



**Writers Guild
of Canada**

Jim Burt Screenwriting Prize 2025 Call for Entries

The Writers Guild of Canada is pleased to announce the call for entries for the Jim Burt Screenwriting Prize. The prize was created to continue the work of the late Jim Burt to recognize his lifelong commitment to promoting Canadian writing.

In a 20-year career at the CBC, Jim's championing of Canadian writers and their stories resulted in the production of some 75 longform dramas including *Big Bear*, *The Boys of St. Vincent*, *Little Criminals* and *Million Dollar Babies*. These productions met with national and international acclaim and embodied excellence in Canadian stories.

Upon Jim's death in 1999, his family requested that any donations made in his memory be placed in a fund that would honour what Jim fought for and personified – excellence in Canadian longform dramatic writing. With the generous support of the CBC, CTV, and Alliance Atlantis, the Writers Guild of Canada was pleased to hold the inaugural competition in 2002.

The winning screenplay is determined by a jury, which selects the best unproduced longform script of the quality Jim Burt championed.

The winner, announced at the WGC Screenwriting Awards on April 24, 2023, will be presented with a total prize worth \$5,000. The winner will receive a \$3,000 cash prize, and \$2,000 will be allotted for an experienced story editor approved by the jury in order to further develop the winner's script.

DEADLINE: TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 12, 2024 at 5:00 P.M. ET

To be eligible, screenplay entries must:

- Be unproduced longform, feature-length screenplays
- Be an original work by the applicant and not based, in whole or part, on another author's work
- Not be under option prior to, or during, the competition

To be eligible, writers must:

- Be a Canadian citizen, resident in Canada
- Possess a writing credit on a produced drama (including shorts) or web series

The Jim Burt Screenwriting Prize is open to all members of the Writers Guild of Canada, as well as non-members who meet the above criteria.

Only ONE entry per writer/team will be accepted.

The entrant acknowledges and agrees that the jury may, based on the merit of the submissions, at its sole discretion, deem that no award be presented.



Jim Burt Screenwriting Prize 2025 - Entry Form

ENTRY INFORMATION

Screenplay Title:					
Name of Writer(s):					
Address:					
City:		Province:		Postal Code:	
Telephone (day):		Email:			

ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA (please provide details)

I possess a writing credit on a produced drama (including shorts) or webseries project.

Title:					
Producer:					
Broadcast/Release Date: <i>Verification may be requested.</i>					

Applicant warrants: that the material submitted is original and that they are the sole author. This work does not infringe any copyright, or contain any unlawful or libelous matter. The material submitted is not based, in whole or in part, on another author's work. It has never been produced and has not been optioned or under contract. The information provided by the Applicant is true. Applicant agrees to accept the decision of the judges of this competition.

Signature:		Date:	
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ATTACHED (please check off)

- Completed and signed application form. If there is more than one writer, the form and release **MUST** be signed by all writers. Also, all writers should be copied on the emailed application.
- A pdf copy of feature-length screenplay. Cover page should display title only – name and address must be removed.
- Separate one (1) page (or less) summary of your screenplay.

DEADLINE: TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 12, 2024 by 5:00 P.M. ET

Entries accepted
electronically only to

n.vanvoorst@wgc.ca with the subject line:
Jim Burt Screenwriting Prize Submission