed in Northern Ontario. While

⁴ Ontario Creates, <u>2023 Film & Television Production Statistics</u>, Accessed on March 2025.

⁵ Total NOHFC Northern Ontario Projects funding data provided by CION and Domestic Production Numbers Obtained from Ontario Creates <u>2023 Film & Television Production Statistics</u>.

overall production volumes in 2020 and 2023 experienced a decline due to the impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic and the "Hollywood Strikes", Northern Ontario's economy still saw a significant investment from the domestic film and television production industry.⁶ Over this period, the total production budgets of film or television projects that filmed in Northern Ontario reached \$1.74 billion, with an estimated regional economic impact of approximately \$537 million as calculated through the CAVCO model for impact.⁷

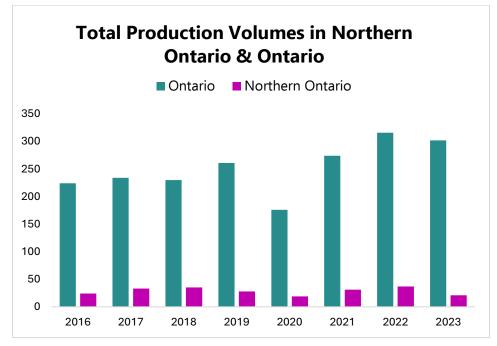


CHART A: Total Production Volume in Northern Ontario

Chart B below provides an overview of Northern Ontario Productions by Format from 2016 to 2023.⁸ The chart shows a decline in production volumes for 2020 and 2023, which can be attributed to the pandemic and American actors (SAG-AFTRA) and writers (WGA) strikes (i.e. the "Hollywood Strikes"). However, Northern Ontario experienced a rapid recovery following the pandemic, as production levels in 2021 rebounded to typical figures.

⁶ Ontario Creates, <u>Industry Profile – Film & TV</u>, <u>December 2023</u>. Accessed on March 2025.

⁷ Source for the estimates calculation: 1) Model source: CAVCO as outlined by Nordicity reports commissioned by CMPA 2) Model source: Statistics Canada as outlined by Nordicity reports commissioned by CMPA.

⁸ Total NOHFC Northern Ontario Projects funding data provided by CION and Domestic Production Numbers Obtained from Ontario Creates <u>2023 Film & Television Production Statistics</u>.

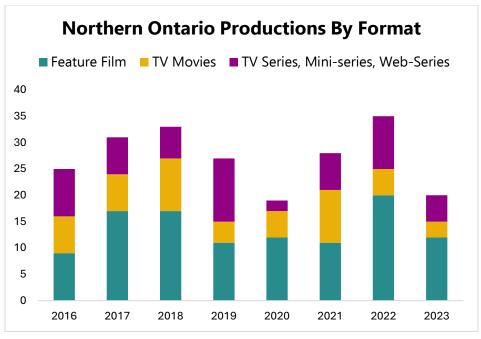


CHART B: Combined Northern Ontario Productions by Format (2016-2023)

4.0 ASSETS & RESOURCES

4.1 Production Facilities⁹

Northern Ontario's film and television production sector, while region-wide in terms of municipal contributions, has historically been centered on Greater Sudbury and North Bay, where the majority of crew and infrastructure are found. Key to the progression of both municipalities is the Northern Ontario Film Studios (NOFS), which was established in Sudbury in 2012 before expanding to North Bay in 2016. NOFS is Northern Ontario's longest-serving production studio that has since influenced additional infrastructure developments in its immediate and surrounding jurisdictions.

What follows is a comprehensive overview of existing production facilities within Northern Ontario capable of servicing audiovisual projects of all sizes.

Northern Ontario Film Studios (Sudbury District)

The Northern Ontario Film Studios (NOFS) features a 16,000 sq. ft single span main stage floor, on and off-site production offices, a hair and makeup room, a prop shop, a craft kitchen, laundry facilities and ample parking. There is 2,000 sq. ft of auxiliary space and fibre optic wi-fi service throughout the studio. Furthermore, NOFS (Sudbury) impresses a vast single-span studio floor (200' x 100' x 30') and essential amenities, including four onsite offices, two loading doors (: 10' x 10', 1 : 12' x 12'), 600 amp/3-phase electrical power, gas heating, and seamless fiber optic internet, all backed by a robust security system with a locked gate and 24-hour video surveillance.

Northern Ontario Film Studios (Nipissing District)

In 2016, NOFS incorporated new facets into its operations and introduced new sites in North Bay. The expansion includes the acquisition production offices on Harvey St. (former King George Public School) and a mobile facility on Jane St., production offices, and the establishment of an off-site carpentry shop, mobile off-site departments, interior apartment loft set, and office lobby sets. NOFS also introduced Northern Ontario's inaugural and permanent studio backlot in Powassan, which acts as a turn-of-the-century setting for incoming film and television projects (notably the television series *When Hope Calls*).

⁹ Source: <u>CION Regional Resources Data</u>, accessed on March 31, 2025.

Mukwa Studio (Nipissing First Nation)

Situated within Nipissing First Nation, this retrofit studio space hosted *Essex County* and *SkyMed* Season 2 & 3, and offers a vast 30,000 sq. ft. space, with new studio bathrooms, makeup space, and office space in development. Located 71 Hwy 17, North Bay.

Stardust Pictures Studios (Algoma District)

Stardust Pictures Studio is situated in Sault Ste. Marie (10 minutes from the USA border) and features Studio A (25ft x 50 ft) and Studio B (medium sized sound stage) along with production offices and set decoration space for rent.

White Owl Film Studios (Sudbury District)

Situated within the Wahnapitae First Nation, White Owl Film Studios is an Indigenous-owned multimedia company that represents Northern Ontario's newest production facility. The 20,000-square-foot soundstage features 64-foot-high clear span ceilings and in-house rigging.

4.2 Production Services¹⁰

Northern Ontario offers a range of services that support the film and television production industry in all three stages of production. Regional service providers offer professional expertise to ensure smooth project execution, catering to both small- and large-scale productions. With experienced crews and resources, these services help filmmakers bring their vision to life efficiently. The growing availability of production services is fostering the development of Northern Ontario's film industry. The list of available production service providers advertised through CION as of March 2025 includes:

Accretive (Sault Ste. Marie)

A multimedia production studio focusing on high quality corporate and commercial video, audio recording, virtual set design and related services.

Cambrian R&D (Sudbury)

Cambrian R&D aids in accessing funding, support, and skilled workers to facilitate research & development to help grow your business.

¹⁰ Source: <u>CION Regional Resources Data</u>, accessed on March 31, 2025.

Edge Enterprises (Sault Ste. Marie)

Founded by Producer Rosalie Chilelli, Edge Entertainment has been servicing feature films in Canada since 2009. Through a newly formed division in partnership with Producer Jennifer Pun, it develops original content for Screen, Television, and Digital Platforms worldwide.

Epica Pictures (Thunder Bay)

With world-wide experience starting from television to corporate, Epica Pictures focuses on various aspects of both aerials, photography and cinematography.

Hideaway Pictures (Sudbury/North Bay)

Hideaway Pictures is the largest full-service production company in Northern Ontario, providing both creative and production services to a wide range of clients in the film and television production industry.

Imagine Films (Thunder Bay)

An experienced aerial video and photographic specialist with fully licensed work along with Transport Canada maintaining a RPAS Advanced License.

InStyle Music (North Bay)

InStyle Music is a full-service Sync Agency, Publishing Company, and Record Label, representing top independent artists. They specialize in providing professional, high-quality, one-stop, precleared music for television, film, advertising, trailers, and promos.

MorVision Video Productions (Thunder Bay)

MorVision provides a wide range of professionally produced products from documentaries to comprehensive promotional and educational videos.

Northern Light and Colour Inc. (North Bay)

Northern Light and Colour Inc. provides comfortable and secure rental edit suites that can be configured with any spec. By leveraging the experience of their centralized management and facilities and employees in Northern Ontario, they are able to provide valuable on-set & post production support for projects shooting in Northern Ontario.

Rusty Halo Productions (Sault Ste. Marie)

Rusty Halo Productions Inc. is a Canadian-owned film production company that helps with equipment rentals and film and TV productions.

Sheba Films (Thunder Bay)

ShebaFilms is a film production company that focuses primarily on documentary filmmaking, but they are also a producer of fiction, commercial and educational films.

Theymedia (Thunder Bay)

Theymedia is primarily a film and video production company that also provides services like sound design, color timing, digital film acquisition (Arri, RED, Sony, Blackmagic,) production design and writing.

4.3 Equipment Rentals¹¹

Across Northern Ontario, several equipment rental services support the film industry by offering a variety of gear, from cameras to lighting and sound equipment. These rental companies provide professional-grade equipment to ensure filmmakers have the necessary tools for successful production. Many services offer flexible rental terms, whether for short-term or long-term projects.

Central to Northern Ontario's film and television production industry business landscape is Sunbelt Rental Film & TV (previously William F. White International Inc.) based in Greater Sudbury, Ontario. This international equipment rental supplier opened its doors in 2014 to meet the production needs of film and television productions of all sizes, from small independent projects to large-scale studio projects.

The list of available equipment rental providers advertised through CION as of March 2025 includes:

Apple Wagon Films (Thunder Bay)

With access to state-of-the-art video equipment and studio facilities, Apple Waggon Films has been in business for over a decade and specialize in developing styles and strategies that have consistently resulted in successful video production.

Blueprints (Thunder Bay)

Blueprints cater to a wide range of services both creative and technical services like music composition and production, mixing, sound design, foley, ADR, narration/voice acting and location sound. Other services include locations equipment and small set rentals.

¹¹ Source: <u>CION Regional Resources Data</u>, accessed on March 31, 2025.

Cooper Equipment Rentals (Sudbury, North Bay, Timmins, Kapuskasing)

This established Canadian supplier rents compact, aerial and heavy industrial and construction vehicles and equipment, with outlets all over Northern Ontario.

Hideaway Pictures (Sudbury/North Bay)

Their rentals include a complete array of film and television lighting, grip equipment and an extensive fleet of crystal sync generators. They also carry a wide range of remote heads and cranes, camera cars, state-of-the-art production equipment and expendables able to accommodate any size production in Northern Ontario.

MidCoast Productions Inc. (Sudbury)

MidCoast Production Inc. is a fully stocked sound equipment rental house, serving some of Sudbury's most high-profile productions.

Near North Mobile Lab (North Bay)

Ideal for low-budget productions or test shoots; this media group offers prosumer-level video and sound gear at affordable rates.

Northern Picture Cars (North Bay)

Specialised in picture car rentals like antiques, police cars, boats, ATVs, trucks, and period pieces.

Ontario Camera North (North Bay)

Ontario Camera North stands as a premier provider of top-tier camera equipment and solutions, catering to the evolving needs of the media production industry. Fueled by a reputation for quality and a steadfast focus on technological advancement, Ontario Camera North plays an instrumental role in facilitating extraordinary visual experiences.

Sault Production Equipment Services (Sault Ste. Marie)

Sault Production Equipment Services is a division of Rusty Halo Productions. They rent motion picture equipment, props, set dec, wardrobe and studio properties.

Sunbelt Film & TV Rentals (Sudbury)

The Sudbury outlet of the longstanding go-to rental house has supplied lighting and grip equipment to some of the area's most high-profile feature and TV productions.

Theymedia (Thunder Bay)

A film and video production company facilitating digital film acquisition (Arri, RED, Sony, Blackmagic).

Weengushk Film Institute (Manitoulin Island)

A non-profit, artist-focused film and television-training centre, dedicated to unlocking the creative potential of Indigenous and diverse youth. Program participants have access to the equipment required to create film and television productions.

4.4 Post-Production¹²

Northern Ontario is emerging as a destination for post-production services, offering expertise in video editing, sound design, color grading, and visual effects. With a growing number of local companies specializing in these areas, filmmakers can access high-quality support locally, making the region a cost-effective choice for projects.

The list of available post-production service providers advertised through CION as of March 2025 includes:

Applewagon Films (Thunder Bay)

Applewagon Films can tackle any phase of video production including, creative development, production, videography and editing.

Blueprints (Thunder Bay)

Blueprints cater to a wide range of services both creative and technical services like music composition and production, mixing, sound design, foley, ADR, narration/voice acting and location sound.

Canadore College of Applied Arts and Technology (North Bay)

Post-production at Canadore is one of the most modern post-production facilities of its kind in Ontario. Offering its services to regional, provincial, national and international production companies, Post-production at Canadore is uniquely positioned to educate and offer post-production services to the film, television, and video production industry.

¹² Source: <u>CION Regional Resources Data</u>, accessed on March 31, 2025.

Deadpan Studios (Sudbury)

Deadpan Studios is a professional recording studio marrying vintage and cutting-edge equipment and techniques with a live room suited for music production as well as voice over and ADR.

Kingly Post-Productions (Thunder Bay)

A video editing company focusing on the entire post-production process for Film, Video and New Media projects.

Lakeside Animation (North Bay)

Lakeside Animation is a premier Canadian studio that specializes in developing content, offering pre-production and post-production services to its clients.

MidCoast Productions Inc. (Sudbury)

MidCoast Production Inc. has experience working with producers from across the globe. They handle on-set and post-production audio needs.

Parka Pictures (Sault Ste. Marie)

Parka team members have over a decade of experience in the different fields of the entertainment industry. They offer diverse experience and expertise in production and post-production.

RFPMEDIA Inc. (North Bay)

The RFPMEDIA post-production team organizes and edits production footage, music, graphics, titles, visual effects, and color grading to deliver the final distribution product.

Riley Lake Productions Inc. (Sudbury)

Riley Lake Productions is a film, television, and video production company. They have the equipment and resources to see your project through from start to finish and assist with any single part of the production process (including post-production).

Rolling Pictures North (Sault Ste. Marie)

Rolling Pictures aids projects in every stage of post-production; from data management to final delivery.

RPMG Design (Sudbury)

RPMG Design holds 20 years of experience in 3D modeling, motion graphics and 3D animation, and can assist with post-production and digital marketing needs.

Sawasquirrel Post-Production (North Bay)

SAS post-production consists of editorial support and co-ordination, and includes support for all elements of post-production, allowing filmmakers to do post-production work in Northern Ontario.

Sound Design International (Powassan)

Sound Design International (SDI) is a post-production service company based in Northern Ontario that has been serving the Sudbury, Powassan, Toronto and Los Angeles film & television industries since 1996.

4.5 Education and Training

Practical work experience requires long-term, incremental training and mentoring, and cannot be accelerated. As the industry matures, gaps in crew numbers and skills could persist for several years, necessitating proactive workforce development initiatives to support the sustainability and growth of the regional production industry. These ongoing challenges are being addressed by educators, stakeholders, trade unions, funders, and CION. The following sections will assess workforce development programs aimed at alleviating these gaps and creating more opportunities in Northern Ontario.

4.5.1 CION Training Initiatives

Film Crew Training Sessions

The Northern Ontario Film Crew Training Sessions, facilitated by CION with support from REEL CANADA, took place in January and February 2023, as well as in the fall of 2023. Offered to residents of Greater Sudbury, North Bay, Sault Ste Marie, and Timmins, the free training covered entry-level roles in the Grip and Electric, Assistant Directors, and Art Department. With practical instruction from active film and TV production unions like IATSE 634, IATSE 667, IATSE 411, and DGC Ontario, the program equipped participants with the skills to pursue regional, entry-level production jobs. 187 graduates completed the program, with at least 64 having secured upward of 194 production credits as of March 2025.

Locations Scout Training Program

The Locations Scout training program trains participants on how to work as an integral part of the development process for film and television production industry as a locations scout. The curriculum of this course is designed to provide a step-by-step approach to scouting locations for film and television production and outlines the skills necessary to be an effective member of the production industry in Northern Ontario. This course equips participants with the technical skills and industry knowledge necessary to support film and television production development as a locations scout.

Cinema Ascent

Cinema Ascent is a 12-month mentorship and export preparedness-based professional development program designed to empower mid-career First Nations, Inuit, and Métis filmmakers from Canada, with a focus on Producers, Directors, and Writers from Northern Ontario. Supported by the Canada Media Fund (CMF), this national pilot program provides above-the-line and export-readiness training for up to eight (8) participants who are in the process of developing an upcoming feature-length or television project. Cinema Ascent presents a unique opportunity to connect with leading industry experts during group mentorship sessions and join two (2) export missions in Ontario that will increase professional connections, promote knowledge-sharing, and advance the development of Indigenous-led film or television projects in Northern Ontario.

Careers in Film & TV Information Sessions

On a recurring basis, CION partners with educational institutions, career fairs, and employment agencies in Northern Ontario to administer free information session on various careers in the film and television production industry. These sessions provide an overview of the regional sector and detail steps that students and job seekers can take to enter the film workforce.

With a focus on CION's programs and services, these sessions present avenues for CION to increase regional awareness toward new career opportunities and encourage job seekers – particularly Northern Ontario youth – to consider membership options with regional guilds and unions, including IATSE 634, IATSE 411, IATSE 667, and DGC Ontario.

Recent examples of dedicated information sessions include partnerships with Scriptfest[™], IATSE 634, and a roster of Ontario-based production crew members, which produced the 'They Came from the North' and 'A Peek Behind-the-Scenes' events respectively. The former provided free

professional development for over 40 local grassroots filmmakers in Greater Sudbury, and the latter introduced a one-of-a-kind student career fair at Lasalle Secondary School, where 15 production crew members shared knowledge with over 80 local youth.

4.5.2 MAPPED Program

CION's Media Arts Production: Practiced, Employed, Developed (MAPPED) program is an initiative focused on career advancement and recognition in the applied production sector. Funded by FedNor through CION, MAPPED provides work and training opportunities for media arts production crew members in Northern Ontario. The program aims to enhance and expand the local skill base by supplementing existing funding sources.

Qualifying productions may be eligible for partial funding to support up to six Northern Ontario crew trainees, with a maximum of \$10,000 per production (though exceptions can be made for up to \$20,000 if the production demonstrates significant sector impact and a strong commitment to training). Trainee applicants must be new or emerging in their roles, meaning they have no more than two credits and six weeks of experience in the position they're applying for. The position must either be an upgrade within the same department or a lateral move to a different department. CION's contribution will not exceed 25% of total paid gross wages for the chosen northern trainees. This can be increased to 50% if the applicant is not also receiving funding from the Northern Ontario Heritage Fund Corporation and/or other government funding.

MAPPED was first introduced in 2014. As of 2024, the program has supported 49 productions and generated 261 trainee positions (or 44.8 FTEs). Through verification mechanisms including surveys, The Crew Database, and publicly available production information, CION calculates that 222 MAPPED graduates have, after receiving training through the program, accrued a combined minimum of 1,355 verifiable production credits (or 225 FTEs) between 2014-2024. *Chart C* outlines MAPPED projects and trainee roles created over the years.¹³

¹³ Data derived from CION's MAPPED data.

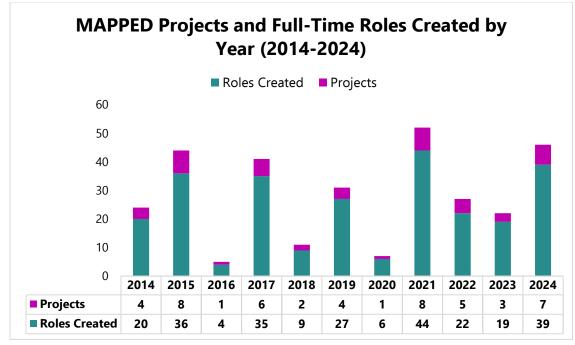


CHART C: MAPPED Projects & FTEs Created by Year (2014-2023)

4.5.3 National & Provincial Training Programs

<u>The Academy of Canadian Cinema & Television:</u> Offers a wide array of above-the-line training and mentorship opportunities for Canadian filmmakers, with a focus on removing barriers to educational opportunities for historically underrepresented demographics including women and BIPOC creators. Examples of such programs include Women in Post, Executive Residency Program, Canadian Academy Writers Program, and more.¹⁴

<u>DGC Professional Development and Training</u>: DGC Ontario's Professional Development & Training program offers a variety of courses for union members, covering technical skills, diversity and inclusion, leadership, and more. The training catalog includes programs in health and safety, sustainability, accounting, set design, editing, assistant directing, and other essential crew areas.¹⁵

<u>I.A.T.S.E. 634</u>: Offers a free-to-join Set Etiquette Permit Orientation webinar designed to introduce Northern Ontario residents to common terminology, practices, and expectations of working on a film or television set. This course is a pre-requisite for union membership or permit status and is generally offered twice a year.¹⁶

¹⁴ Academy of Canadian Cinema & Television: <u>Development Programs</u>. Accessed on April 14, 2025.

¹⁵ Director's Guild of Canada. <u>Development & Training</u>. Accessed on April 14, 2025.

¹⁶ I.A.T.S.E. 634 <u>How to Become a Permit</u>. Accessed on April 14, 2025.

<u>I.A.T.S.E. 667- Training Program for Camera Trainees</u>: Local 667 provides regular training and seminars to keep members at the forefront of camera technology, ensuring they are highly skilled and proficient in all camera systems. The Camera Trainee Program offers field training on I.A.T.S.E. 667 signatory productions, providing an entry-level position for those aspiring to become Camera Assistants and, eventually, Cinematographers.¹⁷

<u>Women in Film and Television – Toronto (WIFT-T)</u>: With a focus on fostering gender equality and inclusion, WIFT-T provides a supportive community where members can access professional development, mentorship, and networking opportunities. The organization offers a variety of courses to help individuals enhance their skills, advance their careers, and step into leadership roles, including Leadership Development Series, Media Business Essentials, LIGHTS! CAMERA! LEARN! and more.¹⁸

4.5.4 Educational Institutions – Film Training and Lateral Skills

While many of the programs mentioned above focus on refining existing skills, Northern Ontario offers specialized courses designed for individuals aspiring to learn from the ground up. These programs, established in direct response to the growing demand for a locally skilled production workforce, are offered by local universities, colleges, and accredited institutes. They provide valuable opportunities for individuals seeking to enter the industry and build their careers from the beginning. Following are some notable courses offered at institutions across Northern Ontario.

Cambrian College, Greater Sudbury

Cambrian College offers a diverse range of programs to effectively prepare Northern Ontario students for careers in the film and TV industry. While not all programs are directly related, there are some trade and animation programs that assist students in launching careers in the film and TV industry. Cambrian offers 2 animation programs the first one is a College Diploma program *Animation (2 years),* and the second is an Advance College Diploma *Animation (3 years).*¹⁹

Canadore College, North Bay

Canadore College offers a range of film industry-related programs, from *Digital Cinematography, Acting for Stage and Screen, Post-Production* to *Visual Effects.* In 2021, the Toronto Film School

¹⁷ I.A.T.S.E. 667 Programs & Events. Accessed on April 14, 2025.

¹⁸ Women in Film & Television. <u>Programs & Events</u>. Accessed on April 14, 2025.

¹⁹ Cambrian College <u>Diplomas & Advance Diplomas</u>. Accessed on April 14, 2025.

welcomed the opportunity to collaborate with Canadore College on education pathways to address the industry demand for a significant increase in trained, talented, and available crew members in Northern Ontario.²⁰

Confederation College, Thunder Bay

Confederation College offers an *Interactive Media Development* program to foster a strong foundation in graphic design, interactive design, web, and mobile development, as well as 3D design, photography, audio/video storytelling and motion design. As well as Film Production hands-on training, graduates of the program go on to a variety of entry-level positions including Production Assistant, Editing Assistant, Camera Assistant and Sound Assistant.²¹

Sault College, Sault Ste. Marie

Sault College offers a 2-year *Digital Film Program* that covers essential skills in directing, scripting, production, and distribution for film and television. The program includes hands-on classes using industry-standard technology and software, with courses on lighting, shot composition, special effects, production design, screenwriting, sound, music, and actor performance.²²

Weengushk Film Institute, Manitoulin Island

The Weengushk Film Institute, located on Manitoulin Island in Northern Ontario, focuses on fostering Indigenous leadership through programs that combine creative storytelling, business skills, and practical production experience in the film and TV industry. Offerings include online courses like "Indigenous Governance," "The 'Art' of Documentary Storytelling," and "The Business of Film," as well as hands-on labs such as "Lab 1: Certificate in Film Production" and "Lab 2: Certificate in Television Production." In 2025, a partnership with Shingwauk Kinoomaage Gamig (SKG) in Sault Ste. Marie established an 8-month course designed for Indigenous and non-Indigenous students with hands-on training in filmmaking. Weengushk is also accredited with Laurentian University in Greater Sudbury.²³

²⁰ Canadore College <u>Team up with Toronto Film School</u>. Accessed on April 14, 2025.

²¹ Confederation College <u>Media Arts Programs</u>. Accessed on April 14, 2025.

²² Sault College <u>Digital Film Production</u>. Accessed on April 14, 2025.

²³ Weengushk Film Institute <u>Film Programs</u>. Accessed on April 14, 2025.

4.5.5 Indigenous Training Opportunities

The Shine Network Institute

The Shine Network Institute is an Indigenous-led training, mentorship, and development-focused organization that provides pathways to career growth in the Canadian screen-based sector for emerging Indigenous creators. Examples of recurring training initiatives include:

Producing Accelerator Indigenous Lens. Crafted specifically to empower Indigenous producers and content creators on their professional journey, this immersive 4-day virtual course places a strong emphasis on cultivating skills in show-running, producing, writing, directing, and nurturing narrative sovereignty.²⁴

TV & Film 101: A series of 10 videos featuring Adeline Bird and Jennifer Podemski, focusing on the basics of the film and television industry.

Indigenous Producers – Budget Intensive. This 8-module course offers detailed, hands-on learning designed to empower students as they prepare to produce their first feature film.

Indigenous Screen Office (ISO)

The Indigenous Screen Office (ISO) is dedicated to supporting Indigenous creators in the film, television, and digital media industries. Through a variety of programs, ISO provides resources, grants, mentorship, and professional development opportunities to help Indigenous filmmakers develop, produce, and distribute authentic Indigenous-led content. These initiatives not only empower Indigenous storytellers but also promote diverse and culturally accurate representations in the media, fostering career growth and increasing opportunities for Indigenous professionals within the industry.²⁵

ImagineNATIVE:

ImagineNATIVE supports Indigenous filmmakers and artists through professional development, mentorship, and training workshops. Their programs offer funding, project support, and showcase Indigenous content at their annual festival. They also provide talent development initiatives, pitch sessions, and networking opportunities to help Indigenous creators gain exposure, connect with industry professionals, and advance their careers.²⁶

²⁴ The Shine Network Institute Professional Development & Training. Accessed on April 14, 2025.

²⁵ Indigenous Screen Office <u>News & Events</u>. Accessed on April 14, 2025.

²⁶ ImagineNATIVE <u>Institute</u>. Accessed on April 14, 2025.

4.6 Crew

Before all else, human resources are critical to forming a lasting foundation for this industry while simultaneously growing Northern Ontario's creative class. CION's Crew Database provides a robust tool for incoming producers to find and hire regional crew, and ongoing efforts are being made to promote the expertise of the local workforce and attract more productions to crew from within certain municipalities and the broader pan-northern ecosystem.

By December 2024, the Crew Database contained over 1,300 unique crew profiles, which are classified into two categories: Emerging and Established. Emerging crew members are those with limited production experience, while Established crew members have accrued verifiable production credits throughout their careers. To more accurately reflect Northern Ontario's current workforce capacities and assist incoming producers in hiring regional crew members, CION staff developed an annual review and outreach strategy to identify and update profiles that may be inactive and/or belong to crew members who no longer reside in Northern Ontario, which is being implemented as of June 2025.

APPENDIX A: CION CREW DATABASE BY PRE-PRODUCTION, PRODUCTION AND POST-PRODUCTION CATEGORIES.

4.7 Exhibitions and Promotions

Cinéfest Sudbury International Film Festival: Cinéfest Sudbury International Film Festival is a world-class celebration of arts and culture, recognized as one of Canada's premier film events. The festival highlights all aspects of Northern Ontario's arts and culture community, with a growing emphasis on the development of the region's film industry. Cinéfest provides a valuable platform for both established and emerging Canadian filmmakers to showcase their work, drawing an audience that is widely regarded as representative of the general film-going public. Currently preparing for its 37th edition, Cinéfest generates a multimillion-dollar economic boost for Greater Sudbury. The festival screens over 125 films in its nine-day span.

In 1992, Cinéfest introduced the Northern Film Circuit, which later merged with the Toronto International Film Festival Group to form the Film Circuit. This collaboration continues to play a key role at Cinéfest, with festival programmers from across Ontario attending each year to select films for their local communities. In 2010, Cinéfest introduced Cinema Summit, a series aimed at celebrating and promoting Canada's emerging filmmakers. The event provides a platform for film students and talent from Northern Ontario to connect with established industry professionals, fostering growth and opportunities in the Canadian film industry. Cinema Summit has experienced year-over-year audience growth.

Northern Ontario Music & Film Awards: The Northern Ontario Music & Film Awards (NOMFA) is held on a biennial basis. After a five-year hiatus due to the pandemic, Cultural Industries in Ontario North (CION) successfully relaunched the event in June 2024. In 2008, Music and Film in Motion (MFM) introduced a conference component alongside the awards to support the growth of the music, film, and television industries in Northern Ontario. CION followed the same concept in 2024, which brings in mentors and panelists to offer valuable insights and guidance on each sector, fostering the development of industry connections. As a result, numerous working relationships have been formed, and both networking and showcasing opportunities are expected to continue growing in the coming years.

Emerging Film Festivals: There has been a rise in the number of and subsequent promotion of film festivals taking place across Northern Ontario in communities of all sizes. In addition to Cinéfest Sudbury, the following includes notable film festivals in Northern Ontario:

- Sudbury Outdoor Adventure Reels SOAR Film Festival (Sudbury)
- Sudbury's Tiny Underground Film Festival STUFF (Sudbury)
- Junction North International Documentary Film Festival (Sudbury)
- Queer North Film Festival (Sudbury)
- Sudbury Indie Creature Kon- SICK (Sudbury)
- North Bay Film Festival (North Bay)
- Sault Film Festival (Sault Ste. Marie)
- Northwest Film Fest (*Thunder Bay*)
- Vox Popular Media Arts Festival (Thunder Bay)
- Timmins Film Festival *(Timmins)*
- Weengushk International Film Festival (Manitoulin Island)

Recent Production Successes at International Events & Broadcast: Productions that shot entirely or partly in Northern Ontario have been featured on popular streaming services like Netflix, Prime Video, Crave TV and others with undisputed success. *Shoresy*, a popular Crave series and spinoff of *Letterkenny*, is now set to start filming a fifth season in Greater Sudbury, as of March of 2025. Another notable production with worldwide appeal is *SkyMed*, that initially premiered on CBC Television and is now streaming on various popular streaming platforms. Many horror films from the north such as *Resident Evil: Welcome to Raccoon City* and *In a Violent Nature* have been enjoyed on a mass scale by audiences after being acquired by Netflix and Shudder respectively.

More recently, Northern Ontario productions were nominated under various award categories at the 2024 Canadian Screen Awards with a total of 11 nominations. The winning productions were *Jane Goodall: Reasons for Hope* (Sustainable Production Award), *Thunder Bay* (Factual Series Award) and *Letterkenny* (Ensemble Performance in a Comedy Series Award).²⁷

See APPENDIX B: MAJOR AWARD-WINNING NORTHERN ONTARIO PRODUCTIONS

4.8 Digital Resources and Production Attraction Services

4.8.1 CION'S Digital Resources

Services for Producers

Film and TV Project Pitch Exchange: This production attraction and support program is designed to solicit film and television production leads to Northern Ontario and matchmake incoming producers with municipal representatives. The program, which has three (3) stages, is a proven catalyst for business development and operates with quarterly intake rounds. Initially launched in May of 2023, the Film & TV Project Pitch Exchange has generated thirteen (13) in-person location tours of Northern Ontario for incoming producers and regional location scouts, as of March 2025.

- Stage One: Film and television producers submit a 'Project Asset Package' to CION, which is then reviewed by staff and municipal partners to determine which municipalities are interested in pitching their locations/amenities to the producer(s).
- Stage Two: CION, the NOHFC, and municipal representatives meet virtually with producers to bring attention to regional production solutions and script-specific incentives that Northern Ontario can offer their project.

²⁷ Source: <u>Canadian Screen Award 2024 Nominations</u>

 Stage Three: CION, Ontario Creates, and municipal representatives coordinate an inperson locations tour for producers that show significant interest in bringing their upcoming project to Northern Ontario. Select costs incurred by the production team during their tour are eligible for reimbursement through Ontario Creates.

Media Arts Production Practiced Employed Developed (MAPPED): CION's MAPPED program is a production assistance fund designed to help film and television producers provide on the job training for Northern Ontario residents looking to work in the industry. With funding from FedNor, MAPPED seeks to supplement existing funding sources to hire and train emerging film and television workers by providing partial funding for Northern Ontario crew trainees to a maximum of \$10,000 per production. Since its inception in 2014, MAPPED has promoted the growth of a strong and dynamic workforce in Northern Ontario, with many early MAPPED trainees having established themselves as key production crew members since graduating from the program.

Regional Resources: CION's Regional Resources database is a public business directory that can assist producers in identifying and connecting with an expanding list of businesses and start-ups across Northern Ontario's major production centres like Greater Sudbury, North Bay, Parry Sound, Sault Ste. Marie, Thunder Bay and Timmins. As many film and television productions in Northern Ontario must meet regional spend quotas as outlined in government funding agreements, this database is a useful point of reference for producers in search of Northern Ontario-based companies and suppliers.

Film Project Consultations. CION provides free, one-on-one consultations for filmmakers who are interested in filming across Northern Ontario. Consultations include assisting with funding applications, finding key crews and locations, identifying appropriate production and post-production suppliers based on their project's level and budget, and discovering hard-to-find resources.

Services for Crew

CION'S Crew Database: The Crew Database is a private online resource that provides film and television producers an accurate means of identifying and connecting with available crew members from across Northern Ontario. The database employs filters for producers to refine their search by job category, name, production experience, city, union affiliation, and more. On the other hand, the Crew Database provides regional production crew members – whether established

or emerging – the opportunity to market their skills and job experience for the consideration of incoming employers.

The Hotlist: Representing CION's most-visited webpage, The Hotlist is a public bulletin of current, rumoured, and upcoming film and television production activity across Northern Ontario. Production companies who choose to publish their upcoming projects to The Hotlist can list projected filming dates, locations, contact information, and crew requirements or callouts, which has proven to generate business between incoming producers and the regional workforce.

Training Opportunities: CION lists its recent, current, and upcoming film and television production training opportunities for individuals who want to learn more about barrier-free pathways toward career development in Northern Ontario. Examples of programs listed here include the Northern Ontario Film Crew Training Sessions, the Locations Scout Training program, and Cinema Ascent.

Guilds & Unions: CION offers valuable resources on guilds and unions within the film and television industry, providing guidance to both aspiring and experienced professionals. CION works closely with industry unions such as I.A.T.S.E (International Alliance of Theatrical Stage Employees), DGC (Directors Guild of Canada), and other relevant organizations. These partnerships help filmmakers and crew members understand union requirements, membership benefits, and the various roles within the industry. CION's training opportunities (Northern Ontario Film Crew Training Sessions, for example) also provide an overview of membership requirements for regional unions and guilds.

Workforce Consultations: CION offers workforce consultations to support the growth and development of the film and television industry in Northern Ontario. These consultations provide valuable guidance to both individuals and production companies, helping them navigate local workforce opportunities and understand industry needs. Through one-on-one consultations, CION helps connect aspiring professionals with industry roles, identify training gaps, and provide strategic advice on building a skilled workforce for the region.

4.8.2 Ontario Creates Locations Library

The Ontario Creates Location Database provides online virtual scouting available 24/7 from anywhere in the world. This mobile-friendly service features over 275,000 digital images and has transformed how film and TV producers scout potential filming locations. Northern Ontario production hubs benefit from varying levels of representation, with regional listings showcasing a diverse array of natural and man-made locations from the OMDC's Locations Library. As of

March 2025, Northern Ontario's major production centres have the following recorded locations from each city: **Greater Sudbury**: 74, **North Bay**: 53, **Parry Sound**: 36, **Sault Ste. Marie**: 65, **Thunder Bay**: 6, **Timmins**: 5.²⁸

5.0 ECONOMIC IMPACT

5.1 Region Wide Assessments

Between 2016 and 2023, the Northern Ontario film and television industry experienced an initial growth period that was challenged by industry-wide production stoppages in 2020 (COVID-19 pandemic) and 2023 (the "Hollywood Strikes"). Even through these challenges, the regional industry hosted over 228 film and television productions with an estimated total production value surpassing \$1 billion, proportionately fairing quite well in comparison to other domestic production jurisdictions. This trend is not coincidental but rather the outcome of the Northern Ontario Heritage Fund Corporation's (NOHFC) strategic initiatives, which were first implemented in 2005 and continue to play a crucial role in driving economic development in the region.

The year 2022 saw the highest estimated total production value, reaching approximately \$183 million across 37 projects. A substantial number of these productions were attracted to the region by the NOHFC's 'Film and Television Program', which can offer conditional contributions of up to 50% of eligible costs (i.e. incurred in Northern Ontario) are available to a maximum which is capped on a tiered basis according to the total northern spend.

Total Production Budget	Potential Level of Support
Up to \$5 million	Up to \$500,000
\$5 million - \$10 million	Up to \$1,000,000
\$10 million and above	Up to \$2,000,000

It is understood that the film and television production industry provides significant benefit to the regional economies in which it operates, yet there are some diverging opinions regarding how this can best be calculated and quantified. The Nordicity approach to estimating the direct and spin-off economic impacts is widely accepted with industry stakeholders and other researchers,

²⁸ Source: Ontario Creates Locations Library

and meets the objectives of this report, which aims to provide a realistic snapshot of the film and television production industries impact.

Nordicity has published a series of annual reports "commissioned by the Motion Picture Association – Canada, in collaboration with the Canadian Media Production Association." These studies "capture the impact of the entire industry value chain on the country's economy, including the direct, indirect and induced impacts of film and television production and distribution, manufacturing and distribution of content to consumers." ²⁹Utilizing the Nordicity model, the following estimates can be made about the impact of Northern Ontario's overall film and television production industry from 2016 through 2023.

Summar	y of Economic Im	pact of Northern On	tario's Film and Tel	levision Production	Industry (8 Year)
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Model Baseline Figures		2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023
CAVCO Model (50% of known regional pro	duction costs)	\$64,105,806	\$74,998,681	\$66,151,613	\$74,392,834	\$53,433,234	\$59,258,941	\$77,206,504	\$53,403,919
Average FTE salary in Film/TV Production (Canada)	\$59,445	\$60,396	\$62,389	\$64,074	\$67,213	\$77,094	\$79,638	\$82,425
Provincial adjustment factor (Ontario)		0.996	1.022	1.022	1.027	1.03	1.031	1.031	1
Adjusted Average FTE Salary		\$59,207	\$61,725	\$63,762	\$65,804	\$69,229	\$79,484	\$82,107	\$82,425
Estimated Impacts	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	Total
Estimated FTE Direct Jobs	1,083	1,215	1,037	1,131	772	746	940	648	7,572
Estimated FTE Indirect Jobs	1,267	1,422	1,214	1,323	903	872	1,100	758	8,858
Estimated FTE Induced Jobs	399	448	383	417	285	275	347	239	2,793
Estimated Total FTE Jobs	2,749	3,085	2,634	2,870	1,960	1,893	2,387	1,645	19,223
Direct Production Industry Labour Income	\$64,363,259	\$73,384,227	\$64,727,606	\$72,437,034	\$51,876,926	\$57,719,632	\$88,949,082	\$53,153,919	\$526,611,685
Spin-Off Labout Income	\$64,982,692	\$72,923,845	\$62,266,797	\$67,850,621	\$46,322,924	\$44,934,300	\$67,034,154	\$38,703,598	\$465,018,930
Estimated Total Labour Income	\$129,345,950	\$146,308,072	\$126,994,402	\$140,287,655	\$98,199,850	\$102,653,932	\$155,983,237	\$91,857,516	\$991,630,615
Gross Domestic Product (Direct)	\$72,730,482	\$82,924,177	\$73,142,194	\$81,853,848	\$58,620,927	\$65,223,184	\$100,512,463	\$60,063,928	\$595,071,204
Gross Domestic Product (Spin-Off)	\$108,368,418	\$123,557,024	\$108,981,870	\$121,962,233	\$87,345,181	\$97,182,545	\$149,763,570	\$89,495,253	\$886,656,093
Estimated Total Gross Domestic Product	\$181,098,901	\$206,481,201	\$182,124,064	\$203,816,081	\$145,966,107	\$162,405,729	\$250,276,033	\$149,559,180	\$1,481,727,297

Source for the estimates calculation: 1) Model source: CAVCO as outlined by Nordicity reports commissioned by CMPA 2) Model source: Statistics Canada as outlined by Nordicity reports commissioned by CMPA.

Chart D categorizes projects from 2016 to 2023³⁰ based on their budget type, following the Directors Guild of Canada rate sheet guidelines, which is subject to change. Although Tier E and Tier F projects represent a significant portion of the total, the data reveals an increasing trend in Tier A projects over the years. This suggests that more large-scale productions are seeking to leverage the benefits offered by Northern Ontario.

²⁹ Source: Nordicity: <u>The Economic Contribution of the Film and Television Sector in Canada 2023</u>.

³⁰ Total NOHFC Northern Ontario Project funding data provided by CION.

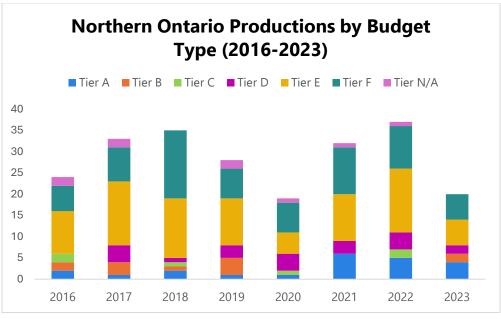


Chart D: Northern Ontario Productions by Budget Type (2016-2023)

5.2 Estimated Impacts by Municipality

The preceding assessment of the 8-year impact of Northern Ontario film and television production industry indicates that investments by the NOHFC and other provincial and federal bodies are attracting significant private sector investments in Northern Ontario's industry and are generating substantial returns to the overall GDP.

While this impact is not felt in Northern Ontario alone (as public sector investments have been largely designed to attract established production companies from outside Northern Ontario), the region's track record of developing local crew and service-support bases, and of fostering the development and/or arrival of notable production support companies, is ensuring that much of the overall impact stays in the North.

The following estimates of production activity impacts by municipality look at the total impact of a production (using Nordicity modeling) and not the direct impact felt by these municipalities. While these estimates are not meant to suggest that regional municipalities are in any way the sole beneficiaries of substantial production activity, they do illustrate two very important factors: 1) the pan-Northern approach to production industry development and growth has been widely embraced across the region and; 2) that towns and cities impacted by film and television production activity have proven themselves capable of supporting the major investments of time,

space, people and money that are required by mid-sized productions. The following is also a compilation of 6-year data to ensure that data estimates could maintain an accepted degree of integrity as the focus narrowed.

Estimated Impacts	Greater Sudbury	North Bay	Parry Sound	Sault Ste. Marie	Other
Estimated FTE Direct Jobs	3,422	3,034	698	473	59
Estimated FTE Indirect Jobs	4,004	3,550	816	553	69
Estimated FTE Induced Jobs	1,262	1,119	257	174	22
Estimated Total FTE Jobs	8,689	7,704	1,771	1,200	149
Direct Production Industry Labour Income	\$224,679,375	\$218,536,309	\$43,338,963	\$31,354,335	\$4,368,429
Spin-Off Labout Income	\$205,397,431	\$182,104,412	\$41,872,703	\$28,365,482	\$3,531,100
Estimated Total Labour Income	\$430,076,806	\$400,640,721	\$85,211,665	\$59,719,817	\$7,899,529
Gross Domestic Product (Direct)	\$253,887,694	\$246,946,029	\$48,973,028	\$35,244,490	\$4,936,325
Gross Domestic Product (Spin-Off)	\$378,292,664	\$367,949,584	\$72,969,811	\$52,514,290	\$7,355,124
Estimated Total Gross Domestic Product	\$632,180,358	\$614,895,613	\$121,942,839	\$87,758,780	\$12,291,448

Summary of economic impact in each major Northern Ontario production centre (2016/17 - 2022/23)

Chart E offers a summary of Northern Ontario productions by municipality from 2016 to 2023.³¹ It clearly shows that Sudbury has been a popular filming location, and in recent years, North Bay has also seen a gradual increase in its share of productions while the other municipalities continue to contribute to the region's growing influence in the film and television production industry.

³¹ Total NOHFC Northern Ontario Project funding data provided by CION.

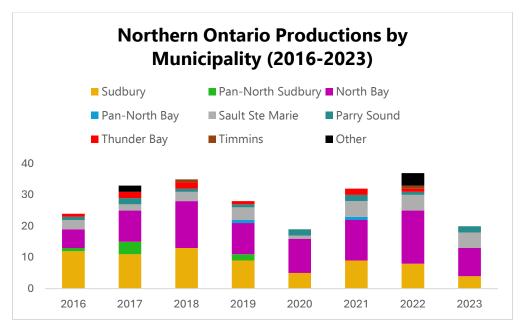


Chart E: Northern Ontario Productions by Municipality (2016-2023)

APPENDIX A: CION CREW DATABASE BY PRODUCTION CATEGORIES ³²

ESTABL	ISHED	EMERGING		
Department	Individuals	Department	individuals	
Accounting	24	Accounting	10	
Animals	3	Animals	4	
Art Department	63	Art Department	40	
Assistant Director	113	Assistant Director	50	
Audio Post	27	Audio Post	17	
Camera	102	Camera	56	
Casting	79	Casting	63	
Construction	23	Construction	18	
Continuity	26	Continuity	17	
Costumes	22	Costumes	13	
Craft Services	14	Craft Services	12	
Electric/Lighting	52	Electric/Lighting	27	
Greens	1	Greens	2	
Grip	52	Grip	34	
Hair & Makeup	32	Hair & Makeup	12	
Locations	114	Locations	49	
Production	138	Production	52	
Props	55	Props	29	
Publicity	15	Publicity	9	
Set Decoration	78	Set Decoration	34	
Sound	50	Sound	18	
Special FX	10	Special FX	5	
Stunts	10	Stunts	5	
Sustainability	1	Sustainability	1	
Transport	63	Transport	42	
Visual Post	42	Visual Post	21	
Writers	38	Writers	29	
Other	66	Other	31	

ESTABLISHED

EMERGING

 $^{^{\}rm 32}$ Data from the CION Crew Database as of May 2025.

AC	COUN	ΓING			
1st Assistant Accountant - General	7	1st Assistant Accountant - General			
1st Assistant Accountant - Payroll	3	1st Assistant Accountant - Payroll			
2nd Assistant Accountant	7	2nd Assistant Accountant			
Production Accountant	6	Production Accountant	0		
Trainee Assistant Accountant	10	Trainee Assistant Accountant	9		
Post-Production Accountant	1	Post-Production Accountant	0		
Post-Production Assistant Accountant	2	Post-Production Assistant Accountant	2		
3rd Assistant Accountant	5	3rd Assistant Accountant			
1	ANIMA	LS			
Animal Wrangler	3	Animal Wrangler	4		
Other	0	Other			
ARTI	DEPAR	TMENT			
		1st Assistant Art Director - Graphic			
1st Assistant Art Director - Graphic Designer	15	Designer	7		
2nd Assistant Art Director	8	2nd Assistant Art Director	6		
Art Department Coordinator	6	Art Department Coordinator	1		
Art Director	17	Art Director	7		
Graphic Artist/Illustrator	17	Graphic Artist/Illustrator	17		
Production Designer	14	Production Designer	7		
Trainee Assistant Art Director	25 Trainee Assistant Art Director				
1st Assistant Art Director - Set Designer	4 1st Assistant Art Director - Set Designer				
ASSIST	ANT DI	RECTORS			
1st Assistant Director	20	1st Assistant Director	5		
Set Production Assistant	66	Set Production Assistant	31		
4th Assistant Director/Trainee	51 4th Assistant Director/Trainee				
2nd Assistant Director	23	2nd Assistant Director	4		
3rd Assistant Director	27	3rd Assistant Director			
AL	JDIO P	OST			
Composer	9	Composer	6		
Sound Editor	18	Sound Editor	6		
Dialogue Editor		Dialogue Editor	3		
Music Editor		Music Editor	3		
st Assistant Sound Editor		1st Assistant Sound Editor	1		
Trainee Assistant Sound Editor	9	Trainee Assistant Sound Editor	7		
Sound Designer	6	Sound Designer			
Supervising Sound Editor	pervising Sound Editor 2 Supervising Sound Editor				
	CAMER	RA			
1st Assistant Camera - Focus Puller	24	1st Assistant Camera - Focus Puller	9		
Camera Operator	31	Camera Operator	21		
Camera Trainee	40	Camera Trainee	32		

Data Imaging Technician	10	Data Imaging Technician	2		
Data Management Technician	16	Data Management Technician	3		
Director of Photography	31	Director of Photography			
2nd Assistant Camera - Clapper/Loader	25	2nd Assistant Camera - Clapper/Loader	13		
Stills Photographer	20	Stills Photographer	18		
Drone Operator					
Camera Utility/Loader	•				
<u> </u>	CASTIN				
Background Performer	65	Background Performer	55		
Casting Director 5 Casting Director					
Extras Casting	23	Extras Casting	24		
	ΟΝΤΙΝΙ				
Scrip Supervisor	19	Scrip Supervisor	9		
Scrip Assistant	9	Scrip Assistant			
СО	NSTRUC	TION			
Carpenter 21 Carpenter					
Construction Coordinator					
Construction Tracker	1	Construction Tracker			
Head Carpenter	1	Head Carpenter	0		
On-Set Carpenter					
•	COSTUN	•			
Costume Designer	5	Costume Designer	4		
Assistant Costume Designer	16	Assistant Costume Designer			
Costume Buyer	Costume Buyer	6			
Costume Set Supervisor	3	Costume Set Supervisor			
Assistant Costume Set Supervisor	2	Assistant Costume Set Supervisor			
Costumer Dresser/Sewer	Costumer Dresser/Sewer				
Costume Assistant	3	Costume Assistant			
Costume Tracker	3	Costume Tracker	3		
CR	AFT SER	VICES			
Key Craft Service Provider	11	Key Craft Service Provider	8		
Assistant Craft Service Provider	3	Assistant Craft Service Provider	4		
Background Craft Service Provider	2	Background Craft Service Provider	0		
Catering	3	Catering	2		
ELEC	TRIC/LIC	GHTING			
Gaffer	15	Gaffer	5		
Assistant Gaffer	16	Assistant Gaffer			
Lead Electric	1	Lead Electric	0		
Electric	36				
Generator Operator	7	Generator Operator			
Rigging Gaffer	Rigging Gaffer				

Assistant Rigging Gaffer 3 Assistant Rigging Gaffer	2				
Rigging Electric 5 Rigging Electric	3				
Lighting Console Operator 0 Lighting Console Operator	1				
Set Wireperson 0 Set Wireperson	2				
GREENS					
Greensperson 1 Greensperson	2				
GRIP					
Key Grip 7 Key Grip	5				
Assistant Key Grip 12 Assistant Key Grip					
Lead Grip 1 Lead Grip	0				
Dolly Grip 5 Dolly Grip	2				
Rigging Grip 5 Rigging Grip	1				
Grip 47 Grip	25				
HAIR & MAKEUP					
Hair Department Head 6 Hair Department Head	0				
Key Hair Stylist 12 Key Hair Stylist	1				
Hair Stylist 15 Hair Stylist	5				
Period/Personal Hairstylist 3 Period/Personal Hairstylist	1				
Makeup Department Head 3 Makeup Department Head	0				
Key Makeup Artist 16 Key Makeup Artist	4				
Makeup Artist 14 Makeup Artist	7				
Prosthetic/Special Makeup Artist 11 Prosthetic/Special Makeup Artist	3				
Personal Makeup Artist 2 Personal Makeup Artist	2				
LOCATIONS					
Location Manager 12 Location Manager	9				
Assistant Location Manager 20 Assistant Location Manager	8				
Trainee Assistant Locations Manager15Trainee Assistant Locations Manager	17				
Location Scout 24 Location Scout	14				
Location Production Assistant 39 Location Production Assistant	10				
Location Support Personnel29Location Support Personnel	14				
Security 9 Security	10				
PRODUCTION					
Post Production Coordinator 0 Post Production Coordinator	1				
Director 38 Director	6				
Executive Producer 3 Executive Producer	0				
Post Production Supervisor 2 Post Production Supervisor	4				
Post Production Assistant 15 Post Production Assistant	14				
Producer 28 Producer	7				
Co-Producer9Co-ProducerAssociate Producer9Associate Producer	0				
Line Producer 7 Line Producer	0				
	U				

Production Manager	16	Production Manager	1		
Assistant Production Manager	12 Assistant Production Manager				
Unit Manager	4	Unit Manager	0		
Production Coordinator	22	Production Coordinator	2		
1st Assistant Production Coordinator	1st Assistant Production Coordinator	7			
2nd Assistant Production Coordinator	2nd Assistant Production Coordinator	3			
Script Coordinator	1	Script Coordinator	4		
Travel Coordinator	3	Travel Coordinator	2		
Office Production Assistant	43	Office Production Assistant	29		
	PROP	S			
Assistant Props Master	33	Assistant Props Master	8		
Pros Buyer	Pros Buyer	7			
Property Master	15	Property Master	1		
Key On-Set Props	4	Key On-Set Props	2		
Prop Person	10	Prop Person	12		
Assistant Key On-Set Props	6	Assistant Key On-Set Props	6		
	PUBLIC				
EPK/Behind the Scenes Videographer	15	EPK/Behind the Scenes Videographer	9		
S	ET DECOR	ATOR			
Set Decorator	31	Set Decorator	13		
Set Dresser	: Dresser 50 Set Dresser				
Assistant Set Decorator	28	Assistant Set Decorator			
Set Dec Buyer	13	Set Dec Buyer	4		
Lead Person	1	Lead Person	0		
On-Set Dresser		On-Set Dresser	0		
Assistant On-Set Dresser	6	Assistant On-Set Dresser	5		
	SCENI	C			
Assistant Key Scenic	Assistant Key Scenic 1 Assistant Key Scenic				
Scenic Artist	16	Scenic Artist	11		
Assistant Scenic Artist	4	Assistant Scenic Artist	2		
Assistant Head Painter	1	1 Assistant Head Painter			
On-Set Painter	4	On-Set Painter	2		
Painter	7	Painter	9		
	SOUN	D			
Boom Operator	33	Boom Operator	6		
Sound Recordist/Mixer	29	Sound Recordist/Mixer	7		
Sound Assistant	5	Sound Assistant	3		
Cable Puller/Utility	14	Cable Puller/Utility	0		
2nd Boom Operator	3	2nd Boom Operator	3		
Playback Operator	2	Playback Operator			

	SPECIAL	. FX				
SPFX Coordinator	3	SPFX Coordinator	1			
SPFX Technician	7	SPFX Technician	4			
Key On-Set SPFX	1	Key On-Set SPFX				
-	STUNI	rs				
Stunt Performer	10 Stunt Performer					
Stunt Coordinator	2 Stunt Coordinator					
SU	JSTAINA	BILITY				
Sustainable Film Production Consultant 1 Sustainable Film Production Consultant						
	TRANSP	ORT				
Transport Coordinator	9	Transport Coordinator	2			
Transport Captain	13	Transport Captain	2			
Co-Captain/Head Driver	1	Co-Captain/Head Driver	1			
Picture Car Captain	6	Picture Car Captain				
Picture Car Coordinator	2	Picture Car Coordinator				
Picture Car Wrangler	15	5 Picture Car Wrangler				
Driver	59) Driver				
AZ Unit Mover	3	AZ Unit Mover				
Swamper	1	Swamper				
Sprinter Driver	Sprinter Driver					
	VISUAL P	POST				
Picture Editor	21	Picture Editor	7			
Trainee Assistant Picture Editor	17	Trainee Assistant Picture Editor	8			
Compositor	1	Compositor				
1st Assistant Picture Editor	15	1st Assistant Picture Editor	4			
Assistant Picture Editor	16	6 Assistant Picture Editor				
Supervising Picture Editor	1	Supervising Picture Editor	1			
	WRITE	R				
Writers	38	Writers	30			

APPENDIX B: MAJOR AWARD-WINNING NORTHERN ONTARIO PRODUCTIONS

CANADIAN SCREEN AWARDS

2024 *ORAH* Best Lead Performance, Drama Film

NORTH OF NORMAL Best Adapted Screenplay

FITTING IN Best Art Direction Production Design Best Casting, Film

CASCADE Best Original Score

ZOMBIE TOWN Best Original Score Best Original Song Best Makeup

BETTER DAYS Best Hair

JANE GOODALL: REASONS FOR HOPE Best Sound Design, Documentary Sustainable Production Award

ESSEX COUNTY Best Drama, Series Ensemble Performance, Drama Series

LETTERKENNY Best Comedy, Series Ensemble Performance, Comedy Series THUNDER BAY Best Factual Series

ESSEX COUNTY Supporting Performance, Drama

SKYMED Performance in a Guest Role in a Drama Series

2023

LETTERKENNY Ensemble Performance in a Comedy Series Best Performance in a Guest Role, Comedy Series Best Performance in a Guest Role, Comedy Series

2022

ALL MY PUNY SORROWS Best Editing Best Original Score

LETTERKENNY Best Supporting Actress, Comedy

2021

HAPPY PLACE Best Supporting Actress

TRICKSTER Best Lead Actress, Drama

CARDINAL: UNTIL THE NIGHT Best Performance in a Guest Role, Drama Series

2020

GOALIE Best Actor BROTHERHOOD Best Visual Effects

SECRETS IN A SMALL TOWN (NOWHERE TO BE FOUND) Best Lead Performance, TV Movie

CARDINAL Best Drama Series Lead Actor, Drama Lead Actress, Drama

2019

THROUGH BLACK SPRUCE Achievement in Music: Original Score

BAD BLOOD Lead Actor, drama

LETTERKENNY Lead Actor, comedy

CARDINAL: BLACKFLY SEASON Best Limited Series or Program Lead Actor, Drama Program or Limited Series Lead Actor, Drama Program or Limited Series

2018

CARDINAL Lead Actor, Television Film or Miniseries Supporting Actress, Drama

2017

AMAZING RACE CANADA Best Reality / Competition Program or Series (Episode 6 of Season 3, "Who is Alex Trebek?"). *BORN TO BE BLUE* Achievement in Music – Original Score Achievement in Music – Original Song

LETTERKENNY Best Comedy Series Best Direction, Comedy Program or Series Best Writing, Comedy Program or Series

PAINTED LAND: IN SEARCH OF THE GROUP OF SEVEN Barbara Sears Award for Best Editorial Research

SLASHER Best Performance by an Actress in a Featured Supporting Role in a Dramatic Program or Series

TWO LOVERS AND A BEAR Achievement in Art Direction / Production Design Achievement in Editing

2016 *SLEEPING GIANT* Best Performance by an Actor in a Featured Supporting Role

REMEMBER Best Original Screenplay

APPENDIX C: FULL LENGTH PRODUCTION STATS

The following statistics represent known and tracked fill-length film and television productions that have shot in whole or in part in Northern Ontario's largest cities and primary production centres from 2016-2023. The "Other" region includes Algoma-Manitoulin, Sturgeon Falls, Naughton, Manitoulin Island, Whitney and Kenora.

	Sudbury	Pan- North Sudbury	North Bay	Pan- North Bay	Sault Ste Marie	Parry Sound	Thunder Bay	Timmins	Other	Grand Total
2016	12	1	6	0	3	1	1	0	0	24
2017	11	4	10	0	2	2	2	0	2	33
2018	13	0	15	0	3	1	2	1	0	35
2019	9	2	10	1	4	1	1	0	0	28
2020	5	0	11	0	1	2	0	0	0	19
2021	9	0	13	1	5	2	2	0	0	32
2022	8	0	17	0	5	1	1	1	4	37
2023	4	0	9	0	5	2	0	0	0	20
Grand Total	71	7	91	2	28	12	9	2	6	228

Number of full-length productions in the largest Northern Ontario cities and primary productions centres (per year).³³

³³ Source: CION data.

APPENDIX D: MUNICIPAL SUPPORT & RESOURCES

At both the municipal and economic development level, many communities across Northern Ontario both large and small have identified the region's growing film industry as a priority sector for increasing economic impact, cultural vibrancy and youth retention.

City of Greater Sudbury (CGS)

The Sudbury Film Office supports filmmakers by offering location scouting, permit assistance, and connections to local crew and talent. It promotes Sudbury's diverse landscapes and urban environments and provides financial incentives to make it an attractive filming destination. Some of the popular film and television projects filmed in Sudbury include: *Resident Evil: Welcome to Raccoon City, Letterkenny, Shoresy,* and *Fitting In.*

Clayton Drake - Film Officer The City of Greater Sudbury 705-674-4455 ext. 2478 <u>*film@greatersudbury.ca*</u>

City of North Bay

Identifying the film industry as a priority sector early on was also adopted by the City of North Bay where Economic Development staff are dedicated to the management of their region's film activity. Like CGS, film by-laws have been designed and implemented after important private and public consultations. Some of the popular film and television projects filmed in North Bay include: *The Lake, SkyMed, Beyond Black Beauty,* and *Seeds*.

Adrienne Mazzuchelli - Economic Development Officer The City of North Bay (705) 474-0400 ext. 2318 filming@northbay.ca

City of Sault Ste. Marie

Sault Ste. Marie, Ontario, actively fosters film and television production through a dedicated Film Office under the FutureSSM initiative. The Film, Television, and Digital Media Coordinator offers comprehensive support, including streamlining permits, facilitating location scouting, and liaising with community partners and utilities. Some of the popular film and television projects filmed in Sault Ste. Marie includes *Better Days, In a Violent Nature,* and *Cascade*.

Josh Rogers - Cultural Industries Coordinator The City of Sault Ste. Marie 705-989-5741 <u>*j.rogers@cityssm.on.ca*</u>

Town of Parry Sound

Parry Sound's Economic Development Team is focused on creating a welcoming environment for the film industry, helping productions at all stages, and ensuring that the town becomes a hub for film and media in Northern Ontario. A notable, recent production from Parry Sound is *My Old Ass.*

Jeff Thom - Economic Development Officer Town of Parry Sound (705) 746-2101 x 248 <u>film@parrysound.ca</u>

City of Thunder Bay

Economic Development staff in Thunder Bay are supportive of their regional film activity and have resources and contact info posted online to promote their region to producers and location scouts. The City's Economic Development website has a section dedicated to the region's Film Sector.

Erin Simmons - Digital & Travel Media Officer The City of Thunder Bay (807) 632-7825 <u>*erin.simmons@thunderbay.ca*</u>

City of Timmins

Timmins is a growing town for film production, featuring a supportive and film-friendly community with a skilled local talent pool. Timmins offers benefits such as fast-tracked permits, a dedicated municipal liaison, a bilingual population, and access to mining infrastructure. A notable, recent feature film from Timmins is *My Animal*.

Noella Rinaldo – Director of Community Economic Development City of Timmins (705) 360-2600 x7081 <u>noella.rinaldo@timmins.ca</u>