



Documentary Organization of Canada

# Membership Welcome Package

# Contact

## DOC CONTACT INFORMATION:

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## DOC National Staff

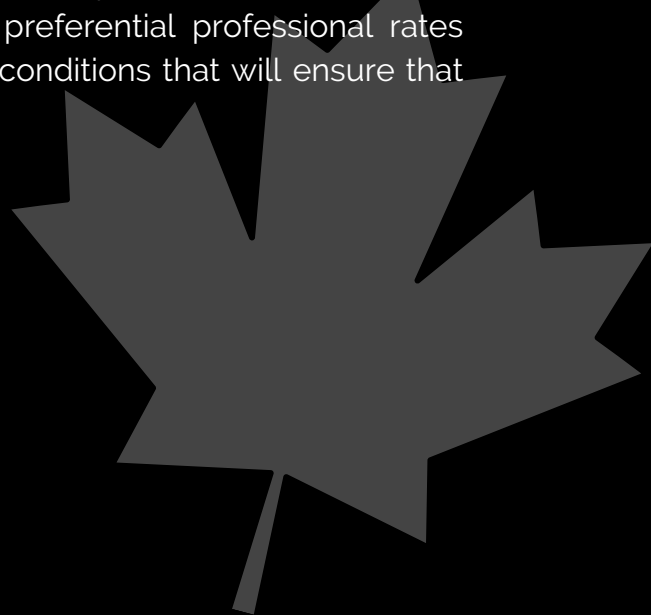
**Sarah Spring** - Executive Director | [sarah@docorg.ca](mailto:sarah@docorg.ca)

**Vincent LeClair** - Project, Communications and Operations Manager | [vincent@docorg.ca](mailto:vincent@docorg.ca)

**Meara Khanna** - Social Media and Communications Assistant | [meara@docorg.ca](mailto:meara@docorg.ca)

# Overview

The Documentary Organization of Canada (DOC) is the collective voice of Canada's independent documentary creators. DOC began in 1983 as the Canadian Independent Film Caucus (CIFC) to represent the interests of Canada's growing community of indie doc filmmakers. Today DOC has over 800 members across six chapters from coast to coast. DOC's National office leads on research and advocacy work that strengthens the ecosystem for documentary production while DOC chapters provide community support, professional development, and networking opportunities. DOC negotiates preferential professional rates and discounts for our members. Every day, we work to create conditions that will ensure that documentaries - and their creators - thrive.



# MEMBER BENEFITS

As a DOC member, you are entitled to a variety of benefits, including exclusive rates on production insurance, discounts on festival industry fees, a complimentary subscription to POV Magazine, and more.

All memberships include:

- Exclusive access to the members-only DOC-discussion Listserv
- A complimentary subscription to [Point of View Magazine](#)
- Exclusive rates on film production insurance with [Front Row Insurance](#)
- A 30-minute free consultation with one of the crowdfunding specialists at [Seed & Spark](#) to help you strategize your campaign & build your audience. [Click to access.](#)
- A flat \$30 booking fee and 24/7 travel booking support with [Stage and Screen](#). More details on the partnership can be found [here](#).
- [Getty Images Partnership](#): a minimum 15% discount on all applicable photos and video clips, complimentary offline research assistance, access to high-res and non-watermarked stock materials for use in work-in-progress projects, test or private pitches; as well as a dedicated Getty Images representative to guide you through the licensing process. [Click here for full details.](#)
- Discounts on industry registration and submission waivers to our [partner festivals](#). (Discount and scope of partnerships vary). Email [info@docorg.ca](mailto:info@docorg.ca) for further details.
- Access to a promo code for the annual [Realscreen Summit](#).
- Discounted membership to like-minded film organizations such as [ARRQ](#) in Québec, [AMPIA](#) in Alberta, and [LIFT](#) in Toronto
- Membership and access to local events and professional development activities offered through [DOC's local chapters](#)
- Access to doc-focused industry information and insights via National and Chapter-based [electronic newsletters](#) and [e-blasts](#).
- Access to members' meetings, events, and social gatherings
- Voting privileges at Chapter and National membership meetings, referendums, and our [AGM](#)
- The opportunity to help shape Canada's documentary landscape by putting yourself forward for [Board of Director](#) positions at National and Chapter levels
- Invitation to DOC's annual [Hot Docs](#) and [TIFF Fête](#)



# LISTSERV

**Are you on our doc-discussion **Listserv** group? If not, it is a great resource offered as one of your membership benefits!**

To sign-up, [CLICK HERE](#) and select "Apply for Membership in This Group". It will take you to a page where you will enter your e-mail address.

Our listserv moderators will then receive a notification that you have requested access to the group, and you will be notified by e-mail once we have approved your request.

The confirmation e-mail will also include instructions on how to post to the group via e-mail and online.

If you have any questions about your membership, please reach out to our Membership Coordinator, Vincent LeClair at [info@docorg.ca](mailto:info@docorg.ca)

Sincerely,

Sarah Spring, Vincent LeClair, and Meara Khanna,  
Documentary Organization of Canada

Website: [www.docorg.ca](http://www.docorg.ca)

Facebook: [www.facebook.com/DOCorg](https://www.facebook.com/DOCorg)

Twitter: [www.twitter.com/DOCorg](https://www.twitter.com/DOCorg)



# Festival Concierge

## What is Festival Concierge?

DOC's Festival Concierge (FC) service was created to help fill a gap in knowledge and support services for documentary filmmakers who were seeking to leverage the increasingly complex domestic and international film festival circuit and achieve their audience, impact, and distribution goals. Festival Concierge was developed in 2014 and then relaunched in 2019 as a for-fee-service providing tailored one-on-one consultations and direct strategic guidance and supporting resources for film festival distribution. We are proud to be the only such service available to independent doc filmmakers in Canada!

## GOALS:

To take the guesswork out of the complex festival maze by providing producers with strategic advice in order to successfully navigate the domestic and international film festival circuit. By creating space and stimulating discoverability, Festival Concierge will act as a catalyst toward expanding international market opportunities for Canadian documentary filmmakers.

## FESTIVAL CONCIERGE CONSULTANTS:

We want to ensure that your finished production is exhibited to its full potential. Our expert consultants will ensure you revisit your core intentions, stay connected to the film's purpose, and practice detachment and resilience as your film enters the market. Where are energies and resources best applied? What options could be eliminated? What are the possibilities? These are all important questions Festival Concierge will help to answer. In order to provide a more tailored service, we now have 3 Festival Concierge Consultants with different areas of specialization for you to choose from. Your consultant looks forward to helping you build a festival/distribution strategy customized for your production!

### EACH SERVICE PACKAGE INCLUDES:



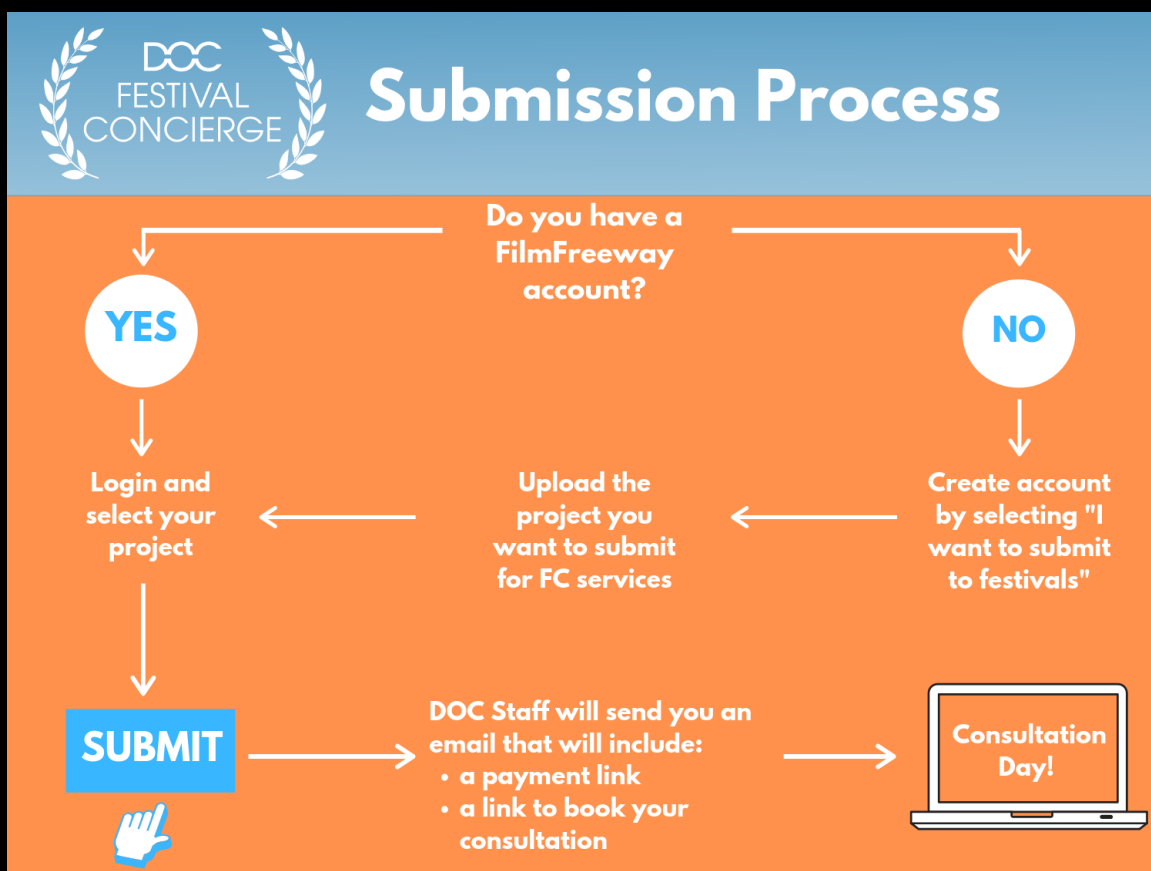
1. A ONE-ON-ONE CONSULTATION WITH ONE OF OUR CONSULTANTS OVER THE PHONE/VIDEO CALL
2. YOUR CONSULTANT WILL REVIEW THE PRODUCTION AND PROVIDE A WRITTEN ASSESSMENT WITH RECOMMENDATIONS
3. YOU WILL BE PROVIDED WITH PROPRIETARY FESTIVAL DISTRIBUTION RESOURCES, INCLUDING FESTIVAL TRACKING SHEETS

**\*to note: We consider submissions that are >60 mins to be feature films and submissions that are <60 minutes to be short films\***

# DOC FESTIVAL CONCIERGE

BASIC	STANDARD	PREMIUM
SHORT: \$150 FEATURE: \$250	SHORT: \$350 FEATURE: \$500	SHORT: \$500 FEATURE: \$750
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• 30-min phone/online consultation</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• 45-min phone/online consultation</li><li>• 3 30-min follow-up sessions via phone/online meeting</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• 60-min in-person/phone/online consultation</li><li>• Extended market support, including sales + distribution coaching and introductions</li><li>• 6 30-min follow-up sessions via phone/online meeting</li></ul>

**HOW TO BOOK:** Submit your project on our Festival Concierge FilmFreeway account and DOC will facilitate the booking with your Consultant! Follow the steps below:

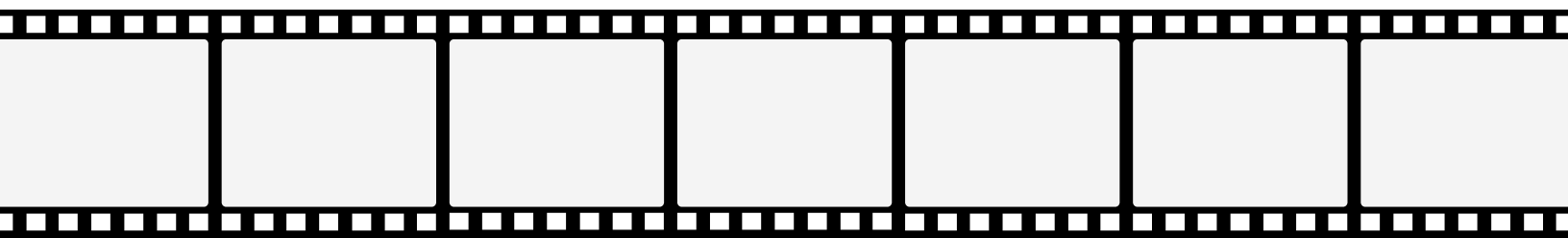


[Click here to read more about the Festival Concierge and the Festival Consultants!](#)



# DOC History

In 1983, a small group of documentary filmmakers came together to discuss the state of documentary production in Canada. These artists and business people quickly saw the value of bringing all professional documentarians together into one group: one that would publicly celebrate documentary, advocate on behalf of documentary filmmakers and strengthen the documentary community across the country. As the documentary genre gained in popularity, independent chapters formed in other key municipalities, which today includes chapters in Ontario, Quebec, British Columbia, Manitoba, Alberta, and the Atlantic Provinces. Originally incorporated as the Canadian Independent Film Caucus in 1990, the association has been built on the efforts of many artists who have tirelessly volunteered their time and shared their passion to shape the vibrant documentary community we have today. Known as the Documentary Organization of Canada (DOC) since 2007, DOC is a bilingual, national professional arts organization and Canada's only professional association exclusively serving independent documentary makers. Led by a dedicated group of documentarians who serve as volunteer board of directors and a fluently bilingual core staff, the organization now represents approximately 750 documentary creators from across the country through six regional chapters.




## What does DOC do?

DOC works to strengthen the documentary industry by conducting vital research and engaging policymakers through advocacy. DOC provides professional development and networking opportunities to advance and support documentarians at every stage of their careers. DOC offers services, such as Festival Concierge, and benefits that help members reduce their business costs. DOC provides timely and essential research and information via webinars, publications, and newsletters, and connects its members across the country by hosting the vital DOC-discussion online community.



# Milestones



The CIFIC (Canadian Independent Film Caucus) was founded in Toronto in 1983 and advocated successfully for the creation of the CFDC's (now Telefilm) documentary broadcast envelope.

In 1990, the CIFIC launched POV Magazine, Canada's premiere and longest running magazine covering documentary culture.

In 1992, the CIFIC was instrumental in bringing new documentary strands to public airwaves, including CBC's Witness and The Passionate Eye.

In 1994, the CIFIC founded Hot Docs – now North America's biggest documentary-focused film festival.

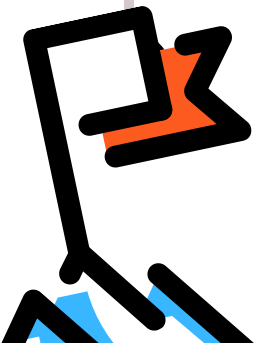
In 2003, the CIFIC was renamed DOC.

In 2004, DOC Quebec co-founded the RIDM Forum, the industry component of North America's largest francophone documentary festival.

In 2010, DOC successfully advocated for the creation of the Canada Media Fund's English POV Program.

In 2013, the Ontario Chapter launched the DOC Institute, a dedicated hub providing professional development activities for non-fiction professionals.

In 2019, DOC launched a two-year free membership program for Indigenous filmmakers, encouraging greater representation and equity in Canada's film industry.





# DOC Chapters

DOC is led by a volunteer board comprised of both “at-large” directors, elected by the membership, and representatives from each of the regional chapters.

DOC's six regional chapters are located across Canada. These chapters coordinate professional development workshops and networking events for their members.

## *The Voice of* **Canada's Independent Documentary Creators**

**800** Members

**6** Chapters

**40** Years of Advocacy



# Mandate

The Documentary Organization of Canada (DOC) is a member-driven, not-for-profit, National Arts Service Organization, with charitable status. Its mandate is to:

- Support, promote and develop the art form of documentary creation;
- Advocate on behalf of its members to foster an environment conducive to documentary production; and
- Strengthen the sector within the broader screen industry.

# Mission

The Documentary Organization of Canada (DOC) is the collective voice of Canada's independent documentary creators. DOC:

- Promotes Canadian documentary creators, documentary culture and the documentary community;
- Champions the creative, social and cultural contributions of documentary, including its role in fostering civic engagement and a democratic society;
- Advances the rights of documentary creators from historically marginalized, underrepresented and misrepresented groups in Canada to hold agency in storytelling and production;
- Advocates for a thriving ecosystem for the production and distribution of documentaries across all platforms;
- Advocates for equitable access to resources, fair compensation and safer spaces for all documentary creators;
- Promotes a culture of documentary making based on honest creative exploration, inventiveness, respect, reciprocity, and responsible and ethical documentary practices;
- Connects and supports diverse documentary creators across Canada; and
- Fosters connections with documentarians and stakeholder organizations internationally.

# Vision

Documentary is widely recognized as an essential part of Canada's social fabric, fostering understanding and activating democratic discourse and social action. Canada's thriving community of independent documentary creators benefits from a sustainable financing ecosystem, and distribution networks that bring Canadian documentaries to communities big and small, nationally and internationally. Documentary production is rooted in a culture that values creative exploration, diversity of voice and expression, and deeply ethical practices anchored in respect, reciprocity and collaboration. Canada's history of documentary storytelling is known and celebrated by society while new generations of creators are supported to constantly reimagine the genre.





# Memberships

## DOC Membership Categories

All DOC members receive the same membership benefits. However, depending on your career experience or location, you may qualify for a discounted membership.

For all paid memberships in this package: You are eligible for a 25 percent discount on your renewal if you refer a new member to the organization.

### DOC Pro Remote Membership

Receive all the benefits of a DOC Pro Membership, with a special discount for creators living outside of the greater Vancouver, Toronto or Montreal areas.

Join / Renew \$169.50 inclusive of HST (13%)

### DOC Pro Membership

Standard DOC Membership for professional documentary creators living in Vancouver, Toronto, or Montreal.

Join / Renew \$254.25 inclusive of HST (13%)

### DOC Organizational Membership

Ideal if you are operating a small film production company or documentary-related NFP of which multiple employees would benefit from membership. One fee will cover up to eight employees with full membership benefits. Join / Renew \$960.50 inclusive of HST (13%)

### DOC ARRQ/AMPIA Membership

Receive all the benefits of a DOC Pro Membership with a discount if you are currently a member of Association des réalisateurs et réalisatrices du Québec or Alberta Media Production Industries Association. Join / Renew \$150.29 inclusive of HST (13%)

### DOC Student Membership

Discounted DOC Pro Membership for post-secondary students

Join / Renew \$67.80 inclusive of HST (13%)

### Free DOC Membership for all Canadian Indigenous - First Nation, Métis and Inuit - Filmmakers

In alignment with the values and mission of the Truth and Reconciliation Commission of Canada (TRC), the Documentary Organization of Canada (DOC) is currently offering a free two-year membership to Canadian Indigenous documentary professionals.

[Join Now](#)

### DOC Start-Up Membership

Emerging documentary makers who have:

- 1) graduated from post-secondary education in the past 2 years;
- 2) Have incorporated their production companies within two years of joining DOC;
- 3) Are directing or producing their first non-student (regardless of length)

Start-up is only for those without a producer or director credit in a feature length documentary. Join / Renew \$141.25 inclusive of HST (13%)



# Memberships

## DOC Membership Categories

**\*Membership fees will also be charged an applicable regional tax\***

### DOC PRO

#### **\$225 Annual Fee**

For members residing in Montreal, Toronto and Vancouver.

### DOC PRO REMOTE

#### **\$150 Annual Fee**

For members residing 50km or more outside of Montreal, Toronto, and Vancouver.

### DOC PRODUCTION COMPANY

#### **\$850 Annual Fee**

Includes 5 memberships from the same company.

### STUDENT MEMBERSHIP

#### **\$65 Annual Fee**

Receive all the benefits of a DOC Pro Membership with a discount if you are currently enrolled in a post-secondary institution.

### MEMBERS WHO IDENTIFY AS BLACK, INDIGENOUS AND / OR PEOPLE OF COLOUR

**First 2 years are free.**

### DOC ARRQ/AMPIA Membership

Receive all the benefits of a DOC Pro Membership with a discount if you are currently a member of Association des réalisateurs et réalisatrices du Québec or Alberta Media Production Industries Association. Join / Renew \$150.29

### DOC EMERITUS

#### **\$65 Annual Fee**

Paying DOC members for 10 years who are no longer actively creating documentaries. This reduced rate does not include any professional benefits or production related discounts. It does include all other DOC Member benefits, including access to the List-Serv.

To remain active in the DOC community, contact the DOC membership coordinator [info@docorg.ca](mailto:info@docorg.ca)

### DOC START-UP

#### **\$125 Annual Fee**

Emerging documentary makers who have:  
1) graduated from post-secondary education in the past 2 years and/or  
2) have incorporated their production companies within two years of joining DOC and/or  
3) are directing or producing their first non-student (regardless of length) are eligible for this category.

Please note that you do not qualify as a start-up if you have a producer or director credit in a feature length documentary film.

### DOC SUPPORTER

#### **Tax Deductable**

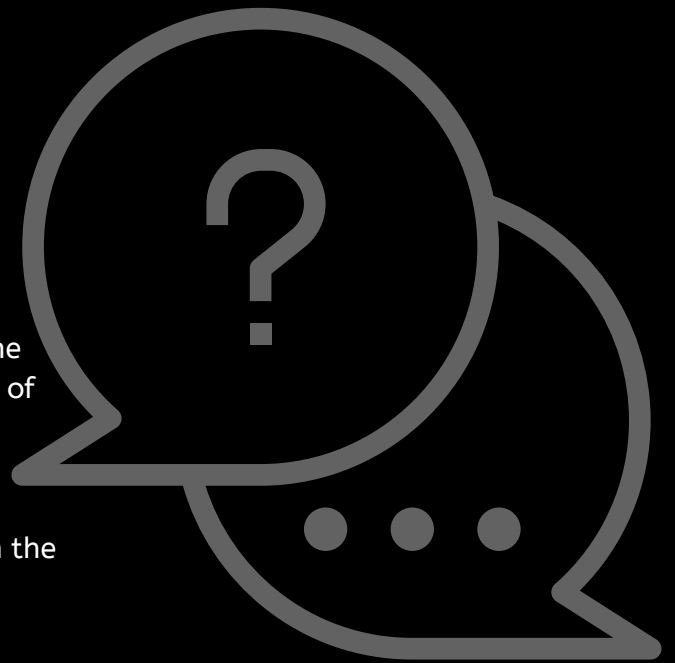
Those who want to support DOC's mandate and activities on a yearly basis. Ideal for broadcasters, public producers, distributors, funding agencies, businesses. Up to 8 DOC memberships included. Suggested Donation: \$1,500.

For Individual supporters of DOC, Suggested Donation: \$250 minimum. Supporter benefits include all member benefits such as regular e-blasts, newsletters and invites to all DOC events.

A charitable receipt will be issued if requested.

This category does not include access to member list-serve and production benefits (list them) and does not qualify as a voting membership.

# Membership FAQ.



## Q: What's a Start-Up? How do I know if I qualify?

**A:** New members to DOC, who qualify, can register under the "Start-Up" category, which is limited to your first two years of membership.

If any of the following applies to you, you qualify!

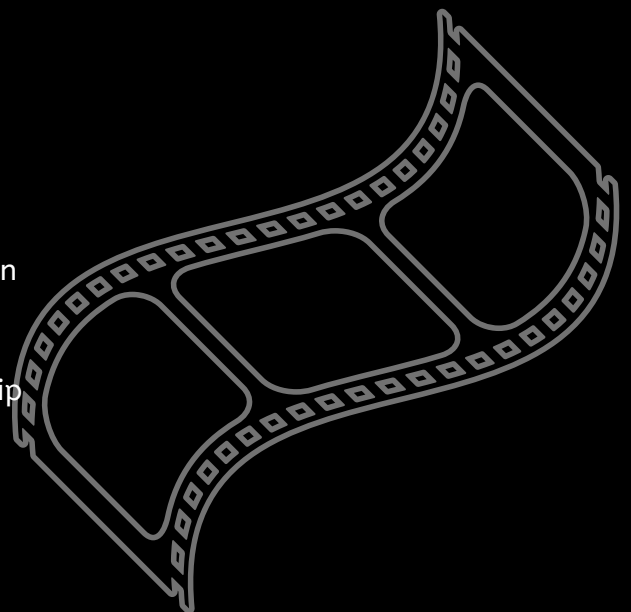
- ☐ You've incorporated your first production company within the last two years
- ☐ You've graduated within the last two years
- ☐ You're directing or producing your first non-student production (regardless of length)

## Q: Do Doc Pro, Start-Up, and Student Members have access to the same member benefits?

**A:** Yes, all DOC members have access to all of DOC's great member benefits, including access to our highly informative member discussion board, discounts on insurance, Indiegogo crowdfunding, POV Magazine, Festival Concierge, etc.

## Q: What's an ARRQ / AMPIA member?

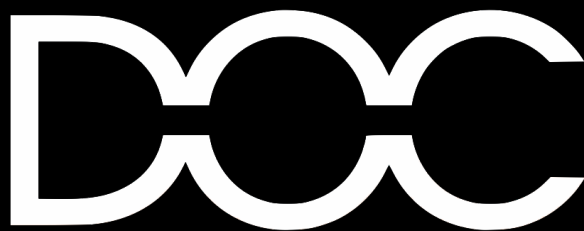
**A:** ARRQ or the Association des réalisateurs et réalisatrices du Québec and AMPIA or the Alberta Media Production Industries Association are professional media producer organizations based in Québec and Alberta with which DOC has reciprocal membership agreements. Individuals who are members of one of these organizations as well as DOC receive discounts on their membership fees. Proof of ARRQ or AMPIA membership is required.







**Thanks for joining! We hope you  
enjoy your Membership with us.**



DOCUMENTARY ORGANIZATION OF CANADA  
DOCUMENTARISTES DU CANADA