

BC Chapter



DOCUMENTARY
ORGANIZATION OF CANADA
DOCUMENTARISTES
DU CANADA

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING
7 December 2016

The Shebeen
210 Carrall Street, Vancouver

AGENDA	2
2016 BOARD REPORTS	3
INCOMING BOARD	9
RETURNING BOARD	11
KEEP IN TOUCH	14

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING
7 December 2016

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No.	ITEM	TIME
1	Call to Order	1 min
2	Adoption of the Agenda	2 min
3	Report from the Co-Chairs & National Representative	5 min
4	Report from the Treasurer	5 min
5	Committee Reports	
	- Membership	5 min
	- Communications	5 min
	- Sponsorship	5 min
	- Professional Development	5 min
6	Incoming and Returning Board Members	10 min
7	Adjournment	1 min

COMMITTEE REPORTS

CO-CHAIR and NATIONAL REPORT

By David Vaisbord

On the National scene: Documentary Organization of Canada continued to provide discounts on insurance, production equipment, and services too numerous to mention in this report. Refer to the DOC National website for details.

Our **DOC/Indiegogo partnership** PASSED the **\$1 Million US Dollar mark**, in funds raised for documentary filmmakers. Page: <https://www.indiegogo.com/partners/DOC>

DOC National announced the **DOC Startup membership** this year providing a discounted entry level for the new members. To date **59 new members** have taken advantage of the new entry level membership.

DOC continued is “referral discount” a 25% discount for both the filmmaker referred and the DOC MEMBER who refers a new member to DOC.

Festival Concierge has a new Catalogue **service** that aims to connect film festivals to DOC Filmmakers based www.docorg.ca/catalogue, **personalized consultation services** (www.docorg.ca/fc-consultations), and free **webinars** (www.docorg.ca/webinars). We have done several webinars this year and members can request copies of any of our past webinars for free!

DOC BC has obtained discounts for DOC Members submitting films for **DOXA 2017**.

DOC’s “DOC-Discussion List Serve” continues to be an essential connection to Canada’s filmmaking community through the web.

Impact producing is a new space in which filmmakers are mobilizing people, networks, and resources to create change, and DOC has produced a new and free **Impact Study** and **Impact Toolkit** at: www.docorg.ca/impact

Finally, DOC continued to do advocacy on behalf of independent documentary filmmakers. A significant change in the funding of documentaries was announced in August of 2016 by the CRTC eliminating the requirement that producers obtain a broadcast license or development agreement to receive Canadian Independent Production Funds. **DOC BC will be exploring this new policy and its ramifications for independent documentary filmmakers in 2017.**

2016 was a strong year for DOC BC and I had the pleasure of co-producing a number of DOC's events. The year culminated in our Nettie Wild Masterclass. It was our first co-production with TELUS; we hope, the first of many. I look forward to working closely with our talented and accomplished board of directors in 2017.

David Vaisbord
DOC BC Co-Chair

FINANCE REPORT

By Parm Gill, Treasurer

For the 2016 year we started with \$11,674 in cash and currently have \$11,287 in the bank.

Income from various sources for the year was \$20,527 and expenses were about the same and so far the organization is close to breaking even. Of the income \$5,195 was from membership fees.

Miscellaneous expenses are related to various workshop and seminar fees.

Thank you to all of the board members that have put in such hard work to ensure a great year.

Parm Gill,
Treasurer

MEMBERSHIP REPORT

By Joella Cabalu

Membership by the Numbers

For the first time since 2013, DOC National surpassed 700 members across Canada. In May 2016, DOC National introduced a new membership fee schedule and the most notable change was the new DOC Start-Up tier to attract new members who:

1. graduated from post-secondary education within the last two years and/or;
2. incorporated their first production company within the last two years and/or;

3. are directing or producing their first non-student production (regardless of length).

Since 2013, membership in DOC BC has increased by 20% with a total of 122 members across the province. Approximately 22% of our members are remote, living more than 50 km outside of the Lower Mainland, which is an increase of 22% from 2015.

Category	2016 (Total members: 122)	2015 (Total members: 114)
Remote: 50 km outside of Vancouver	27	6
Student	22	14
Start-Up	11	N/A

The most significant increase in membership are the Student and Start-Up tiers, reflecting 27% of the DOC BC membership, compared to 12% in 2015 when there was only a Student category. However, in spite of these membership increases, as of November 3rd, 2016, 55 memberships had expired, an increase of 45% from 2015.

What Worked

- **Targeted outreach events:** New this year were the DOC Scholar event in February specifically for students in documentary production and journalism and the first “field trip” to Victoria in June, where we partnered with the Victoria Independent Film Professionals Association to host a “Meet the Funders” event.
- **Online participation:** In October with the support of Telus, we live streamed the Nettie Wild workshop to our membership in Victoria and DOC Alberta. We also shared the YouTube link with DOC National. In addition, we created a special hashtag, #DOCSgoWILD on Twitter for members across the country to join in the conversation.

Recommendations

- **Develop a plan to renew expired memberships:** Discuss with DOC National the responsibilities of Chapters in handling expired memberships, i.e. phoning individuals.
- **Consider participating in community outreach events:** In 2015, DOC BC hosted an information table at Media Democracy Days and VIFF Industry, but did not participate in these events in 2016.

- **Newsletter sign-up sheet and feedback at events:** At all events, set up a table with sign-up sheet to receive the DOC BC newsletter and information on membership fee schedule with an emphasis on Start-Up category and the 25% referral discount. The moderator of the event must announce these highlights and identify the Board Members and Milena as individuals whom prospective members may speak to for more information.

COMMUNICATIONS REPORT

By Sean Embury

Our communications efforts in 2016 focused on:

- The marketing and promotion of DOC BC events and initiatives
- The promotion of DOC BC partner events and initiatives.
- The promotion of DOC BC member screenings, awards, and crowdfunding initiatives
- The promotion of general documentary news, trends, and currents within Canada and around the world
- Delivering our message and growing audiences on digital channels.
- Generating earned media.

Our communications efforts have resulted in:

- An increased awareness of DOC BC and its mission
- An increased awareness of DOC BC's programs and events
- Growth in attendance at DOC BC's programs and events
- Further positioning of DOC BC as a thought leader and source of documentary resources

Regular communications were distributed through our:

- Bi-weekly DOC BC Newsletter
- Daily social media updates on Facebook and Twitter
- Monthly blog posts at docbc.org
- Special posts and updates promoting events

Throughout the year we saw strong organic growth across across our digital channels. We also saw significant growth in engagement with more posts leading to increased likes, comments, shares, and retweets.

- DOC BC Twitter @doc_bc grew from 1859 to 2406 followers (30% annual increase)
- DOC BC Facebook page grew from 832 to 1167 likes (40% annual increase)
- DOC BC Email grew slightly from 465 to 474 subscribers (members, friends,

and sponsors)

Additional promotions were made through:

- Print promotions – posters made up for special events and posted on free boards at local film and art schools.
- Broadcast interviews – we coordinated appearance on provincial CBC Radio One show, On the Coast, in order to promote DOC BC and our event with Director, Joshua Oppenheimer.

Our goals for 2016 include:

- Increase growth and reach of our organic and social media audience
- To leverage more earned media through interviews, news, and blog stories in order to promote the organization and its events
- To produce more shareable, documentary focused content that positions DOC BC as thought leaders and generates interest in the organization

Sean wants to thank Milena Salazar whose commitment to our outreach and social campaigns were key to the success of our communications and promotional efforts in 2016.

SPONSORSHIP REPORT

By Sandra Ignagni

Sandra Ignagni and Sean Embury co-chaired the sponsorship committee in 2016.

DOC BC would like to thank all of our sponsors for continuing to support the organization and the documentary community in British Columbia. Through the generous support of our sponsors, we continue to serve the needs of documentary filmmakers in British Columbia through advocacy, professional development workshops and other skill-building opportunities.

In 2016, DOC BC received sponsorship from the following organizations:

Knowledge
Front Row Insurance
Fusion Cine
Omni Film Entertainment
Novus Entertainment
Line 21 Media
Finale Editworks
Telus Storyhive

Make Believe Media
Annex Pro
Core Music Agency

DOC BC is pleased to report that in 2016 we welcomed Knowledge to our documentary filmmaking community as a new platinum-level sponsor.

Additionally, we secured a \$7,200 grant from Telus Optik Local to host a masterclass with BC-based filmmaker, Nettie Wild. Titled The Art of Documentary, the masterclass featured Nettie and the award-winning team behind KONELINE and included a film screening at the Vancity and full day of instruction. The event, discussed elsewhere in this report, was live-streamed to hubs in Victoria and Edmonton with the help of our event partners--DOC Alberta and the Victoria Independent Film Professionals Association.

We continue to foster deep online engagement and interaction with sponsors, members and prospective members through our multiple social media channels. We deeply value the participation of our sponsors in our monthly events.

Looking ahead to 2017, we will look for additional ways to fund our activities. We will continue working collaboratively with our existing sponsors to fully integrate them into our programming, as well as welcome new ones into our community. We are pleased to share the news that The Documentary Sound Guy will be a new bronze-level sponsor next year. If you or your company is interested in providing financial or in-kind support for DOC BC, please contact us at doc@docbc.org.

Thank you to our new and returning sponsors who continue to believe in and support the work that DOC BC is doing. Please take a look at the services these sponsors provide, as many of them offer special deals to DOC BC members!

PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT REPORT

By Rami Katz and Ana Carrizales

DOC BC, Professional Development continues its mandate to provide our members with professional development opportunities.

In 2016 we've organized the following workshops:

- In Conversation with Joshua Oppenheimer (January 19, 2016)
- Doc Scholar with the CBC's Charlotte Engel (February 9, 2016)
- Exploring Interactive and Transmedia Documentary (March 23, 2016)
- Documentary Lighting on a Budget (May 29, 2016)

- DOC BC in Victoria (June 18, 2016)
- Introduction to Drone Video (June 22, 2016)
- The Art of Documentary with Director Nettie Wild (Oct 28-29, 2016)
- Hot Docs Talk with Stephanie McArthur + Shorts (Nov 16, 2016)

Additional events were organized in partnership with Cineworks, WIFTV and DOXA such as the DOXA Industry event, monthly film and media showcases co-presented with WIFTV and Cineworks and the monthly DocTalk screenings co-presented with Cineworks.

For 2017, DOC BC PD department would like to continue organizing the workshops on diverse, interesting topics such as: “Radio Documentaries”, “social impact”, “race and representation”, “documentary sound”, “DIY/Online Distribution”, “Documentary Ethics” “crowdfunding and building an audience” and much more which will help DOC BC’s members deepen their skills and learn new ones.

INCOMING BOARD **2017 Nominees**

Jake Bergen

A relative newcomer to the world of documentary filmmaking, Jake Bergen has a background in industry, business and marketing. Despite his interest in film at a young age, he was raised in a cult where the arts were largely considered taboo and as a result, his filmmaking aspirations have taken some time to materialize. He now manages a small non-profit studio by day through which he has produced hundreds of visual media pieces, and in his own time works on passion projects.

Jake has produced short documentary-style content for the internet, and is striving to push his boundaries creatively. His first mid-length documentary, Run the North, is currently being submitted to festivals. It was filmed in Churchill, Manitoba, last winter and recently screened there for the community and received a great response.

A member since spring of 2016, Jake has appreciated the great learning opportunities that he has been able to take advantage of through DOC BC. Not content to just sit back and take, he values the opportunity to contribute to the organization and membership.

Cari Green

Cari Green is an award-winning filmmaker (The Corporation, Sundance Audience Award; Scared Sacred, special jury prize, TIFF; and When I Walk, Hot Docs top prize). Her film, Citizen Jane premiered at Toronto's Inside Out Festival and screened at Vancouver's Queer Film Festival. Green recently produced It Runs in the Family, with Joella Cabalu (Stand Sill). She is an Adjunct Professor at the University of British Columbia and recently received the Mayor's Arts Award.

D'Arcy Hamilton

In a nutshell, one could say that D'Arcy is a documentary filmmaker, but he's much more than that. Priding himself in not only making the best shots possible, D'Arcy thrives to tell engaging stories.

Since purchasing his very own camcorder when he was just 15 years old, D'Arcy loved to tell stories of real people. In 2006, D'Arcy decided to take his camera work more serious when he enrolled in Capilano University's Documentary and Small Unit Production program.

Graduating with a diploma in 2008, and having experience traveling to over 28 countries, D'Arcy has now built a reputation to be a very well rounded filmmaker. With experience in stop motion timelapses, aerial drone footage or steadicam, D'Arcy is always thriving to push the limits of technology, to tell fascinating and engaging stories.

Sean Horlor

Sean grew up exploring the ravines and backwoods of southern Vancouver Island. His parents gave him a journal and disposable camera at a young age to document a trip through the Canadian Rockies and he hasn't stopped telling stories since. He graduated with honours from the creative writing program at the University of Victoria and went on to publish Made Beautiful By Use, then freelanced for The Globe and Mail and other media outlets. His adventures on all sides of the camera, including as the creator and host of Don't Quit Your Gay Job, have helped shape his voice as an emerging documentary storyteller.

A self-taught filmmaker, he directs and produces with his partner Steve Adams. Their current documentary project, Hunting Giants, follows a group of wilderness explorers attempting to break a tall tree world-record on Vancouver Island.

RETURNING BOARD MEMBERS

Julia Ivanova

Co-Chair & Professional Development

Julia Ivanova is an award-winning Vancouver documentary filmmaker. Her film *Family Portrait in Black and White* played at Sundance and won Best Canadian Feature at Hot Docs 2011. She grew up in Moscow, studied filmmaking at the Russian Film Institute (VGIK) and immigrated to Canada in the mid-nineties. Since then, she has been directing, editing and filming documentaries. She has made nine feature and hour-length documentaries, partnering with CBC, Global TV, Knowledge Network, PBS, Discovery, the NFB and The Guardian. Ivanova has been actively involved in the documentary filmmaking community by organizing professional development workshops for DOC BC, co-chairing DOC BC, and being on the Board of the Hot Docs Film Festival. Her most recent film *Limit is the Sky*, produced with the NFB, was released in the fall of 2016.

David Vaisbord

Co-Chair & National Representative

Filmmaker and educator David Vaisbord, has made several award winning films, including the Gemini nominated *Drawing Out the Demons: a film about the artist Attila Richard Lukacs* (2004), Canadian cult classic *Juicy Danger Meets Burning Man* (1998), *Mischa* (1996) *Britannia Beach* (2002), *Dark Pines: An Investigation into the Death of Tom Thomson* (2006).

Started in 2008, David's most ambitious documentary project has been an in-depth longitudinal study of the residents of an ill-fated public housing project, titled the *Little Mountain Project*. Over the past 8 years, the project has evolved through several iterations of public engagement, from a web archive of a civic redevelopment process, to short activist films, art installations, and a Master's thesis, published in *POV Magazine*. In 2017, the project will be complete with the release of the feature documentary titled *Champions of Little Mountain*.

Vaisbord strongly believes that documentary filmmaking should be named Canada's Official Art Form. He contributes to the health of documentary film in Canada through his participation on both the Regional and National Boards of the Documentary Organization of Canada, and on the board of the Hot Docs Film Festival.

Ana Carrizales

Professional Development

Ana Carrizales is a producer, director and actress. In 2007, after leaving a successful practice in Psychology to pursue her artistic dreams, she received the NBC-Universal Screenwriting scholarship, winning the Best Screenplay Award upon graduation. In 2009, she produced the Playback Theater Youth Troupe, recipient of the 2014 City of Richmond's Arts Innovation Award for its artistic excellence. In connection to this project, she produced, wrote & directed the anti-bullying documentary Journey to Action, funded by the Government of BC, currently used in high schools in Richmond to engage youth in dialogue around bullying, racism & multiculturalism.

In addition to numerous short films, she has written, produced and directed, Ana's present creative enterprise is The Panties Project, a multi-platform, interactive documentary series & global forum for women to share their diverse stories.

Joella Cabalu

Membership & Professional Development

Joella Cabalu is a Filipino-Canadian Vancouver-based documentary filmmaker with an Art History degree from the University of British Columbia (2008) and a graduate of the Documentary Film Production Program at Langara College (2013). She has been selected to participate in numerous professional training programs, including the inaugural 2015 Hot Docs Shaw Media Diverse Voices, the 2014-2015 BC Arts Council Early Career Development, and the 2016 CBC Development Workshop for Diverse Creators. In June 2015, Cabalu delivered her first broadcast documentary It Runs in the Family as a producer, director and writer. In 2016, the film premiered at the Reelout Queer Film and Video Festival in Ontario and screened in major markets in the United States including San Francisco and New York, winning Audience Choice Awards at the Seattle Asian American Film Festival and the Vancouver Queer Film Festival.

Sean Embury

Communications & Sponsorship

Sean Embury has been creating innovative broadcast and interactive media for 20 years. As a producer he has been a key player in the creation of some of the Canada's most acclaimed cross-media properties, including NFB/Interactive, CBC Radio 3, and CBC Television's ZeD and Exposure. As a digital strategist and interactive creative director he has directed interactive work over 100 high-profile clients including Nike, United Airlines, H2O+, and the Chicago Stock Exchange.

Since 2010 his studio, Denman Digital, has worked with Canada's leading broadcasters, film and television producers, publishers, and cultural institutions to tell and extend their stories on emerging digital platforms. They have produced a deep portfolio of award winning interactive arts, news, and documentary projects for the NFB, CBC, documentary, APTN, and Knowledge Network. His work has

received multiple Webby, FWA, Applied Arts, Digi, and Canadian Online Publishing Awards, and in 2013 a Canadian Screen Award for Best Cross-Platform Non-Fiction Work for Truth & Lies – The Last Days of Osama bin Laden produced with CBCNews.ca and CBC Television's the fifth estate.

Parm Gill

Treasurer

Parm Gill is a chartered accountant, qualified in 1995, articulated with KPMG and has worked in accounting and finance since then. He has worked at the Controller and CFO level for a number of entities largely in the Pharmaceutical and Finance Industries. Parm currently runs his own practice for small businesses in Surrey, BC - The Accounting Office.

Sandra Ignagni

Sponsorship

Sandra Ignagni is an emerging documentary filmmaker and visual researcher. She completed documentary training at Maine Media and at the Union Docs Centre for Documentary Art in Brooklyn, USA. Her short documentaries have screened in over 30 communities across Canada and in the United States, including local festivals DOXA, VIFF, and Whistler, and on Télé-Québec's La Fabrique Culturelle platform. Before turning to documentary, Sandra worked as a researcher for 15 years, specializing in legal and policy research, archival research and ethnography. She holds a PhD in Political Science (York University, 2012) and a Master of Arts in Canadian & Indigenous Studies (Trent University, 2004). Sandra Co-Chairs the Sponsorship Committee.

Rami Katz

Professional Development

Rami Katz is a Canadian filmmaker based in Vancouver. He is pursuing his MFA in Film Production at the University of British Columbia, and for his thesis project is making a documentary on the life and work of Jack O'Dell, an influential figure within the African-American Civil Rights Movement. Rami was selected to participate at the 2015 RIDM Talent Lab, and received the H. Norman Lidster Prize in Documentary Filmmaking in addition to scholarships from the BC Arts Council and Creative BC. Rami's short documentary, Fish Soup, most recently screened at the 2016 Toronto Jewish Film Festival and is being distributed by the Winnipeg Film Group. His previous short film, An Exploration of Light, won the Reel 13 Short Film Competition and aired on THIRTEEN, PBS' flagship station. Rami holds a BFA in Film from Simon Fraser University.

The DOC BC Board would like to thank Fiona Rayher and Zack Embree for their work during 2016.

KEEP IN TOUCH

Both members and non-members can sign up for our weekly newsletter, reporting documentary news, events, festival and funding deadlines, screenings, and other good stuff. You can sign up for the e-newsletter by e-mailing us at docbc@docbc.org.

You can also follow us on Facebook, and Twitter @DOC_BC, or visit us on the web at docbc.org

Thank you for joining us at the 2016 AGM, and we wish you a restful holiday and a successful 2017.