



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
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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.