

**PROTOCOL CONCERNING
AUDIO-VISUAL CO-PRODUCTIONS
BETWEEN THE GOVERNMENT OF CANADA AND THE
GOVERNMENT OF THE RUSSIAN FEDERATION**

**THE GOVERNMENT OF CANADA AND THE GOVERNMENT OF THE
RUSSIAN FEDERATION,**

CONSIDERING that it is desirable to establish a legal framework for audio-visual co-productions;

CONVINCED that such co-operation will contribute to the enhancement of relations between the two countries;

HAVE AGREED AS FOLLOWS:

ARTICLE I

Audio-visual co-productions undertaken under the present Protocol must be approved by the following competent authorities:

In Canada:

the Minister of Canadian Heritage,

In the Russian Federation:

the Committee of the Russian Federation for Cinematography.

ARTICLE II

Audio-visual co-productions qualified under the present Protocol shall be considered to be national productions by and in each of the two countries. Subject to the national legislation and regulations in force in Canada and the Russian Federation, they are fully entitled to take advantage of the benefits available to the audio-visual industries or those that may be decreed in each country. These benefits accrue solely to the producer of the country that grants them.

ARTICLE III

1. The benefits arising out of this Protocol apply only to audio-visual co-productions undertaken by producers who have good technical organization, sound financial backing and recognized professional standing.
2. As a general principle, each co-producer working under the terms of this Protocol shall undertake to ensure that payment for any technical and creative services engaged in the course of the co-production is rendered in a prompt and appropriate manner.