

Support gone for Cité de cinéma, Radio-Canada project on go

MONTREAL – It is unlikely, according to government sources, that the capital cost of building a *cité du cinéma* will be supported by a joint (federal/Quebec) financing agreement with the private sector as was expected during the summer of 1986.

Under the Canada-Quebec Subsidiary Agreement on Cultural Infrastructure, \$10 million had been allocated for the construction of a *cité du cinéma* in Montreal.

However, both governments have stated that they favour indirect support for such a project in Montreal and that alternate uses could be found for the \$10 million allocation.

The focus has shifted, where *cité de cinéma* is concerned, to a five-acre parcel of land located in the parking lot on the west side of Maison Radio-Canada on Dorchester Blvd.

Radio-Canada has received four proposals from the private sector in response to a call to take a lease on the property and build audio-visual facilities that will complement adjacent CBC-RC offices and studios.

Gilles Lalonde, director for policy planning in the federal department of Communications, told *Cinema Canada*, that a government decision on whether to fund the Maison Radio-Canada project directly will hinge on the content of the submissions and how far the private sector is willing to go.

"We are waiting to see what happens. Once the proposals have been evaluated, it will be determined whether direct public funding is warranted," says Lalonde.

Among the four submissions is a proposed joint venture by Canderel/SNC. Both compa-

nies are Montreal-based engineering firms.

Chateau St-Marc Inc., the Montreal-based construction firm, and Lavalin Inc., the engineering firm of which Clément Richard, former Quebec minister of Cultural Affairs, is vice-president, have each submitted proposals.

The fourth proposal belongs to a consortium formed under the name Le Centre de Production de Montréal (Dorchester) Inc. whose shareholders are Astral Bellevue Pathé, the Alexis Nihon Group, 153088 Canada Inc., Pathonic Communications Inc. and Hawco Construction Canada Ltd.

Paul-Emile Lamy, communications director of CBC-RC in Montreal, told *Cinema Canada*, that CBC-Engineering is currently carrying out a structured evaluation of the proposals and that no date has been set for a decision.

Demers' Tales take on international flavour

MONTREAL – Hot on the tail of **Bach and Broccoli**, producer Rock Demers has released yet another children's film – the fourth film in the 12 film *Tales for All* series.

Le Jeune Magicien, (**The Young Magician**), the first official Canada-Poland co-production directed by Waldemar Dziki, opened March 20 in five theatres throughout Montreal.

This tale about a young boy's uncontrollable penchant for magic is co-produced by Les Productions La Fête and Film Tor Unit (Poland).

The first three films in the *Tales for All* (family/children) series include **The Dog Who Stopped the War**, **Peanut Butter Solution** and the recent **Bach and Broccoli** which opened March 6 in English Canada. Box office gross for the original French-language version (**Bach et Bot-tine**) has exceeded the \$1.2 million mark since Nov. 1.

Recently signed film co-production agreements with Czechoslovakia (March 25) and China have paved the way for Demers to shoot episodes

of the *Tales for All* series in both countries.

Demers and director Bretislav Pojar will begin shooting **Butterfly Time** early next year.

Czechoslovakia will support half of the \$2.5 million budget with participation from Telefilm and private investors.

Butterfly Time is the story about a lonely boy whose life is changed by a magic butterfly.

Pre-production work will begin in May on **Tommy Tricker and the Stamp Traveller** to be shot in China, Montreal and Australia. The Chinese participation in this \$2 million film is an estimated 10 per cent of the budget. In exchange for domestic distribution rights the Chinese will finance the portion of the film shot in China.

No fewer than 4,000 dubbed prints of Demers' **The Dog Who Stopped the War** have been made for distribution in China. The film will open across China, June 1.



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