

8 October 2024

Kasandra Hart-Kaumoana

By email: [fyi-request-28384-eed146e8@requests.fyi.org.nz](mailto:fyi-request-28384-eed146e8@requests.fyi.org.nz)

Dear Kasandra,

**13 SEPTEMBER 2024: OFFICIAL INFORMATION ACT REQUEST**

In your email dated 13 September 2024 you requested information under the Official Information Act 1982 (OIA) regarding the short film *Help, I'm Alien Pregnant* (2024), directed by Sean Wallace and Jordan Mark Windsor and featuring actors Hannah Lynch, Tandi Wright, and Arlo Gibson.

Responses to your specific questions are set out below.

1. *A breakdown of the total budget allocated for the production of this film, including pre-production, production, and post-production costs.*

This information is withheld in full under section 9(2)(b)(ii) of the OIA: to protect information where the making available of the information would be likely unreasonably to prejudice the commercial position of the person who supplied or who is the subject of the information.

2. *A detailed list of all funding sources for the film, including grants, loans, and any other forms of financial support provided by the New Zealand Film Commission (NZFC) or other public entities.*

In the 2021/22 financial year, the project received \$100,000 of New Zealand Film Commission (NZFC) funding via the Catalyst Short Film Fund. Please note the project was called *Doc, I'm Alien Pregnant* when it applied for Catalyst funding. The name was changed to *Help, I'm Alien Pregnant* shortly after receiving NZFC funding.

All past NZFC funding decisions can be found on the NZFC website here: [Past Funding Decisions \(nzfilm.co.nz\)](https://www.nzfilm.co.nz/past-funding-decisions)

The NZFC does not hold any information regarding financial support from other public entities.

3. *Information on any other financial or in-kind support provided by the NZFC to the production (such as distribution or marketing assistance).*



No other financial support was provided by the NZFC to the short film.

4. *Copies of any relevant contracts, agreements, or correspondence between the NZFC and the filmmakers concerning the funding or financial support for this project.*

*Please include any additional details related to conditions or expectations tied to the financial support provided, if applicable.*

Contracts and agreements have been withheld in full under section 9(2)(b)(ii) of the OIA.

Correspondence that falls within scope of your request is at **Appendix 1**. Information has been redacted where the documents or correspondence contain information outside the scope of the request or one of the withholding grounds under the OIA applies, in which case the specific ground is noted by the redaction.

Some correspondence has been withheld in full under section 9(2)(b)(ii) of the OIA.

We will be publishing this letter (with your personal information removed) and **Appendix 1** on the NZFC website.

Please be aware that you have the right, by way of complaint to an Ombudsman under section 28(3) of the OIA to seek an investigation and review of our response.

Yours sincerely

*Tayla Hancock*

Tayla Hancock  
**Senior Advisor, Policy and Performance**  
**New Zealand Film Commission**





16 December 2021

Alix Whittaker

s 9(2)(a)

By email: s 9(2)(a)

**CATALYST HE KAUAHI FUND**

Kia ora Alix

The Catalyst He Kauahi panels met between the 24th November to 14th December to assess your proposal for **Doc, I'm Alien Pregnant**. The panels were made up of a mix of external readers/assessors and staff from the New Zealand Film Commission. Your proposal was fully discussed and assessed along with all the submitted supporting material. The panel were very positive about this proposal.

The funding panel made up of the CEO, Development and Production Executive, Head of Marketing, Pou Whakahaere and Head of Talent Development agreed to offer a total grant of \$100,000 NZD which includes \$90,000 towards the short film, and \$10,000 towards the development of the feature concept, to be allocated through Catalyst He Kauahi to this proposal.

**Please accept this offer and we will be in touch with you to arrange a funding agreement/contract.**

As a condition of this funding offer it is embargoed until the NZFC publicly announce it on the 20th December 2021. We thank you for keeping this information strictly confidential until this time.

Congratulations once again!

Ngā mihi nui,

Dale Corlett  
Head of Talent Development, New Zealand Film Commission

Released under the Official Information Act 1982



Re: I'm Alien Pregnant

From Alix Whittaker s 9(2)(a)  
Date Sun 30/01/2022 5:38 PM  
To Prashanth Guna <prashanth.guna@nzfilm.co.nz>  
Cc Morgan Leigh Stewart s 9(2)(a); Ilai Amara s 9(2)(a); Dale Corlett <dale.corlett@nzfilm.co.nz>

Kia ora Prashanth,

Can you please let us know when we might be able to have a meeting with Dale within the next week or two to receive any feedback from the assessors that might be useful to us in these final stages of script development?

If you could let us know a few options, we'll check them against all of our diaries and come back to you ASAP to lock one in.

Thank you!  
xx

On 27/01/2022, at 10:29 AM, Dale Corlett <[dale.corlett@nzfilm.co.nz](mailto:dale.corlett@nzfilm.co.nz)> wrote:

Kia ora Alix,  
Thanks for the message and update, that's great to hear. In terms of the contract, I will meet with the team this week to get a sense of the timeline for this, as you can imagine we have a lot of projects at various stages so we will need manage the workload of the various people involved in this process. Once I get a clearer idea, I will arrange for someone to get back to you and your team with when this is likely to happen. It would also be a good for us to arrange a time to meet to have a chat more about the project - for us to give you any feedback from the assessors that might be useful for you and your team moving forward. If you want to set up a time in the next week or two through Prashanth (cc'd on this message) that would be great.

Hope you and the family are safe and well.

Best

Kia kaha, Kia haumaru te noho.

Ngā mihi,  
Dale

*As part of my personal te reo journey I am currently reading Hemi Kelly's A Māori phrase a day book.*

Māori phrase of the day today is – Kātahi anō ka tō te rā! It's still early !

[<image006.jpg>](#) Dale Corlett | Head of Talent Development (He / Him)

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s 9(2)(a)

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<image005.jpg>

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**From:** Alix Whittaker s 9(2)(a)  
**Sent:** Wednesday, 26 January 2022 11:25 p.m.  
**To:** Dale Corlett <[dale.corlett@nzfilm.co.nz](mailto:dale.corlett@nzfilm.co.nz)>  
**Cc:** Morgan Leigh Stewart s 9(2)(a); Ilai Amar s 9(2)(a)  
**Subject:** I'm Alien Pregnant

Kia ora Dale,

We've begun auditions for 'I'm Alien Pregnant', which is the new title we're thinking about (basically dropped the 'Doc,' up front).

s 9(2)(b)(ii)

We're meeting with our sculpture and art and make up departments soon, to get all the rigs and prosthetics etc being made - so that we're ready to shoot by April at earliest, from there the date will be based on actor availability, and HOD availability.

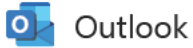
I appreciate it's the start of the year, and you're crazy busy - but I wonder if I may pester you gently for our Catalyst Contract, and the first draw down, so that we can keep the ball rolling on this one.

Thank you!

xx

Alix

s 9(2)(a)



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## I'm Alien Pregnant


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**From** Alix Whittaker <s 9(2)(a)>

**Date** Fri 11/02/2022 9:06 AM

**To** Dale Corlett <dale.corlett@nzfilm.co.nz>; Jude McLaren <jude.mclaren@nzfilm.co.nz>

**Cc** Morgan Leigh Stewart <s 9(2)(a)>; Ilai Amar <s 9(2)(a)>; Jordan Windsor <s 9(2)(a)>; Sean Wallace <s 9(2)(a)>

 1 attachments (58 KB)

1. SCREENPLAY Doc, I'm Alien Pregnant14.pdf;

Mōrena Dale and Jude,

Really looking forward to chatting to you at 11am this morning.

Please find attached the latest draft of our short film. I realise you probably won't have time to read it in the next few hours - but just in case you do, here it is.

All the best,  
Alix

Released under the Official Information Act 1982



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**Re: 'I'm Alien Pregnant' updates**

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**From** Dale Corlett <dale.corlett@nzfilm.co.nz>

**Date** Fri 22/04/2022 11:42 AM

**To** Alix Whittaker s 9(2)(a) Jude McLaren <jude.mclaren@nzfilm.co.nz>

**Cc** Morgan Leigh Stewart s 9(2)(a); Ilai Amar s 9(2)(a)

Thanks for the update Alix - that's great. I will leave Jude to revert back with anything else we might need. Sounds like things are moving along well.

Thanks again

Dale

Get [Outlook for iOS](#)

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**From:** Alix Whittaker s 9(2)(a)

**Sent:** Friday, April 22, 2022 10:06:04 AM

**To:** Dale Corlett <dale.corlett@nzfilm.co.nz>; Jude McLaren <jude.mclaren@nzfilm.co.nz>

**Cc:** Morgan Leigh Stewart s 9(2)(a); Ilai Amar s 9(2)(a)

**Subject:** 'I'm Alien Pregnant' updates

Kia ora Dale and Jude,

Just wanted to send you a brief update to let you know that things are ticking along well with our film.

We have confirmed our cast this week, here's the line up;

Mary - Hannah Lynch

Boo - Arlo Gibson

Dr Bronwyn - Tandi Wright

Amelia - Amelia Reynolds

Sustani - Angella Dravid

And here are the HOD's we have on board right now...

Dop - Bayley Broome-Peake

Production Designer - Lisa Dunn

Intimacy Co-Ordinator - Tandi Wright

1st AD - Natalya von Tonder

Morgan and I both have separate jobs in production June - July, and Sean is overseas July 26th - September 15th. So right now we're looking at the following production schedule...

**LATE APRIL/ EARLY MAY (ASAP)**

- in person meet-up with the whole cast so that we can all say hi to each other and have a read through

**APRIL -> END OF AUGUST**

- prosthetics/puppetry building (do we need to do any fittings with cast? if so who, and how many)
- location scouting
- \*\* 26th July Sean goes to Europe

**SEPTEMBER (pre production)**

- \*\* 8th September Sean comes back from Europe
- Location Recces, Rehearsals & Costume Fittings between **12th - 23rd September**
- Shoot **26th - 30th September**

We will have the deliverables for the first drawdown for the short film, and the feature film through to you over the next few weeks.

All the best,  
Alix, Morgan, and Ilai

Released under the Official Information Act 1982





**FW: Help, I'm Alien Pregnant - amendments & questions regards uploaded docs draw down 2**

**From** Prashanth Guna <prashanth.guna@nzfilm.co.nz>  
**Date** Thu 22/09/2022 10:21 AM  
**To** Dale Corlett <dale.corlett@nzfilm.co.nz>

**Correspondence between Jude and Alix**

**Ngā mihi & Warm regards,**  
Prashanth (Shan)

~Naku te rourou nau te rourou ka ora ai te iwi~  
(with your basket and my basket, the people will live)

To make sure that we're inclusive and accessible to all, please let us know if you require any adjustments or assistance if you're coming to see us.

Click on the image below to learn more about Diversity and Inclusion at Te Tumu Whakaata Taonga | New Zealand Film Commission.



Illustrations: Kavita Singh (@vita\_creative)

Prashanth Gunasekaran (Shan) | Talent Development Coordinator  
 New Zealand Film Commission | Te Tumu Whakaata Taonga  
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 New Zealand FILM COMMISSION  
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 W: [https://www.imdb.com/name/nm6903400/?ref=nr\\_sr\\_srg\\_0](https://www.imdb.com/name/nm6903400/?ref=nr_sr_srg_0)  
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**From:** Alix Whittaker s 9(2)(a)  
**Sent:** Sunday, 18 September 2022 10:16 a.m.  
**To:** Jude McLaren <jude.mclaren@nzfilm.co.nz>  
**Cc:** Prashanth Guna <prashanth.guna@nzfilm.co.nz>; Ilai Amar s 9(2)(a) Morgan Leigh Stewart <s 9(2)(a)>  
**Subject:** Re: Help, I'm Alien Pregnant - amendments & questions regards uploaded docs draw down 2

Kia ora Jude,

s 9(2)(b)(ii)

[Redacted]

[Redacted]

[Redacted]

[Redacted]

Fingers crossed Dale can make it up for a set visit :)

xx  
Alix

On 16/09/2022, at 7:09 PM, Jude McLaren <[jude.mclaren@nzfilm.co.nz](mailto:jude.mclaren@nzfilm.co.nz)> wrote:

Kia ora Alix,

Thanks for the invitation – s 9(2)(a)

[Redacted]

s 9(2)(b)(ii)

[Redacted]

Ngā mihi nui,

<image005.jpg> Jude McLaren | Talent Pathways Manager (she/her)

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s 9(2)(a)

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**From:** Alix Whittaker s 9(2)(a)

**Sent:** Friday, 16 September 2022 5:40 p.m.

**To:** Jude McLaren <[jude.mclaren@nzfilm.co.nz](mailto:jude.mclaren@nzfilm.co.nz)>; Dale Corlett <[dale.corlett@nzfilm.co.nz](mailto:dale.corlett@nzfilm.co.nz)>

**Cc:** Morgan Leigh Stewart s 9(2)(a) Ilai Amar s 9(2)(a)

**Subject:** Help, I'm Alien Pregnant

Kia ora Jude and Dale,

Just a quick end-of-week email to confirm that we are shooting *Help, I'm Alien Pregnant* 26th-30th September 2022. If either of you happen to be in Auckland - we would love to invite you to visit our set. It will be so much fun! And we'd love to host you!

I have just now submitted the request for the second drawdown. Please find attached the latest script and cast and crew list in this email for you both. We are thrilled with the cast and crew we've assembled for this film. We feel incredibly lucky to be working with some of the best in the business on this.

s 9(2)(b)(ii)

Hope you are both well,

Alix

s 9(2)(a)

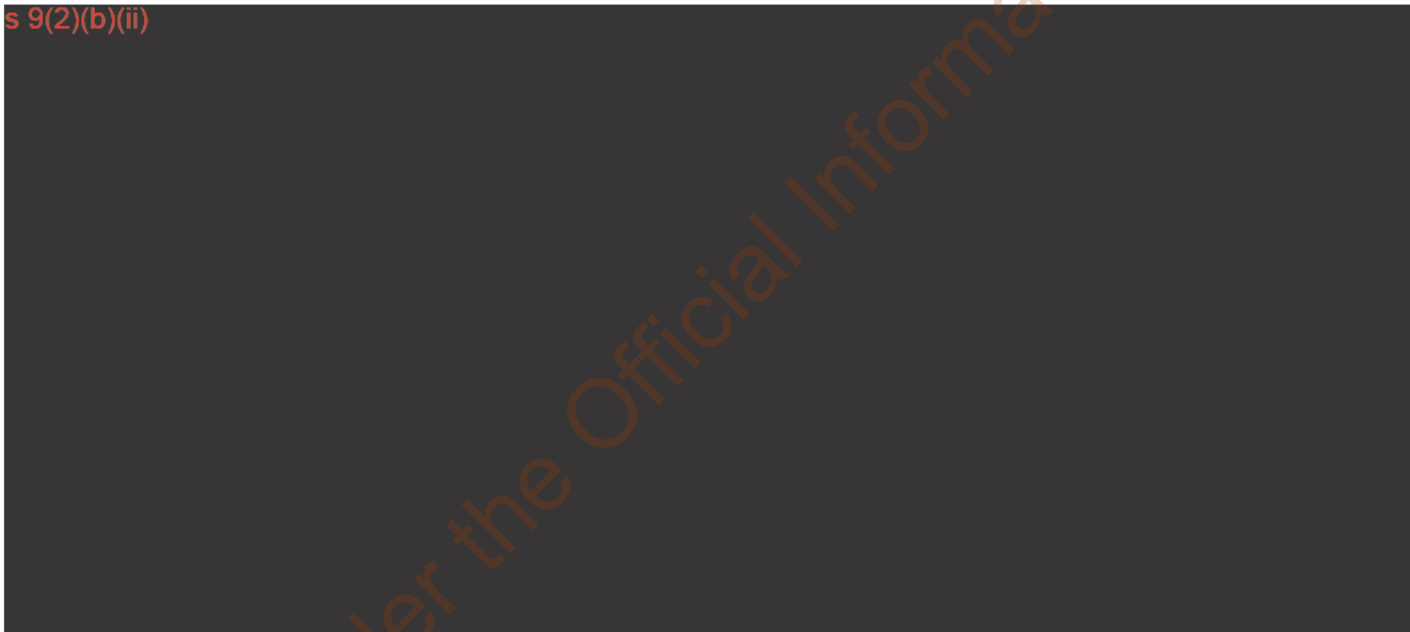


Re: Feedback Note - Help I'm Alien Pregnant 21/06.

From Ilai Amar [s 9\(2\)\(a\)](#)  
Date Tue 25/07/2023 9:35 AM  
To Jude McLaren <jude.mclaren@nzfilm.co.nz>  
Cc Jordan Windsor [s 9\(2\)\(a\)](#); Dale Corlett <dale.corlett@nzfilm.co.nz>; Alix Whittaker [s 9\(2\)\(a\)](#); Morgan Leigh Stewart [s 9\(2\)\(a\)](#); Sean Wallace [s 9\(2\)\(a\)](#)

Kia ora Jude and Dale,

Last week we finished up at Images & Sound and we're so pleased to say we have a finished film to share with you!



Here's the link to the finished short film, hot off the press;



Can't wait to get onto this next phase, we have some incredible momentum going now with the feature script which is super exciting!

Best,  
Your Alien Preggo friends!



Ilai Amar  
s 9(2)(a)  
[teopoldwave.com](http://teopoldwave.com)

On Wed, 28 Jun 2023 at 09:46, Jude McLaren <[jude.mclaren@nzfilm.co.nz](mailto:jude.mclaren@nzfilm.co.nz)> wrote:

Ha! **Cool, well use your Zoom link.** Realised ten mins ago I hadn't sent teams Link, just sent one which I'll now cancel.

Ngā mihi nui,

 Jude McLaren | Talent Pathways Manager (she/her)  
 New Zealand Film Commission | Te Tumu Whakaata Taonga  
 Level 3, 119 Ghuznee St, Wellington 6011 | PO Box 11546, Manners Street, Wellington 6142  
 s 9(2)(a)  
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**From:** Ilai Amar s 9(2)(a)  
**Sent:** Wednesday, June 28, 2023 9:40 AM  
**To:** Jude McLaren <[jude.mclaren@nzfilm.co.nz](mailto:jude.mclaren@nzfilm.co.nz)>  
**Cc:** Jordan Windsor s 9(2)(a); Dale Corlett <[dale.corlett@nzfilm.co.nz](mailto:dale.corlett@nzfilm.co.nz)>;  
 Alix Whittaker s 9(2)(a); Morgan Leigh Stewart  
 s 9(2)(a); Sean Wallace s 9(2)(a)  
**Subject:** Re: Feedback Note - Help I'm Alien Pregnant 21/06.

Hi All,

Please find a zoom link for our chat at 10.

Topic: s 9(2)(b)(ii)

Time: Jun 28, 2023 10:00 AM Auckland, Wellington

Join Zoom Meeting

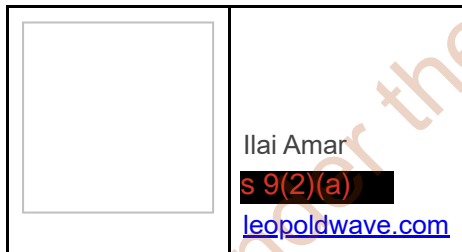
<https://zoom.us/j/98758839679?pwd=QIFKaTJkYWVJQZCtieDRJNzRqdz09>

Meeting ID: 987 5883 9679

Passcode: 916646

Best,

Ilai



On Tue, 27 Jun 2023 at 13:56, Ilai Amar s 9(2)(a) wrote:

Hi Jude,

No worries! Let's do 10am tomorrow please.

Talk then,

Ilai



On Tue, 27 Jun 2023 at 13:16, Jude McLaren <[jude.mclaren@nzfilm.co.nz](mailto:jude.mclaren@nzfilm.co.nz)> wrote:


Kia ora Ilai,

I've spoken with Dale regarding this reply, and he would like to convo about s 9(2)(b)(ii).  
Could do 10am tomo, Weds 28 or 12 noon. Or 12noon Thursday 29.

Ngā mihi nui,

 Jude McLaren | Talent Pathways Manager (she/her)  
**New Zealand Film Commission | Te Tumu Whakaata Taonga**  
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**From:** Ilai Amar s 9(2)(a)  
**Sent:** Saturday, June 24, 2023 12:46 PM  
**To:** Jude McLaren <[jude.mclaren@nzfilm.co.nz](mailto:jude.mclaren@nzfilm.co.nz)>  
**Cc:** Jordan Windsor s 9(2)(a); Dale Corlett  
 <[dale.corlett@nzfilm.co.nz](mailto:dale.corlett@nzfilm.co.nz)>; Alix Whittaker s 9(2)(a); Morgan Leigh  
 Stewart s 9(2)(a); Sean Wallace s 9(2)(a)  
**Subject:** Re: Feedback Note - Help I'm Alien Pregnant 21/06.

Kia ora Jude, Dale,

s 9(2)(b)(ii)

- we can jump on a call to discuss this further verbally.. the producers  
 and thunderlips are happy to do this.

Best,

Ilai

	Ilai Amar <span style="background-color: black; color: red;">s 9(2)(a)</span> <a href="http://leopoldwave.com">leopoldwave.com</a>
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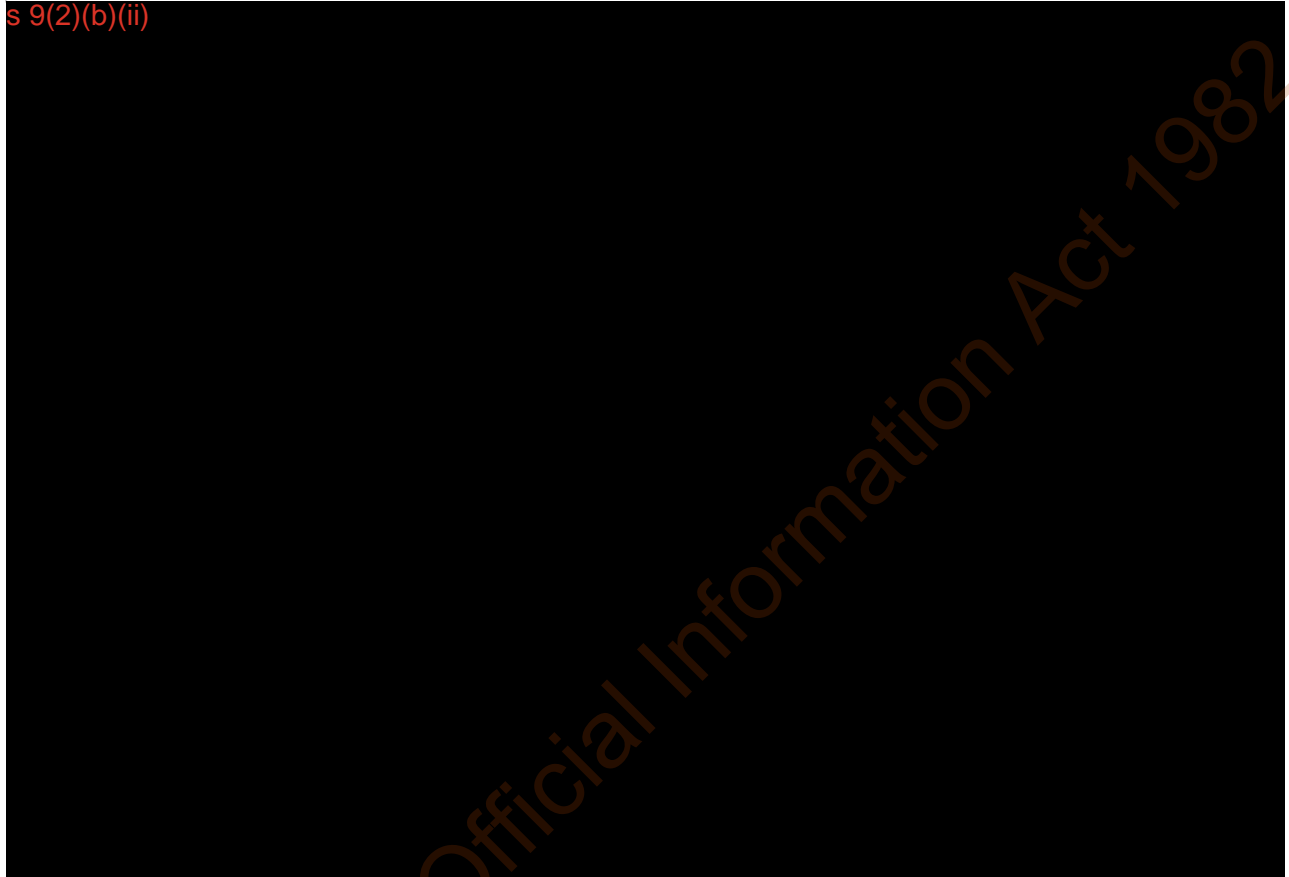


On Wed, 21 Jun 2023 at 18:52, Jude McLaren <[jude.mclaren@nzfilm.co.nz](mailto:jude.mclaren@nzfilm.co.nz)> wrote:

Kia ora koutou,

Apologies for the delay in getting this to you we needed to check in with each other.

s 9(2)(b)(ii)



If you want to get on a call tomo we are happy to do so - we are both available at 11.30am Thursday.

s 9(2)(b)(ii)



Ngā mihi nui,



Jude McLaren | Talent Pathways Manager (she/her)

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s 9(2)(a)



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**From:** Jordan Windsor [redacted]  
**Sent:** Wednesday, June 21, 2023 3:23 PM  
**To:** Jude McLaren <jude.mclaren@nzfilm.co.nz>; Dale Corlett <dale.corlett@nzfilm.co.nz>  
**Cc:** Ilai Amar [redacted]; Alix Whittaker [redacted]  
Morgan Leigh Stewart [redacted] Sean Wallace [redacted]  
[redacted]  
**Subject:** Re: The latest cut of Help! I'm Alien Pregnant - NZFC feedback.

Hi friends - just bumping this as we need to get the locked cut to VFX and sound ASAP.

Love,

Jordan

On 20/06/2023, at 10:04 AM, Ilai Amar [redacted] wrote:

Kia ora kōrua!

We had a fantastic session yesterday with all producers and directors working the cut to a point where we are happy to present to you for sign off and lock.

s 9(2)(b)(ii)

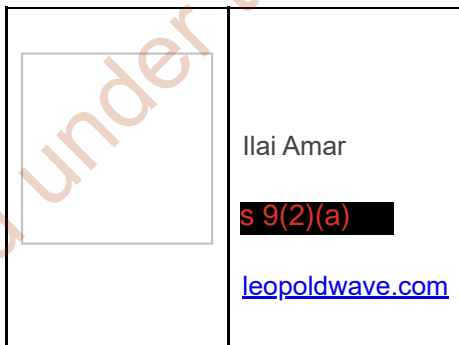


Looking forward to hearing back from you and we're going to swing straight into VFX and sound design.

Best,

Ilai

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On Sat, 17 Jun 2023 at 12:31, Jordan Windsor

s 9(2)(a) wrote:

Cool cool - thanks for your prompt response.

s 9(2)(b)(ii)

Love,

Jordan

On 16/06/2023, at 3:01 PM, Jude McLaren  
<[jude.mclaren@nzfilm.co.nz](mailto:jude.mclaren@nzfilm.co.nz)> wrote:

Kia ora koutou,

s 9(2)(b)(ii)

s 9(2)(b)(ii)



Any further questions happy to have a chat.

Ngā mihi nui,

[<image005.jpg>](#) Jude McLaren | Talent Pathways Manager (she/her)

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s 9(2)(a)

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[<image003.png>](#) [<image004.jpg>](#)

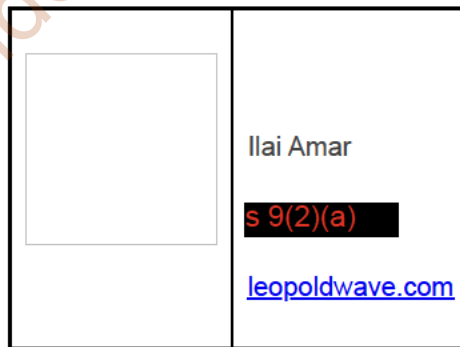
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**From:** Ilai Amar [s 9\(2\)\(a\)](#)  
**Sent:** Friday, June 16, 2023 9:51 AM  
**To:** Dale Corlett <[dale.corlett@nzfilm.co.nz](mailto:dale.corlett@nzfilm.co.nz)>  
**Cc:** Jordan Windsor [s 9\(2\)\(a\)](#); Jude McLaren <[iude.mclaren@nzfilm.co.nz](mailto:iude.mclaren@nzfilm.co.nz)>; Alix Whittaker [s 9\(2\)\(a\)](#); Morgan Leigh Stewart [s 9\(2\)\(a\)](#); Sean Wallace [s 9\(2\)\(a\)](#)  
**Subject:** Re: The latest cut of Help! I'm Alien Pregnant

Thank you Dale!

Ilai



On Thu, 15 Jun 2023 at 17:22, Dale Corlett <[dale.corlett@nzfilm.co.nz](mailto:dale.corlett@nzfilm.co.nz)> wrote:

Kia ora team

Sorry for not confirming receipt of the cut - we have it, will to get back to you as soon as we can, currently dealing with a large volume of other mahi. Thanks for the follow up message, Jude will be back in touch soon.

Ngā mihi

Dale

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**From:** Ilai Amar [s 9\(2\)\(a\)](#)  
**Sent:** Thursday, June 15, 2023 16:19  
**To:** Jordan Windsor [s 9\(2\)\(a\)](#)  
**Cc:** Jude McLaren <[jude.mclaren@nzfilm.co.nz](mailto:jude.mclaren@nzfilm.co.nz)>; Dale Corlett <[dale.corlett@nzfilm.co.nz](mailto:dale.corlett@nzfilm.co.nz)>; Alix Whittaker [s 9\(2\)\(a\)](#); Morgan Leigh Stewart [s 9\(2\)\(a\)](#); Sean Wallace [s 9\(2\)\(a\)](#)  
**Subject:** Re: The latest cut of Help! I'm Alien Pregnant

Kia ora Jude & Dale,

Just wanted to check in to see if you had received this latest cut OK? We are working towards a looming picture lock ambition and were hoping we could get into a next round of editing next week.

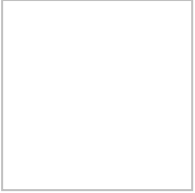
Wondering if there is any way to get your feedback by early next week?

Look forward to hearing from you! :)

Best,

Ilai

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	<p>Ilai Amar</p> <p>s 9(2)(a)</p> <p><a href="http://leopoldwave.com">leopoldwave.com</a></p>
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On Mon, 5 Jun 2023 at 11:50, Jordan Windsor  
<[jordan@candlelitpictures.co.nz](mailto:jordan@candlelitpictures.co.nz)> wrote:

Hello Jude and Dale,

We've been through several iterations of the cut since our last notes from you, here's a little re-cap.

s 9(2)(b)(ii)





s 9(2)(b)(ii)

Love,  
THUNDERLIPS

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