

### Video/DVD/Movies

1. Please ensure that whenever a videotape is used under these agreements/licences that the necessary information is reported to Audio-Ciné Film (ACF) or Criterion/Visual Education Centre (VEC) using the appropriate licence summary sheet which has been provided. Samples attached. Titles covered under these agreements can be found at [www.acf-film.com](http://www.acf-film.com) (ACF) and at [www.criterionpic.com](http://www.criterionpic.com) (Criterion/VEC).
2. Remind staff that films/videos are to be used in their classroom solely for educational purposes. All films/videos must be previewed by the teacher to determine their educational value and suitability for classroom viewing.
3. Elementary schools are strongly encouraged to limit their choice of film/videos for use in classrooms or other educational setting to film/videos considered appropriate for viewing by all ages. The Ontario Film Review Board classifies films of this nature as Family.
4. Films/videos rated suitable for family viewing and which in the judgment of the Principal, have an educational and/or spiritual value which supports the philosophy, values and purpose of our Catholic School system may be shown at the elementary level without parental consent.
5.
  - a) A film/video or part of a film/video classified Parental Guidance may be shown in elementary schools if in the opinion of the Principal it contains sufficient educational and/or spiritual values which support the philosophy, values and purpose of a Catholic School system.
  - b) When a film/video or part of a film/video classified as Parental Guidance is to be shown in the classroom, the principal must advise parents of the curriculum application, the student preparation and follow-up activities and the date(s) it will be shown.
6. No film/video classified Adult Accompaniment (AA) or Restricted (R) will be shown in elementary schools.
7.
  - a) A film/video classified Adult Accompaniment (AA) may be shown in secondary schools, if the opinion of the Principal, it contains sufficient educational and/or spiritual values which support the philosophy, values and purpose of the Catholic School System.
  - b) When a film/video or part of a film/video classified as Adult Accompaniment (AA) is to be shown in the classroom, the principal must advise parents of the curriculum application, the student preparation and follow-up activities and the date(s) it will be shown.
8. No film/video or part of a film/video classified as Restricted (R) will be shown in secondary schools.
9. The classification system used in Ontario is set out in the Ontario Theatres Act. The Ontario Film Review Board classifies and approves films publicly exhibited and distributed in the province under the authority

of the Ontario Theatres Act. A description of each classification has been included.

## Ontario Film Classification

The Ontario Film Review Board approves and classifies films exhibited and distributed in Ontario according to the classifications set out in the Theatres Act. The Board also approves all advertising associated with those films. The Theatres Act gives all licensing and enforcement responsibilities to the staff of the Theatres Section of the Ministry of Consumer and Commercial Relations.

There are 26 board members (classifiers) in Ontario appointed by the Ontario government and representing a cross section of the community. A rotating panel of three classifiers screens films and rates them according to the guidelines set out in the Theatres Act.

### Film and Video Classification System and Guidelines

Film and retail video are rated by the same classification system. However, the Ontario Film Review Board doesn't require retail video to carry a rating sticker. If you would like to know how the OFRB classified a particular movie for theatrical exhibition, you can call them at 1-800-268-6024.

The Ontario Film Review Board classifies films and videos according to the following categories: **Family/Parental Guidance/Adult Accompaniment/Restricted/Adult.**

#### Family (F)

**Appropriate for viewing by a person of any age.**

##### Guidelines

- Occasional use of words such as darn, damn, hell
- Restrained, non-graphic portrayal of: armed combat, natural disaster, accidents, or limited blood-letting
- Casual, non-sexual nudity with no close-ups
- Limited embracing, kissing (in a loving context)
- No horror
- No glorification of anti-family and anti-social values

#### Parental Guidance (PG)

**Every parent should exercise discretion in permitting a child to view.**

##### Guidelines

- Occasional use of mild expletives
- Restrained portrayal of non-graphic violence, non-prolonged blood-letting integral to plot, no close-ups
- Brief nudity in a non-sexual context
- Non-exploitive, close-up limited embracing, kissing (in a loving context)
- Comedic horror

- Not promoting anti-family, anti-social values
- Manner of treatment of these values should be considered

### **Adult Accompaniment (AA)**

**Viewing should be restricted to persons 14 years of age or older or to persons younger than 14 who are accompanied by an adult.**

#### **Guidelines**

- Coarse language – this information is recommended to appear in the film’s advertising
- Violent, prolonged, hand-to-hand combat resulting in tissue damage. Violent sports, blood-letting
- Murder, non-graphic detail
- Distance shots – full nudity, non-detailed, brief
- Causal, non close-up kissing, petting, fondling, implied sexual activity
- Brief, non-prolonged horror
- Film should not encourage and/or glamourize alcohol, drug use or violence
- Subject matter of an extreme nature with a social or documentary significance could be considered for inclusion in this classification

### **Restricted (R)**

**Viewing restricted to persons 18 years of age or older.**

#### **Guidelines**

- No restriction on amount or type of coarse language used
- Graphic portrayals of violence, torture, abuse horror, extreme blood-letting, sexual violence, integral to the plot
- Full frontal nudity
- Simulated sexual activity
- Graphic horror
- May include extreme psychological impact

**\* Note: Adult Sex Films and Videos automatically carry a Restricted classification**

### **Warning Labels**

**To help viewers make informed choices about films and videos, the Ontario Film Review Board may issue short information pieces, such as “not recommended for children,” “coarse language,” “violence,” which must appear in the film’s advertisements.**