



## **Women in Film and Television-Toronto (WIFT-T) adds final round of panelists and speakers to 2007 WIFT International Summit**

**Register now at [www.wift.com](http://www.wift.com)! Don't miss this one-of-a-kind event!**

(TORONTO – Thursday, July 12, 2007) Women in Film and Television – Toronto (WIFT-T) is pleased to announce that it has added more session speakers and panelists to an already outstanding lineup of industry leaders who will participate at the **2007 WIFT International Summit** in July. WIFT-T will host the **WIFT International Summit** from July 16-19, 2007 at the Park Hyatt Toronto.

The **2007 WIFT International Summit** will feature more than 100 industry leaders who will lend their expertise and experience to more than 50 panels and workshops. Speakers will include commissioning editors, broadcast executives and key media professionals from around the world. New participants include:

- Lisa Olfman, Co-Founder & President, Portfolio Entertainment Inc. - *The Success of Canadian Animation (Panel)*
- Michael Goldsmith, Director, Original Content, Teletoon - *The Success of Canadian Animation (Panel)*
- Judy Gladstone, Executive Director, Bravo!/MAXFACT - *Worldwide Trends in Film (Panel)*
- Joy Rosen, Portfolio Entertainment Inc., Co-Founder & President - *Growing Your Media Company: What You Need to Know. (Panel)*
- Tara Ellis, Vice President of Dramatic Content, Alliance Atlantis - *Worldwide Trends in Drama & Comedy Television (Panel)*
- Catherine Stuart, Principal, Aver Media - *The Business of Pitching Your Film and TV Project (Panel)*
- Nancy Chapelle, Managing Director of Content and Programming, TVOntario - *Public Television in the 21st Century (Panel)*
- Sandra Walmark, Manager, Original Production, Astral Television Networks, The Family Channel Inc. - *Worldwide Trends in Children's Television (Panel)*
- Bonita Siegel, YTV, Treehouse, Discovery Kids, Corus Entertainment Inc., Corus Kids TV - *Worldwide Trends in Children's Television (Panel)*

- Kit Redmond, President, RTR Media - *Product Placement: Right for Your Project? (Workshop)*
- David Weaver, Writer/Director, Century Hotel, Siblings - *Festivals: Making Them Work for You (Panel)*
- Gaye McDonald, Vice-President Marketing Ventures - Brand Partnership, CanWest Global MediaWorks Inc - *Product Placement: Right for Your Project? (Workshop)*
- Margaret O'Brien, CFO/COO, Barna-Alper Productions Inc. - *Growing Your Media Company (Panel)*
- Shannon Abel, Industry Programming, Toronto International Film Festival Group - *Festivals: Making Them Work for You (Panel)*
- Naoko Kumagai, Manager of Communications, Toronto International Film Festival Group - *Festivals: Making Them Work for You (Panel)*
- Michael Steinberg, COO and Legal Counsel, Ellis Entertainment - *Diversifying Your Revenue Streams (Panel)*
- Julia Rosenberg, January Films, Producer (*Being Julia, Men With Brooms, The Bodybuilder and I*) - *Worldwide Trends in Film (Panel)*

**For bios and a complete list of speakers, panels and workshops, or for more information on registration, hotel accommodations and a complete schedule of events, visit the WIFT-T website at [www.wift.com](http://www.wift.com). Please note that hotel reservations must be made by July 13, 2007 to receive the discounted rate. Reservation requests received after that date will be based on availability at the Park Hyatt Toronto's existing rates.**

The **WIFT International Summit** is expected to draw delegates from around the world, bringing together the film and television community from Afghanistan to New Zealand. For four days, delegates will be inspired by panels, workshops, screenings and special events. The WIFT International Summit will also provide Toronto the opportunity to spotlight its diverse talent and encourage international business opportunities that can assist Canadian production companies and filmmakers in creating strong products that are viable in the worldwide market. Held every two years in a different country, 2007 will mark the first year this event has been held in Toronto.

Women in Film and Television – Toronto is one of nearly 40 chapters worldwide affiliated with WIFT International (WIFTI), a global network comprised of more than 10,000 members dedicated to advancing professional development and achievement for women working in all areas of screen-based media.

The **2007 WIFT International Summit** is presented in partnership with NBC Universal and in association with Kodak Canada Entertainment Imaging, Heenan Blaikie LLP, Goodmans LLP, Deluxe, Humber School of Media Studies and Information Technology, Program for Export Market Development, Kay & Warburton, Alliance Atlantis Communications, Canada Goose, SUN TV, Sumo, MAC Cosmetics, Ontario Media Development Corporation, the Canadian Guild of Film Composers, S-VOX, Innoversity Creative Summit, Comweb, Emerson Textile, New Brunswick Film, Shibley Righton LLP, Toronto Economic Development, the Banff World Television Festival,

Imarion, Second Cup, Sailor Jones Media, INSINC, Wrigley Canada, CBC Television and TVOntario. Selected sessions of the Summit will be simulcast online for the first time ever and will be sponsored by the Women In Film /General Motors Alliance.

**Women in Film and Television – Toronto (WIFT-T)** is a leading internationally affiliated professional organization that recognizes, trains and advances women in screen-based media. WIFT-T offers a year-round slate of skills development, networking events and industry awards, providing the tools to succeed in Canada's global entertainment industry. WIFT-T serves more than 3,000 women and men in Canadian screen-based media, connecting them to close to 10,000 leading film, television, and new media professionals worldwide.

**General Motors Corporation** is the **National Presenting Sponsor of Women In Film**. The **Women In Film/General Motors Alliance** was created to support women in the entertainment industry and to expand Women In Film chapter programs across the country. The multi-year initiative was announced in Los Angeles in January 2005 and is supporting programs as diverse as the Film Finishing Fund, Women's Film Preservation Fund, Legacy Series, PSAs, scholarships, mentorships and local WIF chapter award events across the nation. For more information about the WIF/GM Alliance and its programs, visit [www.women-in-film.com](http://www.women-in-film.com).

Founded in 1973 in Los Angeles, **Women In Film** ([www.wif.org](http://www.wif.org)) is the leading non-profit organization dedicated to women in the global entertainment industry. Its purpose is to empower, promote, nurture and mentor women in the industry through a network of valuable contacts, events, programs, workshops, finishing funds and scholarships. In the U.S., there are chapters in Arizona, California (3), Florida, Georgia, Illinois, Maryland, Massachusetts, Minnesota, Missouri, Nevada, New Mexico, New York, Pennsylvania, Texas (2), Washington and Washington, D.C. The international network, Women In Film and Television International ([www.wifti.org](http://www.wifti.org)), of which WIF-Los Angeles is a founding member, boasts 35 chapters on six continents. Member chapters range from developing nations to countries with established industries, including the U.S., Australia, Canada, France, India, Ireland, Jamaica, Mexico, New Zealand, South Africa and the United Kingdom, to name a few.

**General Motors Corp.** (NYSE: GM), the world's largest automaker, has been the annual global industry sales leader for 76 years. Founded in 1908, GM today employs about 280,000 people around the world. With global headquarters in Detroit, GM manufactures its cars and trucks in 33 countries. In 2006, 9.1 million GM cars and trucks were sold globally under the following brands: Buick, Cadillac, Chevrolet, GMC, GM Daewoo, Holden, HUMMER, Opel, Pontiac, Saab, Saturn and Vauxhall. GM's OnStar subsidiary is the industry leader in vehicle safety, security and information services. More information on GM can be found at [www.gm.com](http://www.gm.com).

For more information, please contact:

Christine Amendola

Director of Communications and Business Development

Women in Film and Television – Toronto (WIFT-T)  
416-322-3430 ext. 228  
[camendola@wift.com](mailto:camendola@wift.com)  
[www.wift.com](http://www.wift.com) / [www.canadianfilmmaker.com](http://www.canadianfilmmaker.com)

Vicki Greenleaf – 323.660.5800  
WIF/GM Alliance  
Greenleaf & Associates [vgreenleaf@pacbell.net](mailto:vgreenleaf@pacbell.net)

Christie Conti – 805-373-9527  
GM Communications [Christie.Conti@gmrworks.com](mailto:Christie.Conti@gmrworks.com)