

## DEPARTMENT OF COMMUNICATIONS

Since the last bilateral consultations in May 1985 our relations in this sector have concentrated on participation in film festivals, especially Berlin and Manheim. We were also pleased to note the participation of German films and producers in the Festival des Films du Monde in Montreal.

Mr. Jeremy Kinsman, Assistant Deputy Minister responsible for Broadcasting and Culture in the Department of Communications had consultations in February 1987 with the Ministries of Foreign Affairs and Economics of the Federal Republic of Germany to investigate possibilities of reactivating the coproduction agreement. Consultations with the WDR, the Bayerische Rundfunk and with German producers in the film industry have shown an interest to seek means of encouraging more coproductions between Canada and the Federal Republic of Germany.

Television producers do seem to have a desire to coproduce with Canadian companies even without the benefit of an agreement. An example is "Anne of Green Gables" which was coproduced with CBC and ZDF. Coproduction is however limited to the purchase of television and story rights. One film project is in late development between a Vancouver producer (Petra Film Production Associates) and a Berlin producer (Panorama Films) for a film entitled "Visa". This may be the signal for renewed interest in the agreement.

We continue to encourage participation in film festivals. In 1986, Marcel Masse, former Minister of Communications visited the Berlin International Film Festival and was present at the showing of the Canadian film "Anne Trister", produced by Lea Pool which obtained a prize from the Jury of the Readers of the Berliner MorgenPost. He also visited the Canadian stand. In 1987, Canada presented a feature-length film in competition: "Les Fous de Bassan", by Yves Simoneau; a short film, "Lupo the Butcher", by Danny Antonucci from Vancouver and, in the Children's festival category, "Henri" by François Labonté. A National Film Board documentary on Dr. Henry Morgenthau won first prize at the international Prix Futura for TV documentaries in Berlin. It was shown on television by Global Network.

Telefilm also invited Mme Fee Vaillant of the Manheim Film Festival to Montreal. She selected 3 films for that festival. Several German producers also were present in Montreal at the World film Festival including Helma Sanders Brahm and her star of "Laputa", Kristina Janda.