



RULES 2021

AN EXCEPTIONAL SHOWCASE FOR QUEBEC-MADE FILMS

For 39 years, the Rendez-vous Québec Cinéma, the only festival dedicated entirely to Quebec-made films, has presented the widest possible range of cinematic genres and approaches, including works by new and established filmmakers. With a selection of more than 300 films, including 100-plus premieres, along with a large number of free activities, the Rendez-vous is an exceptional forum that brings together audiences and filmmakers to celebrate our films.

... AND SHORTS IN THE SPOTLIGHT

The Rendez-vous is the single largest showcase for Quebec-made short films in every genre. Among the shorts selected for the various sections (fiction, documentary, animation, student works and art & experimental), approximately 40 are selected for the Competition. These films are in the running for the many awards reserved for short films.

FEATURE FILMS COMPETITION

Other awards, designed to support and encourage creativity, new talent and perseverance, including the prestigious Prix Gilles-Carle and Prix Pierre et Yolande Perrault, are also presented. The two awards are presented to films in the Official Selection and both comes with a \$ 10 000 grant.

FESTIVAL DATES

The 39th annual Rendez-vous Québec Cinéma will take place from February 24 to March 6, 2021.

*Please note that the following rules and documentation requirements **do not apply** to the Gala Québec Cinéma. The Gala team will contact you if your film is eligible.*



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RULES AND ELIGIBILITY

1. ELIGIBILITY OF WORKS

1.1. QUEBEC-MADE WORKS

Professional, Quebec-made audio-visual works in French, English, Indigenous languages and/or other languages, produced or released in theaters between January 1 and December 31, 2020, are eligible, provided they fall into at least one of the seven categories described in point 2.

Please note that all films submitted in languages other than French must include French subtitles.

Works previously rejected by the Rendez-vous cannot be re-submitted unless they have been substantially modified.

To be considered Quebec-made, the work must meet **at least three (3) of the following five (5) criteria**, and must meet **at least one of the first two criteria**:

1. The work was directed or co-directed by a Quebecer*
2. The work was written or co-written by a Quebecer*
3. The work was produced or co-produced by a Quebec-based company
4. At least one of the lead roles is played by a Quebecer*
5. A Quebecer* performed one of the following key creative tasks:

cinematography, art direction, editing, sound design or music composition. For animated films: animation direction or character design.

**We consider a Quebecer to be a person with official legal residency in Canada (citizenship or permanent residency) who resides in Quebec for at least six (6) months plus one (1) day per year.*

1.2. FRENCH-LANGUAGE WORKS FROM OUTSIDE QUEBEC (FRANCO-CANADIAN FILMS)

Professional audio-visual works produced in the French language in a Canadian province or territory other than Quebec, between January 1 and December 31, 20, and which fit into one of the seven (7) categories described in point 2, are eligible.

Works previously rejected by the Rendez-vous cannot be re-submitted unless they have been substantially modified.

To be considered a Franco-Canadian work, a film must meet both of the following criteria:

1. The work was filmed and produced in a Canadian province or territory other than



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Quebec.

2. The production company is based in a Canadian province or territory other than Quebec.

**Please check the box on the online form indicating that you are submitting a Franco-Canadian film.*

2. ELIGIBLE CATEGORIES

- **FICTIONAL FEATURE:** Work of fiction with a runtime of 70 or more minutes. Corporate films and videos are not eligible.
- **FEATURE-LENGTH DOCUMENTARY:** Documentary work with a runtime of 65 or more minutes. News reports, television series and corporate films and videos are not eligible.
- **SHORT AND MEDIUM-LENGTH FICTION:** Work of fiction with a runtime less than 70 minutes. Corporate films and videos are not eligible.
- **SHORT AND MEDIUM-LENGTH DOCUMENTARY:** Documentary work with a runtime less than 65 minutes. News reports, television series and corporate films and videos are not eligible.
- **ART AND EXPERIMENTAL WORK:** Film or video with a non-narrative artistic approach, or incorporating a non-cinematic artistic approach.
- **ANIMATION:** Film or video work using a frame-by-frame animation technique (drawings, marionettes, paper cut-outs, pixilation, animatics, etc.). Corporate animations and animated television series are not eligible.
- **STUDENT WORK:** Work in any category (fiction, documentary, art & experimental, animation), with a maximum runtime of 20 minutes, produced by a student in a collegiate and university program or in a film school.

NOTE: *Works produced in colleges, universities or film schools are subject to a special selection process and must be registered in this category, failing which they will be disqualified.*



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3. SUBMISSIONS

3.1. MANDATORY REGISTRATION FORM

Registrations must, without exception, be made via the online form at www.quebeccinema.ca or by sending a request to programmation@quebeccinema.ca

No unofficial registrations will be accepted by email, telephone or in person.

3.2. SUBMISSION DEADLINE

The deadline for submitting works and completing the online form is **November 1st, 2020**.

The festival reserves the right to reject any work submitted after the deadline.

3.3. WORKING CUTS

It is possible to submit a working cut by indicating the work's unfinished status to the programming director (programmation@quebeccinema.ca) and stating the date when the final version will be available.

The final version must be available no later than **early December 2020**. Beyond that date, the festival reserves the right to reject the film.

3.4. SUBMISSION FEES

Submission fees are required in order to cover the costs of administration, production and promotion. They vary by submission date.

→ **EARLY BIRD**

September 30 to October 14, 2020

- \$20 for works in the student section, from 1 to 20 minutes
- \$25 for works from 1 to 60 minutes
- \$35 for works 61 minutes and over

→ **REGULAR**

October 15 to November 1st, 2020

- \$25 for works in the student section, from 1 to 20 minutes
- \$30 for works from 1 to 60 minutes
- \$40 for works 61 minutes and over

All submissions must be accompanied by the fee, either paid via PayPal through the online form, or by cheque made out to Fondation Québec Cinéma. If paying by cheque, it is essential to write the title of the film on the memo line and remember to sign the cheque.



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The festival reserves the right to reject any submission if the person in charge of the submission has not paid the fee or provided all of the required materials.

Please note that we do not issue refunds in case of mistakes made in the submission process. Check your entry carefully!

3.5. MANDATORY MATERIALS

All required materials must be received no later than **November 1st, 2020**.

Registration fees:

- Via PayPal, through the online form
- By cheque mailed to the Québec Cinéma office

Mandatory materials to be included in the online registration form:

- One (1) or two (2) still photos from the work
- A JPG image of the film's poster, if available
- One (1) photo of the director(s)
- The film's trailer
- A link to a downloadable version of the trailer, if available
- A link to a downloadable screener, with password if any
- Detailed film credits

Please contact programmation@quebeccinema.ca if you are unable to provide an online screener.

If you do not provide a downloadable file, you will be asked to provide one if your film is selected.

3.6. RETURN OF PRINTS

Please note that for logistical reasons, we do not return screening prints; you must collect your print after the festival. You will be emailed instructions indicating when and where to collect your print.

Note that due to space constraints, any prints unclaimed by the end of April will be destroyed.

3.7. PHOTOS

Accepted photo formats:

Landscape orientation preferred

JPG

300 DPI

1920 pixels minimum



Director photos:
Portrait orientation preferred
JPG
300 DPI
1920 pixels maximum

Please note that we are not responsible for the quality of promotional materials submitted. If your photos are low quality, this will be reflected in our online and printed promotional materials.

4. SELECTION COMMITTEE

A programming committee chaired by the Director of the Rendez-vous Québec Cinéma selects works for the festival. The committee is made up of Quebec-based film professionals. Its main guiding principle is the desire to represent the diversity of Quebec's cinematic expression and encourage dialogue among works, artists and audiences. For this reason, programming choices are not a qualitative judgment of the works submitted, but rather an effort to strike a fair balance among different genres, narrative styles and production types, while focusing on emerging filmmakers and premieres.

The Rendez-vous Québec Cinéma reserves the right to reassign any work to a category it deems more appropriate than the one selected during the submission process.

Because of the large number of films submitted, the selection committee is unable to provide comments on rejected works.

All films selected will be made available to industry professionals (producers, exhibitors, programmers, distributors and broadcasters) for private screening during the Rendez-vous Pro.

4.1. WORKS SELECTED

The results of the selection process will be sent to submitters by email **in late December 2020**. All decisions are final and must be kept confidential until the official program is announced at a press conference in February 2020 (date TBA).

If your work is selected, it is essential that you contact programmation@quebeccinema.ca as soon as possible with details of other festival submissions that could, if accepted, affect the screening at the RVQC.

4.2. SHORT-FILM COMPETITION

Among all short films selected for the *Short and Medium Length Fiction, Short and Medium*



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Length Documentary, Student, Art & Experimental and Animation categories, approximately 40 will be selected for the festival's Short Film Competition.

With the aim of recognizing excellence in short films and celebrating the talent of their creators and crew, the films in the Competition will be judged by a jury of professionals, who will name the best short films in each category.

Please note that the RVQC does not require films to be premieres in order to be eligible for the Competition.

4.3. FEATURE COMPETITION

Among the films selected for the Fictional Feature and Documentary Feature sections, a filmmaker's first and second work are eligible, respectively, for the Gilles-Carle and Pierre-et-Yolande-Perrault Awards.*

The Prix Gilles-Carle is awarded for a first or second fictional feature with a unique and innovative cinematic signature.

The Prix Pierre-et-Yolande-Perrault recognizes a first or second documentary feature consistent with Perrault's cinematic vision, documenting reality and encounters with others through immersion in a natural, vividly captured setting.

** Please note that under the authority of the programming director, the festival's programming team selects the works entered in competition.*

5. SCREENING PRINTS

5.1 ACCEPTABLE FORMATS

You will receive detailed technical requirements once the programming team has completed the selection process. Screening requirements may vary depending on the venue or platform where your film will be shown.

The following screening print formats are accepted in most of our venues, barring certain exceptions:

- DCP
- HDcam SR
- 35 mm

Digital formats:

- ProRes422



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- ProRes422 (HQ)
- H264 (Backup)

If you wish to use any other format, please check with the programming team by contacting programmation@quebeccinema.ca.

5.2 SUBTITLES AND ORIGINAL LANGUAGE

For works produced in a language other than French, a subtitled print must be provided; French subtitles are preferred but English is also accepted.

It is essential to indicate, when registering via the online form, the film's original language and subtitle language **in the screening print** (not the screener) that you will provide to the festival. This allows us to provide correct information to the programming team and audience.

Example: If you register a film in the original French with English subtitles, the festival will include that information in its communication materials and screen that version.

5.3 INSURANCE

The Rendez-vous Québec Cinéma covers insurance premiums for prints from the time they are received until they are claimed by the submitter. In case of loss or damage during that time, the Rendez-vous Québec Cinéma shall be liable only for the replacement cost of the physical medium.

6. PROMOTIONAL MATERIALS

Promotional materials (posters, DVDs, press kits, excerpts, etc.) may be requested from time to time.

The person responsible for the submission authorizes the Rendez-vous Québec Cinéma to disseminate clips or excerpts from the work for promotional purposes, before and during the event.

Please note that our opening-night event usually features a VJ who plays clips from films in our program.

Please note that biographies and synopses are copy-edited and modified by our editorial team to ensure consistency. We reserve the right to edit or shorten any written material you submit via the registration form.

6.1 VIDEOTHEQUE

The works presented in the festival are made available at computer stations open to Rendez-vous Pro-accredited professionals only. Passwords are provided by an on-site volunteer and are never provided to guests.

This way, your film might be seen by domestic and foreign programmers, distributors and producers.

6.2 POSTERS

We are not responsible for any loss, damage or theft of posters displayed at festival venues. If you do not meet the deadline for providing posters, it is possible that they will not be displayed during the festival.

Except in exceptional circumstances, posters cannot be collected after the festival.

7. ROYALTIES AND RIGHTS HOLDERS

The rights holder represents and guarantees that they hold all rights, including intellectual property rights and private property rights, titles, and interests in the work they are submitting to the RVQC.

The rights holder (or the person responsible for the submission, whichever applies) guarantees that the work they are submitting is entirely original, and that none of its elements infringes the privacy rights or damages the honour or reputation of any third party.

By virtue of the above guarantees, the rights holder agrees to take up the defence and indemnify the RVQC for any damages, expenses, fees and reasonable costs incurred or suffered by it as the result of any action taken by a third party due to non-compliance with one or another of the preceding declarations and guarantees.

7.1 ROYALTIES

Royalties apply to independent¹ productions. Royalties are paid only to the director of the work. The amount is based on the work's runtime. It is a flat fee for the work, regardless of the number of co-directors. You will receive an email from the festival concerning the amount of royalties to be paid. Royalties will be paid by cheque upon presentation of an invoice.

¹As recognized by the Conseil des arts et des lettres du Québec: Independent production in film and video implies that the creator has full control of the content and production of the work and all other aspects of production and presentation. He holds all reproduction and public exhibition rights for his work and can, by granting a license, extend such rights to a producer or an independent distributor.



7.2. THEATRICAL EXHIBITION RIGHTS

We do not pay exhibition royalties for films shown at the festival, since the screenings are not a for-profit commercial venture.

THE MANAGEMENT OF THE RENDEZ-VOUS QUÉBEC CINÉMA RESERVES THE RIGHT TO RULE ON ANY POINT NOT COVERED IN THE PRESENT DOCUMENT.

PLEASE BE SURE TO INCLUDE ALL REQUIRED MATERIALS IN YOUR SUBMISSION.

INCOMPLETE SUBMISSIONS WILL NOT BE CONSIDERED.

All required materials must be sent to:

QUÉBEC CINÉMA
PROGRAMMING DEPARTMENT
1680 Ontario St. East
Montreal, Quebec
H2L 1S7

If you have any questions concerning programming and submissions please send them to programmation@quebeccinema.ca.