



Contract Town Hall
Q & A Summary

Aug 26, 2021

Specific Questions about the Proposed Changes to the Contracts:

Question: Will theatres share show reports for all productions, or just for premiere productions?

Answer: The conversations held during the negotiations were within the context of discussions about premiere contracts, but it shouldn't be difficult for theatres to share show reports from all productions, given that both PACT and PGC agreed to the principal of ensuring playwrights are included in the sharing of production reports, and especially with the creation of a new Designated Theatre Rep for Playwrights to deal with such requests. Please note that it is entirely possible that some information may be redacted in the reports if it is personal and inappropriate to share with a third party.

Question: Does "in writing" also mean email?

Answer: Yes, email notifications have become a standard and acceptable practice.

Question: How is a Commission Contract for a team of co-creators to be structured and administered? Will both or all names be on the front page?

Answer: Yes. Most of the time, a production contract with co-creators will be completed in the same manner as a contract for a single playwright, only with all of the names listed on the first page. In some instances, when the other co-creators aren't PGC members, they might end up on a different contract.

Question/Discussion with Regard to Digital Contracts & Future Negotiations:

Member Points:

- One of PGC's member reported that they only had one [PACT] theatre unwilling to sign the PGC Digital Contract. They noted that all other discussions and negotiations have been very good.
- It may be that with time, the Writers Guild of Canada (WGC) will acknowledge that it has no interest in overseeing the small [not lucrative] contracts of PGC members, especially those who are not WGC members, so this may all blow over.

PGC Points:

- PACT sent out a notice telling their members that the Digital is not PGC's jurisdiction, so playwrights may experience some pushback when trying to use our Digital Contracts.
- PGC has hired legal counsel to provide advice and guidance on an approach to this issue.
- While PGC is not interested in aggressive disputes with the WGC, we must clarify the jurisdiction for the purposes of our members being able to negotiate digital agreements with PACT.
- Digital Contract negotiations are paused until that clarity and jurisdiction are defined.