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IATSE 891 Ratifies Second Milestone Agreement for Film Work in the Okanagan

VANCOUVER, BC – On the heels of ratifying the first collective agreement between IATSE 891 and Champlain Media West (CMW), another win for film workers has been achieved with the ratification of a term agreement with Kelowna Film Partners (KFP) in the Okanagan region. This marks the second multi-year agreement that Local 891 has signed with an individual production company outside the BC Council of Film Unions, as their efforts continue in advancing and securing unionized domestic motion picture work.

"The protections that strong collective bargaining agreements will bring to motion picture workers in this region not only establishes floor wages but ensures year over year increases, additional monetary compensation and improved working conditions including vital union representation. With a 98.2% ratification in favour of this deal, the workers have spoken and after several months of negotiations, we have a fair first-time contract," said lead negotiator and Business Representative for IATSE 891, Crystal Braunwarth.

IATSE 891 President Mitch Davies noted how important a role the workers play in further development of safe, unionized motion picture sets. "These workers have played an active role in their own health and safety, not only theirs, but future workers in the region. We will continue to work collaboratively with employers and members, to develop domestic production with health and safety as a top priority."

Organizing efforts have been the key to opening the doors that allow for such negotiations to happen. Lead Organizer Sano and fellow Organizer Conor Moore continue their foundation building through certifying non-union productions. Sano explained "The workers who fought side by side with us through the certification process, all the way to ratification should be celebrated and commended. They are a vital part of the process, deeply appreciated and embody the film workers movement in BC."