

# COVID-19 Update for the Screen Industry

## MESSAGE FROM SCREEN NOVA SCOTIA

Dear SNS Members:

As you are aware, the Government of Nova Scotia issued a provincial State of Emergency on March 22nd, 2020 which is currently still in effect. A Health Protection Order is also in effect. However, the original Public Health Order arising from the COVID-19 pandemic did not mandate businesses in the film and television sector to shut down and therefore they have remained open and can continue to operate going forward.

The restrictions announced yesterday, April 22nd, 2021 by Dr. Robert Strang, Chief Medical Officer, and NS Premier, Iain Rankin, have not changed the way productions operate.

We are working with Public Health to put a process in place through which Canadians (excluding those in NS, NFLD and PEI) employed on productions can apply for entry into Nova Scotia. We expect to send out detailed instructions of the process as soon as it has been finalized. If your production plans are to travel Canadians into the province over the next three days, please reach out to Laura Mackenzie: [laura@screennovascoita.com](mailto:laura@screennovascoita.com). Please note that Temporary Foreign Workers have been deemed essential for entry.

The Nova Scotia film and television industry is being recognized as a leader in business when it comes to COVID-19 safety, as we adhere to the highest possible standards and protocols. We would like to thank each and every individual working in the film and television industry for their hard work and vigilance. It has allowed our sector to maintain the integrity of this reputation. Well done.

**Screen Nova Scotia COVID-19 webpage:** A reminder that we have a webpage [HERE](#) that is dedicated to supplying up-to-date information on filming in Nova Scotia during the COVID-19 pandemic.

**Health & Safety Guidelines:** The health and safety of all individuals working on production is a top concern during COVID 19. Screen Nova Scotia's "COVID-19 Related Health & Safety Guidelines for the Screen Industry" are intended to provide guidance to the Screen Industry as they navigate COVID-19 specific risk exposure, during the production of film and television in Nova Scotia.

These COVID-19 related guidelines were developed to incorporate expert advice, allow for alignment with provincial and federal public health and safety protocols, and promote the safe return to work in our industry prior to the availability of a COVID-19 vaccine.

The guidelines were approved by the province's Chief Medical Officer of Health, Dr. Robert Strang, as well as the Dept. of Labour and Advanced Education. Screen Nova Scotia's Health & Safety Committee will continue to monitor amendments to the PHO and update these guidelines as required to ensure they reflect the restrictions in place. You can find these guidelines [HERE](#) and on our [COVID-19: Production in Nova Scotia](#) webpage.

As always, Screen Nova Scotia is here to support your production plans. If you have any questions or concerns after reading this page, please don't hesitate to reach out to us directly!

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