



BUREAU DU CINÉMA ET DE LA TÉLÉVISION DE MONTRÉAL

Montréal: Briefly

Getting to know us

Montréal is the second largest city in Canada, a modern metropolis and a strategic business center on the grid of North America's economy. Furthermore, Montréal is, for over 60 years now, a major filmmaking center servicing both Canadian and foreign film production companies.

Montréal, modern metropolis and business center

Do you know Montréal? Here are a few interesting facts and figures:

Population

There are 3.6 million inhabitants in the Montréal area, accounting for 11% of Canada's population. Close to two thirds of them are active in the workplace and the median age is 38 years. Montréalers generally speak both English and French. In addition, immigrants belonging to 110 different ethnic groups live and work here making Montréal an important multilingual labour pool. This labour pool is highly qualified thanks to the 39 universities, colleges and affiliated schools that position Montréal in the international network of "Knowledge Cities".

Economy

Montréal's economy is diverse and unquestionably headed for the future. Indeed, the local labour market numbers 90,000 jobs in the cultural industry, 100,000 in information technology sector, 40,000 in the life sciences sector and 40,000 in the aerospace industry. Montréal is home to 300 public and private research centers accounting for a quarter of all the research done in Canada. R&D done in Montréal has produced remarkable developments in several areas. For instance, it was here that BiochemPharma developed its 3TC drug for AIDS patients and that Softimage and Discreet Logic revolutionized the digital animation and visual effects technology.

Culture and leisure

Montréal is a world class cultural center and its bilingualism makes it the ideal bridge between Europe and North America. Every year, Montréal is host to more than 40 international events. These include its renowned Jazz Festival which celebrated its 25th anniversary in 2005, and the "Festival Juste pour Rire", with its Just for Laughs English version, in which famous comedians from all over Europe and the United States perform, while many others, from as far as Australia and China, come to it to be discovered. Montréal has a tradition of fostering creativity. The celebrated pop singer Céline Dion started her career in Montréal as did acclaimed jazz composer Oscar Peterson. It was also here that Guy Laliberté built up Cirque du Soleil and established its international headquarters. Finally, as an Olympic city, Montréal regularly hosts prestigious sporting events. In 2005 for instance, FINA, the international governing body of water sports held

its XIth World Championship in Montréal. Montréal is also a regular stop on the Formula 1 world circuit with its Grand Prix of Canada.

Lifestyle and work environment

Montréal's have an enviable lifestyle and work environment thanks to the modern public transportation network, numerous parks and waterfront access. Furthermore, Montréal's nightlife is as exciting as in any other sophisticated metropolis and is combined with secure neighbourhoods and a cost of living that compares most favourably to European and North American cities. Its picturesque historical district, its diverse gastronomy and the friendliness of its inhabitants are among the many wonderful memories collected by the thousands of tourist visiting Montréal each year.

Montréal is worth looking into!

You're closer to Montréal than you know. Barely a six hour flight from Paris and London, five hours from L.A. and one hour from New York. Upon your arrival, you'll have the choice between 350 hotels, 5,000 restaurants and 1,600 bars and nightclubs. In addition, the Montréal Film and TV Commission (MFTC) will be there to ensure that your filmmaking venture here is successful and to answer all your questions and assist you every step of the way.

Montréal: Production center

The movie industry in Canada started in Montréal over 60 years ago. It was also to Montréal that the National Film Board of Canada moved its headquarters during the 1950s. This institution has, over the years, acquired an international reputation of excellence and has received hundreds of awards and distinctions in North America, Europe and elsewhere. These include 12 Oscars® and an honorary Oscar® awarded to the NFB in 1989 during the 61st Annual Academy Awards® to underline its 50th anniversary. It is a testimony to the invaluable expertise that was developed in Montréal in the area of cinematography which we now proudly share with film producers who decide to work here. And they come in great numbers resulting in an annual volume of CAD \$1.3 billion of local and foreign productions and co-productions.

Film and TV production is an important sector on Montréal's economy with 35,000 direct jobs and 500 companies involved in production and distribution. As a matter of fact, the sector has registered a remarkable growth over the last 15 years, 3 times faster than the growth in Quebec's overall economy. Production volume of the past 5 years illustrates this growth e.g. more than 170 foreign feature films, M.O.W., TV series and commercials were shot in the Montréal area during that period.

Furthermore, film production in Montréal gets strong support from both the Canadian and Quebec governments as well as from the City which, for the last 26 years, has been offering technical and administrative support to film producers through its Montréal Film and TV Commission.

Montréal has a cinematography tradition and expertise that makes it a strong competitor with other major film production centers in Canada and elsewhere. There are many good reasons to produce your next motion picture in Montréal as many foreign producers have discovered over the years.

They've chosen Montréal

«In terms of what it has to offer, visually, Montréal is fantastic, I think it's a beautiful city, a place that actors and directors enjoy returning and, if they've never been here, they'll enjoy the experience. That's all important for a film, that people enjoy the location. »

Tom Rosenberg, producer

Wicker Park

«Needless to say, this is another example of the enormous goodwill and support that we have enjoyed in Montréal, the crew was really great and they had the right attitude. I will have no hesitation in recommending the city and your commission to other filmmakers. »

Iain Smith, producer

The Fountain

«As you may have gathered, filmmaking can be complex and challenging. We are very grateful that we found in Montréal the services and professional attitudes which so facilitated our work. The quality of these services makes all the difference. »

Martin Scorsese, director (In a letter to the Mayor of Montréal)

The Aviator

«I work with the best in the world and you were able to follow them at every step. Thanks to you and your professionalism, we were able to shoot here exactly what we wanted and we were on budget and on time. »

Steven Spielberg, director

The Terminal

«It was fantastic working in Montréal. There's a certain kind of exoticism about Montréal that is unlike any other city that I've been in. The script had a slight «other world» quality about it which made it a perfect location».

Holly Hunter, actor

Levity

«The Montréal crews are great. They're very experienced, and really care about the script. Even the third grip will talk to you about a scene, which is kind of refreshing. That kind of concern really translates into a film. »

Adam Merims, producer

Levity

«It's beautiful! I love it... I love it very much. Well, it's very European and I'm so impressed by... the people are beautiful. There is a certain sense of individuality that people have here and it's very sexy, it's very confident, authentic and I really love that, it makes me feel like I did when I lived in different European cities like in Spain and France. »

Carrie-Anne Moss, actor

«One of the things that has been very impressive to me is the calibre of the people with whom we are working and the crew that we have, they've all been excellent and there is a degree of professionalism and confidence and that is on a par with any where else certainly if not better. The city is beautiful and the facilities are great.»

Ben Affleck, actor

The Sum of All Fears

«Montréal as a great reservoir of talent. Montréal itself is an incredible bonus. I got some infusion of the Quebecois' energy, which is quite fantastic. I mean it's our little secret of North America, this European-North American city here. »

Phillip Noyce, director

The Bone Collector

«It is cheaper than the United States, but also because Montréal is only an hour from New York, where we can't find studios comparable to Mel's Studios and because the crews are so competent. »

Eric Watson, director

The Fountain

«Montréal is a fabulous city, the crews are of superior quality, the people are extremely kind. I loved shooting here, I could easily live here! »

Johnny Depp, actor

Secret Window

«Your expertise, your knowledge and especially the superior quality of your work which reflects your passion for this art allowed us to do what we had to. I'm certain that we will meet again! »

Tom Hanks, actor

The Terminal

«The technical crews, the city and the people met in Montréal made the experience of working in Québec fantastic. »

Zack Snyder, director

300

«We went to Montréal, especially for the fantastic tax incentives that is offered by Québec to filmmakers – That's not only a production incentives, it's also a visual effects incentive, that was why "300" did its production as well as its post-production in La Belle Province and that Montréal is the ideal place in the world to do this. »

Jeff Silver, producer

300

BUREAU DU CINÉMA ET DE LA TÉLÉVISION DE MONTRÉAL

Directors

| | |
|---------------------------|---|
| Bill Paxton | The Greatest Game Ever Played |
| Brian De Palma | Snake Eyes |
| Chazz Palminteri | Noël |
| Christian Duguay | Human Trafficking. The Art of War, The Assignment |
| David Mamet | The Heist |
| Denys Arcand américain | Les Invasions barbares, Le déclin de l'empire |
| Frank Oz | The Score |
| George Clooney | Confessions Of A Dangerous Mind |
| Martin Scorsese | The Aviator |
| Mathieu Kassovitz | Gothika |
| Paul McGuigan | Lucky Number Slevin, Wicker Park |
| Renny Harlin | The Covenant, Driven |
| Richard Attenborough | Grey Owl |
| Richard Donner | Timeline |
| Roland Emmerich | The Day After Tomorrow |
| Steven Spielberg | The Terminal, Catch Me if You Can |

Actors / Actresses

| | |
|----------------------|--|
| Adrian Brody | The Jacket |
| Alan Alda | The Aviator, Killing Yard |
| Alec Baldwin | The Aviator, Nuremberg |
| Andie MacDowell | The Last Sign |
| Andrew McCarthy | The Spiderwick Chronicles, Jackie Bouvier Kennedy |
| Angela Bassett | Time Bomb |
| Angelina Jolie | Taking Lives, Beyond Borders, The Bone Collector |
| Anne Archer | The Art of War |
| Anthony Anderson | King's Ransom |
| Anthony Hopkins | The Human Stain |
| Armand Assante | Federal Protection, One Eyed King |
| Beau Bridges | 10,5 Apocalypse |
| Ben Affleck | The Sum Of All Fears |
| Ben Kingsley | Lucky Number Slevin, The Assignment |
| Bette Midler | Isn't She Great |
| Billy Bob Thornton | Levity |
| Brendan Fraser | Journey To The Center Of The Earth |
| Bruce Willis | Lucky Number Slevin, The Whole Nine Yards, The Jackal |
| Burt Reynolds | Driven |
| Cate Blanchett | I'm Not There, The Aviator |
| Catherine Deneuve | Les Liaisons Dangeureuses, Au Plus Près du Paradis |
| Catherine Zeta-Jones | The Terminal |
| Charlize Theron | Head In The Clouds |
| Christian Bale | I'm Not There |

| | |
|----------------------|--|
| Christophe Lambert | Highlander III; The Sorcerer |
| Christopher Plummer | Emotional Arithmetic, Agent Of Influence, Nuremberg |
| Christopher Reeve | Street Smart |
| Clive Owen | Beyond Borders |
| Colm Feore | Bon Cop Bad Cop, Bethune : Making Of A Hero |
| Danny De Vito | The Heist |
| David Duchovny | The Secret |
| David Strathairn | The Spiderwick Chronicles, Steel Toes, Lathe of Heaven |
| Denise Richards | I Do (But I Don't) |
| Dennis Quaid | The Day After Tomorrow |
| Denzel Washington | John Q., The Bone Collector |
| Diane Kruger | L'âge des ténèbres, Wicker Park |
| Donald Sutherland | Human Trafficking, Art of War, The Assignment |
| Ed Harris | The Human Stain, Jacknife |
| Edward Norton | The Score |
| Eddie Murphy | The Adventures Of Pluto Nash |
| Ellen Burstyn | The Fountain |
| Elliott Gould | St-Urbain's Horseman, Bad Apple |
| Emmy Rossum | The Day After Tomorrow |
| Ethan Hawke | Taking Lives |
| Forest Whitaker | Battlefield Earth |
| Freddie Highmore | The Spiderwick Chronicles |
| Gabriel Byrne | The Spiderwick Chronicles |
| Gary Sinise | The Human Stain, Snake Eyes |
| Gene Hackman | The Heist |
| Gerard Butler | 300 |
| Gérard Depardieu | Nouvelle-France, City Of Ghosts, |
| Gwen Stefani | The Aviator |
| Halle Berry | Gothika |
| Heath Ledger | I'm Not There |
| Hugh Jackman | The Fountain |
| Jake Gyllenhaal | The Day After Tomorrow |
| James Brolin | The Reagans |
| James Caan | City of Ghosts, This Is My Father |
| James Coburn | Affliction |
| James Cromwell | The Sum Of All Fears, |
| James Woods | Rudy : The Rudy Giuliani Story, John Q. |
| Jason Biggs | Guy X |
| Jean Reno | Rollerball |
| Jeanne Moreau | Roméo et Juliette, Sous les vents de Neptune |
| Jennifer Connely | Waking The Dead, Some Girls, Once Upon A Time In.. |
| Jennifer Jason Leigh | The Jacket, Mrs. Parker & The Vicious Circle |
| Jennifer Love Hewitt | The Audrey Hepburn Story |
| Joan Plowright | The Spiderwick Chronicles |
| Joanne Whalley | Jackie Bouvier Kennedy Onassis |
| John C. Reilly | The Aviator |
| John Malkovich | Napoleon |
| John Travolta | Battlefield Earth |
| John Torturro | Secret Window |
| Johnny Depp | Secret Window |
| Jon Heder | Blades Of Glory |

| | |
|-----------------------|--|
| Josh Hartnett | Wicker Park, Lucky Number Slevin |
| Judy Davis | The Reagans |
| Julia Roberts | Confessions Of A Dangerous Mind |
| Julianne Moore | I'm Not There |
| Kate Beckinsale | The Aviator |
| Katie Holmes | Abandon |
| Keanu Reeves | Johnny Mnémonic |
| Keira Knightley | The Jacket |
| Kiefer Sutherland | Taking Lives |
| Leonardo DiCaprio | The Aviator, Catch Me If You Can |
| Lili Taylor | The Secret |
| Lindsay Lohan | Confessions Of A Teenage Drama Queen |
| Lucy Liu | Lucky Number Slevin, |
| Madchen Amick | Lies And Deception |
| Marlon Brando | The Score |
| Mary-Louise Parker | The Spiderwick Chronicles |
| Martin Short | The Spiderwick Chronicles |
| Matthew Perry | Whole Nine Yards |
| Max Von Sydow | The Spiderwick Chronicles |
| Michael Biehn | The Art Of War |
| Mira Sorvino | Human Trafficking |
| Morgan Freeman | Levity, The Sum Of All Fears, Street Smart |
| Nastassja Kinski | Blind Terror |
| Nathan Lane | Isn't She great |
| Nicolas Cage | Snake Eyes, The Boy In Blue |
| Nicollette Sheridan | Deadly Betrayal |
| Nick Nolte | The Spiderwick Chronicles, Affliction, Afterglow |
| Nicole Kidman | The Human Stain |
| Patricia Clarkson | The Woods |
| Paul Newman | Where The Money Is |
| Paul Walker | Noël, Timeline, |
| Penelope Ann Miller | Rudy : The Rudy Giuliani Story |
| Penélope Cruz | Head In The Clouds, Gothika, Noël |
| Peter Falk | When Angels Come To Town |
| Philippe Noiret | Père et Fils |
| Pierce Brosnan | Grey Owl |
| Rachel Weisz | The Fountain |
| Ray Liotta | Slow Burn |
| Rebecca Romijn-Stamos | Rollerball |
| Richard Gere | I'm Not There, The Jackal |
| Robert De Niro | The Score, Jacknife |
| Robin Williams | Noël |
| Rupert Everett | A Different Loyalty, Les liaisons Dangereuses |
| Sam Rockwell | Confessions Of A Dangerous Mind |
| Samuel L. Jackson | No Good Deed, Red Violin |
| Sandra Bullock | In Love And War |
| Sharon Stone | A Different Loyalty |
| Shia Labeouf | The Greatest Game Ever Played |
| Sissi Spacek | Affliction |
| Susan Sarandon | Emotional Arithmetic, Noël |
| Sylvester Stallone | Driven |
| Teri Polo | Legacy Of Fear, Beyond Borders |
| Tim Roth | The Last Sign, Nouvelle-France |
| Timothy Hutton | Secret Window, WW3 |

Tom Hanks
Wesley Snipes
Wil Ferrel
William H. Macy
William Hurt

Zach Braff

The Terminal, Catch Me If You Can
The Art Of War
Blades of Glory
The Wool Cap
Hunt For Justice, Blue Butterfly, Varian's War,
Au plus près.
The Last Kiss

Montréal Film and TV Commission Services

Shooting locations and resources

We work hand in hand with the Québec Film and TV Council to offer the following to foreign producers considering the Montréal area for their next movie project

- Expeditious assembly of photo portfolios from a photo library numbering thousands of pictures of potential shooting locations in the Montréal area (with an emphasis on exteriors);
- Supplementary photo taking of locations that are relevant to your script;
- Personalized visits to potential locations and suppliers;
- Information on all specialised services offered in Montréal;
- Monitoring and troubleshooting for ongoing productions.

We can also put you in touch with production companies, government agencies, technicians, unions and guilds.

In addition, our team is committed to helping location managers and their assistants, from tracking down building owners, to suggesting alternate locations, supplying updated photos and general troubleshooting. The MFTC is always at your service.

Logistics and Permits

The “all-terrain” experience and extensive know-how of the MFTC’s Logistics team translate into major benefits for both local and foreign productions, including thorough and accurate assessments of shooting locations and alternate solutions to ensure the successful execution of production activities in public areas.

The following are just some of the specific services offered by the Logistics team

- All-encompassing logistical project coordination;
- Acquisition of shooting and parking permits;
- Access to municipal buildings, major parks and installations;
- Street closings;
- Loans of city equipment and furnishings;
- Simplified fast track procedures for smaller productions;
- Access to municipal resources;
- Close collaboration between public and private sector parties;
- Monitoring of the impact of shoots on residents, merchants and places of business.

Don’t hesitate to contact us to discuss your particular production requirements!

Other useful information

Governments

Both the Canadian and Quebec governments recognize the considerable importance that foreign productions hold for the local economy. Consequently, they work closely together on a program of tax credits that can generate significant savings on local labour costs. To help you take full advantage of these credits, we can put you in touch with the relevant officials in both governments.

We can further assist you in your dealings at the federal level with respect to securing work permits and visas required for non-citizens working on a foreign productions being shot in Canada. We also have contacts with various custom brokers whom you will need to import your film and video equipment (even temporarily).

Moreover, we have established useful contacts within both governments with respect to the use of various infrastructures for shooting purposes: government buildings, roads, parks, airports, bridges, harbours, train stations and military facilities.

Tax Credits

Since 1998, the Quebec and Canadian governments have been offering generous tax credits for film and TV production. These tax credits are aimed at encouraging foreign producers to bring their projects here. We can put you in touch with the government officials who can brief you on all aspects of these tax credits, which can be in the order of 30% of local labour costs. For green screen and special effects filming, these credits can reach close to 50% of local labour costs!

A lower cost of living index, one can readily understand how Montréal succeeds in attracting so many major producers from the United States and elsewhere.

Assets and Incentives

Modern and truly multiethnic, Montréal embodies a marriage of English and French cultures. Through the sheer magic of cinema, the city has the remarkable ability to transform itself from 19th century Victorian London, to Roaring Twenties New York, postwar Europe or in a contemporary or futuristic metropolis. Indeed, very few of the world's cities can offer Montréal's phenomenal diversity of architecture spanning so many different styles and eras.

Furthermore, the outstanding competence of its technicians, the talent and creativity of its artists and artisans, and the state-of-the-art equipment and technical installations all

make Montréal a prime and highly competitive destination within the network of major film and television production centres.

Through the MFTC, the City of Montréal is proud to be an active participant in the development of this industry, not only by facilitating shoots in public areas, but also by responding to producers' requests and issuing the various permits in a timely fashion and free of charge.

Montréal also offers the benefits of a policy that makes most city locations, buildings and equipment accessible at no charge, although any costs related to municipal support and manpower remain the responsibility of the producers.

Finally, Montréal has a number of huge vacant industrial spaces suited to meet the needs of large-scale productions. For instance, they made it possible to build an actual size reproduction of the New York Library façade for the flooding scene in *The Day after Tomorrow*. It was also possible to build a life-size model of the Spruce Goose cabin for *The Aviator*. And for the shooting of *The Fountain*, these industrial spaces were large enough to house a meticulous reproduction of the South American jungle.

Unions, Guilds, Associations

The Montréal Film and TV Commission is in regular contact with the different guilds and associations that are part of the local film industry.

There are two film technician unions — AQTIS (Alliance québécoise des techniciens de l'image et du son) and IATSE (International Alliance of Theatrical Stage Employees).

In Montréal, AQTIS is the larger of the two and is involved in both film and video production. This union has a long history in Montréal dating back to the '60s. It presently numbers 2,500 member technicians and can supply availability lists.

Well established in Montréal's theatre sector, but new to the Montréal film industry, IATSE is well known to American producers. While its new local 514 has been involved in the film industry since 2005, it is an important player with approximately 900 members.

ACTRA (Alliance of Canadian Cinema Television and Radio Artists) handles actors and enjoys a longstanding working relationship with SAG (Screen Actors Guild), adhering to similar rules and regulations.

The DGC (Directors Guild of Canada) has a membership made up of directors, line producers, production designers, art directors, location managers and accountants. The Guild can provide up-to-date résumés of all its members, as well as availability lists.

Sound stages

Montréal is home to over 50 sound stages, including one of the largest in North America — Mel's Cité du Cinéma's Studio H, offering a massive 36,500 sq. ft. of floor space. Mel's Cité du Cinéma has a total of 19 climate-controlled stages and more than 70,000 sq. ft. of executive production office space. It also acts as the local Panavision agent and through, Location Michel Trudel, rents all the lighting, grip, dolly and camera equipment you could possibly need.

There is also in Montréal a number of fully equipped TV studios such as PMT Video, Technicolor and Télé-Québec, along with state-of-the-art facilities that can handle commercials, TV shows and smaller feature films such as Studio Saint-Ambroise, Studio Saint-Martin, Studio 8th Avenue, and several others.

Finally, you will find in Montréal a number of other companies from which to rent lighting equipment such as Cinépool, Groupe Sync and Lyca to name a few.

Tell us what you are looking for and we will put you in touch with the right supplier.

Temperature

Natural light

| | Rise E.S.T. | Set E.S.T. | Dur. Day | Dur. Night |
|-----------|----------------|---------------|-------------|---------------|
| January | 7:34 | 16:23 | 8:50 | 15:10 |
| February | 7:15 | 17:03 | 9:48 | 14:12 |
| March | 6:33 | 17:43 | 11:10 | 12:50 |
| April | 6:35 | 19:24 | 12:49 | 11:11 |
| May | 5:42 | 20:03 | 14:20 | 9 40 |
| June | 5:09 | 20:37 | 15:28 | 8:32 |
| July | 5:09 | 20:48 | 15:39 | 8:21 |
| August | 5:38 | 20:24 | 14:46 | 9:14 |
| September | 6:15 | 19:34 | 13:19 | 10:41 |
| October | 6:52 | 18:36 | 11:44 | 12:16 |
| November | 6:33 | 16:43 | 10:10 | 13:50 |
| December | 7:13 | 16:14 | 9:01 | 14:59 |

Weather patterns

| | Daily Temperature | | Total Mean (°F) | Total Rainfall (in.) | Total Snowf all (in.) | Daily Total Sunshine (h) |
|-----------|-------------------|-----------------|-----------------------|-------------------------|--------------------------------|--------------------------------|
| | Maximu m (°F) | Minimum (°F) | | | | |
| January | 21.6 | 5.2 | 13.5 | .8 | 18.8 | 102.9 |
| February | 24.4 | 7.7 | 16.2 | .7 | 16.2 | 123 |
| March | 35.6 | 19.6 | 27.7 | 1.3 | 12.3 | 158.7 |
| April | 51.3 | 33.1 | 42.3 | 2.5 | 4.3 | 182.5 |
| May | 65.3 | 45.1 | 55.2 | 2.6 | .6 | 276.6 |
| June | 74.1 | 54.5 | 64.4 | 3.2 | 0 | 192.3 |
| July | 79.2 | 59.7 | 69.4 | 3.4 | 0 | 275.9 |
| August | 76.3 | 57.4 | 66.9 | 3.9 | 0 | 240.8 |
| September | 67.6 | 48.7 | 58.1 | 3.4 | 0 | 169.8 |
| October | 55.4 | 38.5 | 46.9 | 2.9 | 1 | 141.1 |
| November | 41.4 | 28.4 | 34.9 | 2.8 | 9.5 | 84.2 |
| December | 26.8 | 12.2 | 19.6 | 1.4 | 21.6 | 80 |
| Yearly | 51.6 | 34.2 | 43.0 | 29.0 | 84.3 | 2027.8 |

Transportation

Handling some 10,000,000 travelers per year, Trudeau International Airport offers direct daily connections to most major North American cities including, of course, New York and Los Angeles. Its location at less than twenty minutes from downtown Montréal will, make your arrivals and departures as quick and easy as possible.

The airport city is home to over two dozen international carriers and their affiliates. The major U.S. carriers include American Airlines, Delta, Northwest and United Airlines.

If you wish to rent a car you will be able to deal with familiar names such as Alamo, Budget, Enterprise, Hertz, National and Thrifty.