



175 Bloor Street East
South Tower, Suite 501
Toronto, ON M4W 3R8
ontariocreates.ca

FAQ

Who can view my location?

The database is a password-protected site, and only registered film professionals have access to residential listings.

Can Ontario Creates send a photographer to shoot my property?

Though we would like to be able to send a photographer to shoot each property, we have limited resources that prevent us from doing so. We encourage property owners to upload photos directly to the database, via our user-friendly Submit Location tool. Please note by submitting your own photos, your property generally goes live in the database much sooner.

Why do I need to upload so many photos of my location?

In order for film professionals to be able to assess whether your property fits the script, it is necessary for them to have a good idea of what it offers. Approx. 30 images usually provides good coverage for most locations.

I have more than 30 photos. What do I do?

We strongly encourage that property owners keep their upload to 30 photos, but if the property is large and more photos are required for adequate coverage, you can upload a second time. The second upload will be merged with the first.

Why do you need exterior shots if filming will take place inside?

We have no way of knowing what aspects of your home will be found interesting – it could be interiors only, it could be exteriors only, or it could be both! It's also important for a film professional to see the surrounding exterior area for logistics, for example, space for parking and equipment.



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Do I have to include photos of every single room in my house?

Please include images of all rooms in your home that would be available for filming, including ones you wouldn't think of- for ex a good-sized attic!

What happens after I upload?

Once uploaded, your file will go into a queue for processing (whereby we adjust image issues, and attach keywords for searching) on our end. Depending on the number of files in the queue, this can take 4-6 weeks.

If my house is in a small town, will you list it? How likely am I to get filming?

Though the bulk of filming does take place in the Greater Toronto Area (GTA), the Ontario Creates Film Commission promotes filming across Ontario, not just in the major urban centres. Film and television scripts are set in urban and rural locations alike, so we are equally pleased to list homes and businesses in smaller, more remote areas. If your property is unique and its look is not found anywhere else, and if it's financially and logistically feasible for the production to travel to shoot there, the likelihood that it will be selected can increase.

What should I write in the description? How can I make my property stand out in the database?

Please keep your description factual. Include special features such as vaulted ceilings and swimming pools. We may edit or reword your submitted description. Besides this, the best and most important thing you can do is ensure your photos represent your location well. Script requirements are unpredictable and dictate which properties are considered. Travel time and budget are other key considerations, as is proximity to other locations the production is using. With so many variables involved in choosing a location, whether or not yours gets chosen is really outside of your control.



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My home/business is listed in your database. Why can't I find my property in a search?

Location contacts do not have the access level required to view residential homes, private property and other interiors not open to the public. This is for security and privacy reasons.

Can I change/delete photos once they're uploaded?

No. Once photos have been uploaded, any necessary changes must be communicated to us by email. Library Staff would make the changes.

Can I delete my location from the database?

As a Property Owner, you do not have the ability to delete your location from the database. If you are moving or simply have decided you are no longer interested in listing your location, please contact Library Staff and we can update your listing.

How often can I expect my home to be used for filming?

The short answer to this is that we simply don't know. If your location fits the description within a script, and a location manager selects it by accessing our database, you will be contacted by the location manager or production company directly. We at Ontario Creates have no way of knowing how much interest, if any, a location will attract.

How much will I get paid if my home is used for a film shoot?

There is no standard rate. The rate you are offered will vary depending on a number of factors: the type of project (for ex. feature film, commercial) and its budget, the amount of space the film crew will occupy, and the scale of the home and property. Generally speaking, filming consists of *Prep day(s)*, to rearrange furniture or bring set dressing into the location; *Shoot day(s)*, when all the sequences pertaining to your location would be filmed; and *Wrap Day(s)*, when set dressing is taken out of the location and the home or



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business is cleaned up and after inspection returned to the property owners. So the rate will also vary each day your property is used- 'shoot days', for example, will pay somewhat more than prep or wrap days. The rate of compensation can either be a flat rate encompassing all *prep, shoot* and *wrap* days or can be separated by a prep and wrap fee which is generally $\frac{1}{2}$ the rate of the daily shooting fee. It will be a negotiation between you and the production company.

Will we have to move out or stay in a hotel while they're shooting in our house?

Only if the budget of the production permits, and if the crew will be occupying your home for an extended period of time. This decision is usually made mutually between the location manager and the homeowner.

How do I know if a production company is legitimate?

If you are new to renting your home out to production companies, some of the local company names may sound a little unfamiliar. That's because in addition to the studio that is financing the production (for ex. Disney, Miramax), there is always a local production company established for the duration of pre-production and production (shooting). It will usually have a name that reflects the project name, which would explain why you may have never heard of them. If at any point you wish to verify the legitimacy of a production company or location manager who has approached you, feel free to call our office for a quick reference. We work in conjunction with a majority of the projects and have a professional relationship with most local location managers.

What is the process if someone calls me?

We're glad to explain any aspect of location filming, so please don't hesitate to ask. Library staff are available during business hours (Monday thru Friday, 9am to 5pm) at 416-314-6858 or locations@ontariocreates.ca. Also upon request, we can e-mail a sample location contract that you may find useful if you are in negotiations with a production company.