



IATSE LOCAL 891



UBCP/ACTRA

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May 1, 2020

Dear Member,

The unions and guilds in BC's film industry are used to working together to develop and promote a world class workforce which consistently delivers some of the best productions seen by audiences everywhere. Now, when the coronavirus pandemic has brought an unprecedented challenge to our industry, our solidarity is more important than ever before.

In the weeks after the industry shut down, we worked together to share knowledge about payment and assistance programs available for members as those programs were being announced and often modified. We advocated on your behalf for additional compensation from governments and employers where we found gaps in coverage. We also reviewed our health plans and worked with plan trustees to enact changes to cover members during the industry stoppage. Our focus has now shifted towards planning for a safe return to work when the conditions are right. As always, our first concern is your safety and health, and that of your loved ones.

We are working with industry groups, both locally, nationally, and internationally, to develop safe working guidelines and practices for BC's motion picture industry in the age of COVID-19. There are sure to be many changes expected from everyone in the workplace, and we will all need to work together to ensure a safe working environment. Although British Columbia has fared comparatively well in our response to the crisis, treatments and vaccines are still in the developmental stage, and the virus is far from being eliminated. We don't know when the industry will ramp up again, but when it does, we will have to be careful throughout our work days as well as in our personal lives.

In the meantime, we urge everyone to follow the guidance from the BC Centre for Disease Control and other government authorities in your area. This includes practicing rigorous sanitation efforts and abiding by the

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**Directors Guild of Canada, BC** 2985 Virtual Way, Suite 278, Vancouver, BC V5M 4X7 PH: 604-688-2976 [www.dgcbc.com](http://www.dgcbc.com)

**IATSE Local 891** 1640 Boundary Road, Burnaby, BC V5K 4V4 PH: 604-664-8910 [www.iatse.com](http://www.iatse.com)

**International Cinematographers Guild, Local 669** 3823 Henning Drive, Suite 217, Vancouver, BC V5C 6P3 PH: 778-330-1669 [www.icg669.com](http://www.icg669.com)

**Teamsters Local Union No. 155** 490 East Broadway, Vancouver, BC V5T 1X3 PH: 604-876-8898 [www.teamsters155.org](http://www.teamsters155.org)

**UBCP/ACTRA** 300 – 380 West 2<sup>nd</sup> Avenue, Vancouver, BC V5Y 1C8 PH: 604-689-0727 [www.ubcpactra.ca](http://www.ubcpactra.ca)



physical distancing directives issued across the country. Please ensure you keep up-to-date with the latest guidance and resources, as these are being updated as new information becomes available. Following these guidelines can help you and others stay safe and will contribute to bringing the pandemic under control.

We all have to be part of the solution, and we urge everyone to take this effort seriously. Only with these efforts can we return to a safe workplace.

Allan Harmon  
Chair  
DGC BC

Lorrie Ward  
Secretary-Treasurer  
Teamsters 155

Keith Woods  
President  
IATSE 891

Keith Martin Gordey  
President  
UBCP/ACTRA

Michelle Yardley  
President  
ICG 669

#### Union Resources:

DGC BC: <https://www.dgc.ca/en/british-columbia/news/update-re-covid-19/>

IATSE Local 891: <https://iatse.com/covid19update.aspx>

ICG Local 669: <https://icg669.com/my-profile/covid-19/covid-19-updates> (login required)

Teamsters Local 155: <https://www.teamsters155.org/>

UBCP/ACTRA: <https://www.ubcpactra.ca/covid-19/>

#### Other Resources:

The AFC: <https://afchelps.ca/>

Calltime: Mental Health: <https://www.calltimementalhealth.com/>

Creative BC: <https://www.creativebc.com/about-us/news/covid-19/motion-picture>

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