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Workshop Explores Opportunities to Grow NWT Film Industry

YELLOWKNIFE (March 31, 2011) – The Government of the Northwest Territories (GNWT) recently held a workshop with representatives from the NWT film industry to discuss how the government can provide support to the industry.

A main focus of discussion was on the importance of creating a Film Industry Association, and steps are now being taken to coordinate the establishment of an Association. Attendees felt an Association would help ensure the film industry has a unified voice to advocate for the NWT film industry members and act as a liaison with the GNWT.

“NWT filmmakers make a positive economic and cultural impact on our territory,” said Minister of Industry, Tourism and Investment (ITI), Bob McLeod. “By working with those closely involved in the NWT film industry, I am confident we will find the best ways to show our support.”

The workshop is part of an overall review of the NWT film industry. ITI is working with the Department of Education, Culture and Employment to assess the economic prospects of the industry, investigate possible options for a Film Commission, and explore potential programs that would further support the film industry. The final report is expected to be published in May 2011.

For the 2011 fiscal year, the Government of the Northwest Territories is investing \$100,000 in programming for the NWT film industry to diversify the economy and provide all communities and regions with opportunities and choices, as envisioned in the *Northerners Working Together* strategy.

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