

# **Featuring Aboriginal Stories Program (FASP) | Place aux histoires autochtones Interim Initiative**

## **Frequently Asked Questions**

**Telefilm had assessed its Featuring Aboriginal Stories Program (FASP) and held consultation meetings for its renewal. Why put in place an interim measure instead of launching the new edition of the program?**

Following the launch of its corporate plan in April, one of Telefilm's priorities was to initiate a complete redesign of its programs in order to simplify and optimize its processes, and to ensure a better alignment between its programs and its strategic priorities.

This process is progressing faster than expected, and we realize that the renewal proposal made to the advisory committee is not completely aligned with this redesign.

Telefilm does not currently have all the elements required to make an informed decision regarding the future orientation of this program. This is why we have decided to adopt an interim measure to maintain our support to creators and help advance the projects already begun over the past three years.

**Why limit the entry of projects at the first draft phase or a subsequent phase? What will happen to the projects that took part in the Featuring Aboriginal Stories Program (FASP) but that are at a preliminary phase (outline or treatment)?**

Considering available resources and Telefilm's desire to see one or two of these films put on screen in the next few years, we prefer to focus our efforts, for the time being, on feature film projects that are at a more advanced phase and that are likely to make it to production in the near future.

**I am a writer-director who took part in the Featuring Aboriginal Stories Program (FASP) but I do not have a company. Am I eligible?**

If you are a writer-director duly incorporated you are eligible. But if you are not, you will need to have your business incorporated before applying for this initiative.

**As a writer-director who is incorporated, am I entitled to claim producer's fees?**

Yes. You have the same privileges as a producer. As indicated in Telefilm's standard budget, these fees must not exceed 20% of direct costs.

**I have already participated in an edition of the Featuring Aboriginal Stories Program (FASP) as a creator but would like to submit a feature film project that was not supported through this program. Can I do this?**

No. This interim measure only covers those projects that have already received financial support for the development of one phase only as part of the Featuring Aboriginal Stories Program (FASP) between 2008 and 2011. The measure is put in place while awaiting a decision to be made on the future of this program.

**I received two development advances as part of the Featuring Aboriginal Stories Program (FASP). Why am I not eligible?**

Considering the limited resources available and in fairness to the creators who could not get a second development advance, Telefilm wishes to give priority for funding to the projects that received support only once during this three-year program.

**My feature film project has a production budget greater than \$1.5M, which was in compliance with the Featuring Aboriginal Stories Program (FASP) guidelines. I understand that my project is not eligible as part of this interim initiative even if I meet the other eligibility conditions. Are there other alternatives at Telefilm that will enable me to continue the development of my project?**

This interim initiative is meant for those feature film projects that are likely to be competitive in the Low Budget Independent Feature Film Assistance Program or in what will be its equivalent when the program redesign is completed. However, projects of more than \$1.5M are not eligible.

An alternative avenue would be to make an application for development support through to the Canada Feature Film Fund (CFFF). If you are not eligible to the CFFF under the *Producer Eligibility Procedure (Quebec Office)*, you could form a partnership with an eligible producer, which would allow you to make a funding application as well as benefit from the producer's expertise.

**Where can I find a script advisor or a producer-consultant?**

You can continue to work with the script editors or producer-consultants with whom you dealt as part of the Featuring Aboriginal Stories Program (FASP) or choose one in the *Directory of Mentors and Scriptwriting Consultants* published on Telefilm's Website:

<http://www.telefilm.gc.ca/en/clients/directory-mentors-consultants/index.php>

These experts have been pre-approved by Telefilm.

Or you can also work with a producer who meets the eligibility criteria of the Canada Feature Film Fund.

### **How will the projects be chosen?**

The projects submitted will be analyzed internally and compared among each other based on the following criteria:

- Originality and quality of creative elements
- Feasibility of project within a production budget between \$250,000 and \$1.5M
- Telefilm may also take into account whether or not the applicant has retained a producer-consultant.

### **How many projects will be selected?**

Depending on the level of financial requests and available resources, we estimate that three to five projects may receive a development advance of up to \$25,000 or \$30,000 in cases where a producer-consultant is hired.

### **When do you plan to announce the new version of the Featuring Aboriginal Stories Program (FASP)?**

We will wait until the end of the Program Redesign initiative, which will take place during the 2012-2013 fiscal year, before announcing the new direction of the Featuring Aboriginal Stories Program (FASP).

### **How and when can I apply to this initiative?**

You must complete the application form available on Telefilm's website and send it, along with all required documents, by January 16, 2012 to the Telefilm regional office corresponding to your place of business.