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(New Zealand Film Commission, n.d.)

The New Zealand Film Commission (NZFC) was established in 1978 by an Act of the New Zealand Parliament. It is defined as an autonomous Crown Entity by the Crown Entities Act 2004.

Responsibility: The NZFC has the statutory responsibility "to encourage and participate and assist in the making, promotion, distribution and exhibition of films". Financial assistance can only be provided to film projects with "significant New Zealand content" as defined in the Act; this definition includes official co-productions.

Activities: The NZFC provides loans and equity financing to New Zealand film-makers to assist in the development and production of feature films and short films. The NZFC does not itself produce films. It organizes high-profile New Zealand participation at major international film festivals and markets and is active in the sales and marketing of New Zealand film through its sales agency NZ Film. It also assists with training and professional development within the industry by partnering with other industry organisations.

Vision: "The NZFC aims for growth in the New Zealand film industry. We identify and nurture New Zealand film-making talent, help them make their first film, support them for subsequent projects and ensure that those who are successful continue to make films in New Zealand. We want New Zealand films to be seen and valued by local and international audiences." (Statement of Intent 2012 – 2015).

Key Objectives: The NZFC aims to invest in at least four feature films (including low budget), up to four low budget features (Escalator scheme) and 22 short films every year.

Annual Budget: Varies according to the availability of public funding and the return on film investments. Total budgeted income in the 2012/2013 financial year is \$16.757million. 32% of the NZFC's budgeted income comes from the Government, 63% from the Lottery Grant Board profits, and the remainder from film earnings and interest. The NZFC has budgeted to invest \$10.7million in the production and development of feature films in the 2012/2013 year. It has also committed \$1.03million for the production of short films, and \$1.45million for the promotion and marketing of features and shorts.

Board: NZFC decisions are made by a seven-member board appointed by the Minister for Arts, Culture and Heritage. Board members represent the film industry and the wider business and arts community.

Staff: A staff of 21 is headed by Chief Executive, Graeme Mason.

Production Output: In the 33 years since the NZFC was established, over 200 feature films have been made in New Zealand, more than 150 of them with NZFC finance. In the preceding 30 years, fewer than 20 feature films were made in NZ.

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New Zealand Film Commission Act 1978

(Fact sheet)

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