



Marion Scrymgour
MINISTER FOR ARTS



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Screen Grants Advisory Panel

A Darwin man who worked on the Australian movie *Phar Lap* has been appointed to the Territory's new Screen Grants Advisory Panel.

Richard Davis' other screen credits include *The Chris Isaak Show* and *Sabrina, The Teenage Witch*.

Minister for Arts Marion Scrymgour announced the appointment of the new Panel today, which also includes NT Film Office director Penelope McDonald and Central Australian Aboriginal Media Association (CAAMA) chief executive officer Priscilla Collins.

The Screen Grants Advisory Panel has been established in response to screen industry requests for a panel that could apply specialist screen knowledge in considering applications.

Previously applications were considered by the Arts Grants Board.

"The NT film industry is producing very high class award-winning films at the moment and the NT Government is extremely proud of the Territory's film makers," Ms Scrymgour said.

"It will be the panel's responsibility to make recommendations regarding funding applications to the NT Film Office, whose role is to support, stimulate and develop the screen industry in the NT.

"The grants program fulfils an important part of that role."

Ms Scrymgour said the panel – to meet today for the first time - included three people from diverse backgrounds who have an intimate knowledge and understanding of the screen industry in many different ways.

Mr Davis said: "I am excited about our first formal meeting in Alice Springs on Friday with a major focus to go through the current round of screen grants applications.

"My primary focus will be on the quality of scripts before us because without a quality script you don't have anything."

Ms Collins has worked on numerous award-winning screen productions such as *Cold Turkey* and *For Who I am "The Bonita Mabo Story"*.

She said it was a privilege to have been selected as a member of the new panel which would work towards assisting and supporting the NT's film industry.

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