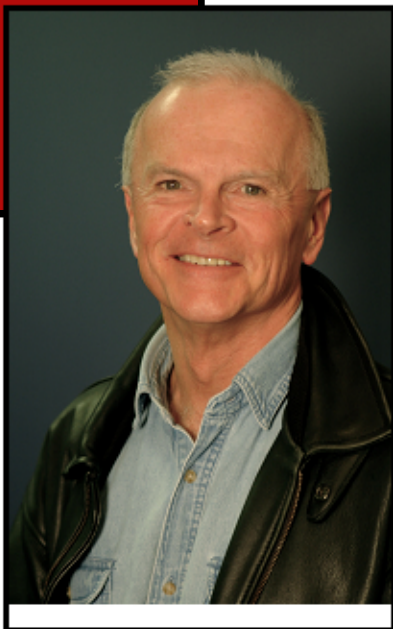




**WOMEN IN FILM
FESTIVAL**



AL PARSONS

Al Parsons has worked closely with many of our members, both through launch and promotion of Vancouver productions and generously offering advice to those seeking ‘another’ perspective on their productions, or career in general. His door has always been open to our members. Al has been described as devoted, a mentor, a great friend, encouraging, supportive, “the nicest” and “the best kind” by members of our women in film and television community.

Al graduated high school in Quebec before attending Acadia University in Nova Scotia and Ryerson University in Toronto. While at Ryerson, and after graduation, Al worked in independent video production in Toronto, and broadcasting, including CITY TV in Toronto and CFVO (French-language) TV in Ottawa. Following two years of coordinating and promoting A/V within the Eastern Ontario Public Library System, Al joined the NFB in Ottawa, where he worked for seven+ years, before relocating to Vancouver with his wife, Lesley. In his 32 years with the National Film Board of Canada in film distribution, marketing, advertising, publicity, as well as more recently in sales management, Al has consistently met and surpassed the NFB’s revenue goals (and previous year’s results). Al has been recognized for his “superior” accomplishments by the NFB on several occasions.

For eight consecutive years since 2001, Al has been a valued member of the steering committee for Fast Forward, the largest educational marketplace staged annually within Canada. He has served annually on the fundraising committee for Odd Squad Productions, the producers of Through a Blue Lens, a documentary about drug-addicted life on Vancouver’s downtown eastside. Al and Lesley have one daughter, Kim, and a son, Chris. Al retired from the NFB’s Pacific and Yukon Studio in December, following two and a half decades in the production and launch of the Board’s releases here on the west coast.