BRILLER ICI COMME AILLEURS

SODEC Québec

FONDS DES MÉDIAS DU CANADA

CALL FOR PROJECTS

PROTOTYPING OF CHILDREN AND YOUTH ANIMATION SERIES

This call for projects supports prototyping of animation series for young audiences in Quebec.

The purpose is to facilitate the financing of Quebec-made intellectual properties targeted for young audiences.[1]

The program is a partnership between the Société de développement des entreprises culturelles (SODEC) as part of their strategic project program, and the Canada Media Fund (CMF).

Objectives

- Accelerate the creation of Quebec original intellectual property for animated television series for young audiences
- Facilitate the funding of animation series for young audiences for broadcasters, distributors, and other national and international partners

Eligibility criteria

Eligibles applicants

- Be a legally incorporated for-profit company whose main activity is audiovisual production
- Have their head office and principal place of business[2] in Quebec, and demonstrate that effective control of the company is majority held by Canadian citizens or permanent residents having their tax residence in Quebec
- Have been in operation for at least two years, and have appropriate professional experience in animated audiovisual production for young audiences

The following are not eligible:

- Sole proprietorships
- Companies receiving financial support from SODEC under the Corporate Television Production Assistance Program

[1] The term “young audiences” includes pre-school, primary, and secondary school-age audiences.
[2] The expression “head office and principal place of business” denotes the place where the decision-making centre is located and the actual management of the company is conducted.

An eligible company, including its related companies, may submit only one application to this call for projects.

Eligible projects

This program is open to prototyping projects for animated TV series aimed at young audiences.[3]

To be eligible, the animation series for young audiences being prototyped must meet all of the following criteria:

- The project must be an original content, created and developed in Quebec for a first season.
- At least one episode of the series must be fully scripted.
- The applicant company must hold all the rights and options essential for development and production of the prototyping project.

The prototyping project can include writing the synopsis for the episodes, as well as scripting two additional episodes, provided that the development of these episodes has not received financial support from some other SODEC or CMF assistance program and has not yet begun. The writing and screenwriting of the first episode, however, may be supported by another SODEC or CMF program.

Financial contribution

The funding is provided jointly by SODEC and the CMF. It is intended to support the completion of the prototyping project within 18 months of the signing of the respective agreements with SODEC and the CMF.

To be eligible for funding, the project must be developed and scripted in French **or** dubbed and translated into French.

The financial assistance may amount to a maximum of $350,000, including a maximum of $50,000 for the scripting of the two additional episodes and the series episode synopses, without exceeding 75% of eligible expenses.

SODEC and the CMF take into account the financial contributions of other public-sector partners. In all cases, the maximum level of combined government assistance may not exceed 75% of the project's total budget.

For each project receiving funding, the assistance is allocated between SODEC and the CMF according to the following proportions: 75% of the financial assistance is provided by SODEC and 25% by the CMF. SODEC's assistance is awarded in the form of a grant, while the CMF's assistance is provided as a non-repayable contribution.

Eligible costs

Prototyping project expenses eligible for support in this program cannot be funded by any other

[3] SODEC encourages compliance with associations' codes of ethics and, in keeping with the ethical norms that apply to cultural activities and projects, SODEC will not accept projects that contravene existing laws and regulations or are contrary to government policy, particularly with regard to violence, sexism, pornography, or discrimination.

SODEC or CMF financial assistance program at the time of application.

At least 90% of all eligible project expenses must be incurred in Quebec.

- Option-extension of rights
- Rights for use or reproduction
- Screenwriting fees and benefits (SARTEC, WGC, etc.)
- Head screenwriter (script, editing)
- Screenwriting consultant(s)
- Researcher
- Director
- Script bible
- Presentation Bible
- Storyboarding and graphics
- Casting (distribution) and voice recording
- Visual development (research, references, design)
- Technical development (methodology, testing, technology options)
- Trailer
- Full animatics or complete episode, or hybrid animatics including animated sequences
- Market testing
- Post-test adjustments
- Musical score
- Sound design
- Editing, mixing, calibration
- Additional presentation material
- Dubbing and translation
- Legal fees (not to exceed $10,000)
- International travel expenses: transportation, accommodation, and accreditation (capped at a maximum of $15,000)
- Producer's fees (not to exceed 10% of budget)
- Corporate overhead (not to exceed 10% of budget)

The following are not eligible:

- expenses incurred prior to the date of application;
- operational expenses incurred as part of ongoing activities;
- per diems and representation expenses;
- recurring costs such as annual subscription fees and software upgrades.

Terms of payment

The applicant company will sign two financing agreements: one with SODEC and one with the CMF.

Payment terms for SODEC:

- 90% of the funding will be paid upon signature of the agreement
- 10% of the funding is disbursed upon completion of the project-related activities. This payment is conditional upon the submission and approval by SODEC of the final cost report and the project report (including the timeline of milestones and activities in international markets).

Payment terms for FMC:

- 100% of the funding is disbursed upon execution of the agreement[4] and receipt of the agreement signed with SODEC.

The terms of payment may be subject to change, depending on the nature or complexity of certain projects.

For SODEC, payments are always conditional on the availability of funds and on appropriate and sufficient appropriations as approved by the National Assembly.

Applications assessment

Applications are initially reviewed by SODEC professionals, and the assessments are discussed with the CMF with a view to reaching a joint final decision. SODEC may seek external opinions, if necessary.

Only projects that meet all eligibility requirements will be assessed.

Project evaluation

Projects that demonstrate strong potential to stand out in the marketplace and reach their target audiences are given priority. More specifically, the following assessment criteria apply:

- The value proposition of the prototyping project;
- The relevance of the proposed commercial objectives and market development strategy;
- The feasibility of completing the project within 18 months.

Submission of applications

Applications must be submitted through SODEC's secure online portal, SOD@ccès, **between December 7, 2026, and January 13, 2027, at 11:59 p.m.** If this is your first time submitting an application to SODEC, click the *Register* button on the homepage. Then select program **30-56-02**.

Please complete the online application form and submit the following required documents by January 13, 2027.

- List of required documents to be submitted
  - Prototyping template (all four tabs must be completed);
  - Script for the first episode;
  - Project chain of title history, detailing, in chronological order, the date, type of agreement (option agreement, screenwriting agreement, directing agreement,

[4] Prior to signing the agreement, the company whose project has been approved must open an account in **Dialogue** or, if an account already exists, ensure that the organization's information is up to date.

rights assignment agreement, etc.), names of the signing parties and, where applicable, the percentage ownership of rights;
    - If the project is selected, the applicant company must provide SODEC with a copy of all agreements listed in the history;
- Document confirming financial support or evidence of interest from a broadcaster, streaming service, distributor or any other national or international financial partner, if applicable;
- Applicant Company Declaration;
- Up-to-date documents for the company's master file (the complete list is available in SOD@ccès).

SODEC and the CMF reserve the right to request any other documents or supporting materials deemed necessary and relevant to the assessment of the application.

Information

If you have any questions about the program, please email admissibilite@sodec.gouv.qc.ca