



DIRECTORS GUILD OF CANADA
LA GUILDE CANADIENNE
DES RÉALISATEURS

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For immediate release

Where's Canadian drama on the CBC? asks the Directors Guild of Canada

Toronto, May 16, 2007 - The Directors Guild of Canada (DGC) today criticized the CBC's newly announced summer schedule that consists entirely of comedy competitions, student filmmaking contests, sports and imported drama. The Guild questions whether the public broadcaster has entirely abandoned its cultural mandate and commitment to addressing the Canadian drama crisis.

The CBC has expressed a strong interest in taking a leadership role in addressing the lack of original Canadian drama available in our broadcasting system. In an address given by Richard Stursburg to the Broadcast Executives Society in February 2006, he asserted that not only is it in its mandate, but the broadcaster has "... the skill, the DNA and the vision to significantly increase and sustain the level of English dramatic programming. It is our job".

"Then where is it?" questions DGC President, Alan Goluboff. "This schedule in no way reflects any commitment from the CBC to creating or airing original Canadian drama. The broadcaster continues to fail in this regard and this summer line-up is very disappointing," says Goluboff.

About the Directors Guild of Canada

The Directors Guild of Canada (DGC) is a national labour organization that represents over 3,800 key creative and logistical personnel in the film and television industry covering all areas of direction, design, production and editing. The DGC negotiates and administers collective agreements and lobbies extensively on issues of concern for members including Canadian content conditions, CRTC regulations and ensuring that funding is maintained for Canadian film and television programming.

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