

THE WIFT-T CAREER TRANSITION PROGRAM A FIRST FOR SCREEN-BASED MEDIA

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Toronto, ON - Women in Film & Television – Toronto (“WIFT-T”) is thrilled to announce the launch of the inaugural **WIFT-T Career Transition Program**. The program, created by WIFT-T, is the first developed to address transitions within and outside the screen-based industry. The call for applications begins immediately, with the course starting April 13, 2009.

The **WIFT-T Career Transition Program** is for mid-to senior-level professionals coping with the technological, economic, and structural changes in the screen-based industry. The program will enhance participants’ ability to find suitable work, and facilitate their career transition within and outside film, television, and other screen-based media.

“Virtually every other industry has some sort of program that allows people to identify and enhance transferable skills. Our industry is an exception,” said Sadia Zaman, Executive Director, WIFT-T. “We felt it was crucial to address this gap at a time when so many need the help. We are grateful to Canwest for their support. However, we also hope to attract other funders to this program as the demand for WIFT-T programs is increasing at a time when funding is more and more difficult to secure.”

In an effort to support women who are in transition, WIFT-T alum Dr. Rita Shelton Deverell, is offering a bursary in her name.

“My mother left me a little bit of money, and I’m passing some of it on,” said Shelton Deverell. “She taught me that the way you get around barriers of race and gender is to increase your skills and multiply your choices. WIFT-T has assisted many women to do just that over the years, and in these very tough times I want to be part of the solution.”

Two additional bursaries are also available through the Foundation for Women in Film & Television -Toronto.

The **WIFT-T Career Transition Program** is presented in partnership with Canwest, with support from mediaINTELLIGENCE.ca.

For more information on the **WIFT-T Career Transition Program** and all bursaries, please visit www.wift.com.

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Women in Film & Television-Toronto (“WIFT-T”) is a not for profit professional organization founded in 1984. WIFT-T supports women in screen-based media (film, television and digital media) to build, advance and sustain their careers nationally and internationally. WIFT-T does this through hands-on high quality programming, mentoring, networking and industry events that recognize the talents and potential of women. WIFT-T’s mission is to enhance the skills of its members so they can become significant decision-makers at all levels of the industry. For more information, visit www.wift.com or www.canadianfilmmaker.com.

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