

**ACTRA TORONTO
COUNCIL MEETING
TUESDAY, DECEMBER 1, 2015**

PRESENT

David Sparrow, President
Heather Allin, Past President
David Macniven, Treasurer
David Gale, Vice-President, Communications
Theresa Tova, Vice-President, Internal Affairs
Wendy Crewson, Vice-President, Member-at-Large
Shereen Airth
Rebecca Applebaum, alternate for Nicole St. Martin
Maria Del Mar
Catherine Disher
Ferne Downey
Dom Fiore, alternate for Art Hindle, Vice-President, External Affairs
Jani Lauzon
Joel Keller
Don Lamoreux, alternate for Tabby Johnson
Shawn Lawrence, alternate for Richard Hardacre
Angelica Lisk-Hann
John Nelles
Jack Newman
Clara Pasieka
Eric Peterson
Leah Pinsent
Julian Richings, alternate for Colin Mochrie

REGRETS

Farah Merani

MEMBER CAUCUS CHAIRS

Larry Robertson, Chair, Apprentice Caucus, ACTRA Toronto
Randi Shelson, Chair, Additional Background Performers Caucus, ACTRA Toronto

OBSERVERS

Lorne Goodman
Donal Hansman, Co-Chair FMBG Committee

ALSO PRESENT

Sue Milling, Executive Director, ACTRA Toronto
Judy Barefoot, Director, Commercial Production, ACTRA Toronto
Indra Escobar, Director, Member Services, ACTRA Toronto
Karl Pruner, Director, Communications, Education and Outreach, ACTRA Toronto
Karen Ritson, Director of Finance and Administration, ACTRA Toronto
Stephen Waddell, National Executive Director, ACTRA
Jacob Leibovitch, Director, Public Policy and Research, ACTRA
Luca De Franco, Public Relations Officer, ACTRA Toronto
Karen Woolridge, Public Relations Officer, ACTRA Toronto
Elliott Anderson, Acting Director, Public Policy and Research, ACTRA Toronto
Freda Merritt-Gambrill, Recording Secretary, ACTRA Toronto

The meeting commenced at 10:12 a.m. with President, David Sparrow, in the Chair. He welcomed and introduced everyone present.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

MOTION #1

Moved by Shereen Airth, seconded by Angelica Lisk-Hann:

“That the Agenda for the ACTRA Toronto Council Meeting of December 1, 2015, be accepted.”

CARRIED

CORRECTION AND APPROVAL OF MINUTES

There being no correction to the Minutes, the following was passed:

MOTION #2

Moved by Leah Pinsent, seconded by Don Lamoreux:

“That the Minutes of the ACTRA Toronto Council Meeting of November 3, 2015, be accepted.”

CARRIED

The reading of the Equality Statement followed.

PRESIDENT’S REPORT

David Sparrow reported on the following:

- IPA negotiations held in Montreal. He thanked the negotiating team and staff who have worked tirelessly during this process.
- Mr. Sparrow attended the Progress Gala organized by the Broadbent Institute at the Royal York. Guest Speaker was Rachel Notley, Premier of Alberta.
- Town Hall on Ontario’s Cultural Strategy was held at the Toronto Reference Library on November 23rd. Jani Lauzon, Eric Peterson and Karl Pruner attended. Mr. Peterson and Ms. Lauzon spoke at this event.
- Mr. Sparrow, Sue Milling and Karl Pruner met on November 30th with Minister Michael Coteau, Minister of Culture Tourism and Sport, and conveyed to him how important culture is to this province.
- OFL Convention (November 23rd to 27th). The OFL elected their executive at this convention: President, Chris Buckley; Secretary-Treasurer, Patty Coates; and Vice-President, Ahmed Gyed.
- Cliff Pilkey Awards – The Arts Award was won by the Canadian Labour International Film Festival (CLIFF).
- Mr. Sparrow congratulated the newly elected Councillors, and thanked outgoing Councillors Richard Hardacre, Tabby Johnson, Jani Lauzon, Farah Merani, John Nelles, and Eric Peterson, along with three previous Councillors this term, Lisa Berry, K.C. Collins and Chris Potter, for their fine and dedicated service

to the membership. Recognition was also expressed to the 41 excellent candidates who stepped up to run for Council in the 2015 election.

- And, Mr. Sparrow congratulated the newly elected members of the ACTRA Toronto Stunt Committee and thanked outgoing members Shelley Cook, Blair Johannes, Angelica Lisk-Hann, John Stoneham Sr., and Geoff Williams.

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Sue Milling reported. She welcomed the new members to Council and expressed her gratitude, on behalf herself and staff, to the Councillors and Stunt Committee members that are moving on.

Ms Milling expressed her heartfelt thanks to Jani Lauzon for the work that she has done on diversity.

Productions under the NCA are steady. She said that we are going to do some innovative and creative things in the New Year to reach out to Advertisers and Agencies.

IPA Production is also steady. Studios across the country are very busy. Looks like it will be a busy spring.

Re the meeting with Minister Coteau, Ms Milling reported that following the meeting with ACTRA Toronto, the Minister met with representatives from FilmOntario.

Ms Milling reminded Council that the FilmOntario Annual General Meeting is on Wednesday, December 9, 2015.

ELECTION REPORT & DEBRIEF

Mr. Sparrow reported. A brief report was distributed to Council.

Clara Pasioka suggested that a committee or focus group be set up to hear ideas on how to increase member participation in future voting.

IPA UPDATE

Mr. Sparrow and Ms Milling reported. Negotiations have been extended.

EXECUTIVE REPORTS

Vice-President, Member Services – Jani Lauzon: Ms Lauzon reported. She said that although she is no longer on Council she would like to stay on as the Diversity Advocate.

The Toronto Black Film Festival is having a screening of *The Sound of Torture* on December 10th at the Carlton Cinema. The Festival will run from February 10th to 14th, 2016.

The Diversity Committee's Christmas Party is on December 18th from 9:00 p.m. to 11:00 p.m. at the Orchard Nightclub.

Farah Merani has an opportunity to go to Los Angeles in January and February. Safiya Ricketts will be standing in for her as Diversity Co-Chair during that time.

COUNCIL & COMMITTEE ORIENTATION

The Councillor Orientation Manual and the Committee Policies & Procedures Manual were distributed to Council.

Mr. Sparrow and the Executive briefly walked Council through these documents.

EXECUTIVE REPORTS (Continued)

Treasurer – David Macniven: Mr. Macniven gave a brief finance report.

AABP: Randi Shelson reported that the November newsletter was sent out to the members. The Caucus is trying hard to reach the members in order to get them involved. An event is being organized and will be held in January.

Apprentice Caucus: Mr. Macniven reported on behalf of Larry Robertson. The *Apprentice Gazette* was distributed to the Apprentice members last week. The Caucus is working with the AAPB Caucus on the spring conference.

Past President – Heather Allin: Ms Allin reported on Industry Relations. Two new projects are close to signing with us; one of these being a digital production company who is looking for voiceover performers for a video game, and the other being a feature film producer.

Vice-President, Internal Affairs – Theresa Tova: Ms Tova reported on AYA. The AYA fundraiser for the Actors' Fund and PAL is on December 7th.

Ms Tova reported on the film *Misconception*.

Ms Milling, Ms Tova and Max Wagner met with the Ministry of Labour on November 9th regarding tutoring and other issues related to the new Child Performer Protection Act. The Ministry is in the process of writing Regulations.

Vice-President, Communications – David Gale: Mr. Gale thanked everyone who ran for Council.

YEAA: Clara Pasieka reported on YEAA's annual fundraiser. The Committee's Christmas Party is on December 6th at 5:00 p.m. at Round Venue. Tickets are \$15 online and \$20 at the door. There will be a Celebrity Auction from 5:00 p.m. to 10:30 p.m. followed by dancing at 11:00 p.m.

Awards: Maria Del Mar reported. Martha Chaves will be the 2016 Awards Host. Janice Hawke and Gina Clayton will be the Co-Chairs of the Jury Committee again this year.

Conference Committee: Mr. Gale, on behalf of Nicole St. Martin, reported on the workshops for the Winter Conference.

Performers: Photo shoot with Sarah Gadon was held on Thursday, November 26th.

Vice-President, Member-at-Large – Wendy Crewson: Ms. Crewson reported.

TAWC: Heather Allin and Rebecca Applebaum reported on behalf of Nicole St. Martin on the TAWC Toolkit 3.0 stream B Producers panel session that was held this past weekend. She also reported on Toolkit stream A, at which the script by Helen Juvonen was selected. Producer submissions are being sought.

The committee is looking for nominations for the Nell Shipman Award in May. The candidates should be industry decision makers who forward gender equity, both in front of and behind the camera in their show and/or films.

Stunts: Angelica Lisk-Hann reported. The Stunt Christmas party is on December 13th from 7:00 p.m. to 12:00 midnight. Tickets are \$35 and \$15 for a guest. The venue is the Roxy Bar.

A *Celebration of Life* to honour Joel Harris was held recently at the Cadillac Lounge.

Re the *Stunt Awards* – Mr. Sparrow reported that those stunt performers who had previously received certificates in recognition of their contribution to the stunt community, will be presented with the ACTRA Toronto Award statues at the February 20th Award ceremony. AFBS is assisting us with the presentation of these awards.

Voice Committee Update: Cathy Disher reported. The committee meets every other month. Hamish McEwan has decided to step aside as co-chair due to a busy work and family schedule.

NATIONAL REPORT

Ferne Downey reported. The National Council meeting is on the weekend of January 23rd and 24th. The National Women's Committee will meet on the Friday preceding the meeting.

Sunday, January 31, is ACTRA Day in L.A.

Ms Downey reported that ACTRA is working on building a relationship with our new federal government. A number of lobby days have been organized for February.

Stephen Waddell reported on the CRTC.

Dare to Agree, another meeting is scheduled for December 3rd. This is an ad hoc group of high profile folks in the industry.

Mr. Waddell also reported on the ACTRA Staff Conference that was held recently.

OTHER BUSINESS

David Sparrow mentioned that long time member and famed voice actor and author, Doug Lennox passed away on November 28th.

THE MEETING ADJOURNED AT 3:15 P.M.