

**ACTRA TORONTO
COUNCIL MEETING
TUESDAY, OCTOBER 4, 2016**

PRESENT

David Sparrow, President
Heather Allin, Past President
Art Hindle, Vice-President, External Affairs
David Gale, Vice-President, Communications
David Macniven, Treasurer (morning only)
Clara Pasioka, Vice-President, Member Services
Theresa Tova, Vice-President, Internal Affairs
Shereen Airth
Rebecca Applebaum
Ferne Downey
Sedina Fiati
Dom Fiore
Marcia Johnson, for Nicole St. Martin
Kevan Kase, alternate for Angelica Lisk-Hann
Joel Keller
Grace Lynn Kung
Don Lamoreux, alternate for Cathy Disher
Colin Mochrie (morning only)
Jack Newman
Leah Pinsent
Safiya Ricketts, alternate for Shawn Doyle (morning only)

REGRETS

Wendy Crewson, VP, Member-at-Large
Maria Del Mar
Julian Richings

COMMITTEE & MEMBER CAUCUS CHAIRS

Joe Doran, Chair, Apprentice Caucus
Les Williams, Chair, Additional Background Performers Caucus

ALSO PRESENT

Sue Milling, Executive Director, ACTRA Toronto
Judy Barefoot, Director, Commercial Production, ACTRA Toronto
Indra Escobar, Director, Member Services, ACTRA Toronto
Alistair Hepburn, Director, Independent & Broadcast Production, ACTRA Toronto
Karl Pruner, Director, Communications, Education and Outreach, ACTRA Toronto
Karen Ritson, Director, Finance and Administration, ACTRA Toronto
Luca De Franco, Public Relations Officer, ACTRA Toronto
Karen Woolridge, Public Relations Officer, ACTRA Toronto
Stephen Waddell, Executive Director, ACTRA
Freda Merritt-Gambrill, Recording Secretary, ACTRA Toronto

The meeting commenced at 10:18 a.m. with President, David Sparrow, in the Chair. He welcomed everyone present.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

MOTION #1

Moved by Jack Newman, seconded by David Macniven:

“That the Agenda for the ACTRA Toronto Council Meeting of October 4, 2016, be accepted.”

CARRIED

CORRECTION AND APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Typographical error on page 1. Should be **Lorne** Goodman, instead of “Loren”.

MOTION #2

Moved by Heather Allin, seconded by Leah Pinsent:

“That the Minutes of the ACTRA Toronto Council Meeting of September 6, 2016, as amended, be accepted.”

CARRIED

The reading of the ACTRA Equality Statement and introduction of Councillors, Committee and Caucus Chairs, alternates, observers and staff followed.

David Sparrow reminded Councillors of the memorial for Sandi Ross at 7:00 p.m. at the United Church of Metropolitan Toronto, 120 Simpson Avenue, Toronto.

PRESIDENT’S REPORT

David Sparrow reported on the following items:

- Passing of Sandi Ross, a Past President and Diversity champion of ACTRA Toronto. A celebration of Sandi’s life will be held on October 4th.
- October 13th, Day of Action. One day. Three asks. Three levels of government.
- SAG-AFTRA and ACTRA met and will work together regarding the problem of US commercials shooting in Canada.
- Last Wednesday, Sue Milling and Mr. Sparrow participated in the Ontario Minister of Tourism, Culture and Sport’s Roundtable discussion to discuss the federal government’s cultural review and how the Ontario government should respond.
- Mr. Sparrow attended the Ontario Federation of Labour’s head of Unions meeting on October 1st re Precarious Workers.
- Ferne Downey and Mr. Sparrow attended the AFBS Board of Governors meeting. An ad-hoc committee has been formed to discuss parental benefits proposed by TAWC.
- Kids & Co. Back-up childcare – this was well-received by the membership.

- Two focus groups have been held in preparation for the negotiations with Ubisoft. Bargaining dates are currently set for the end of November.
- At the November Council meeting a Blue Sky session will be held to discuss the 2017 Operating Plan. The Award of Excellence recipient will also be chosen at this meeting.
- Dentsu Bos has proposed a new marketing strategy that is under consideration.

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Sue Milling reported. She said that the month of September was busy and October is shaping up to be busy as well.

- The Fall Conference was once again a success and it was great to see so many members in attendance.
- Alistair Hepburn and Richard Young went to Sudbury to take part in the Northern Ontario Film and Television Symposium. Richard facilitated a session on membership in ACTRA, and co-lead with the DGC, the Set Etiquette and Respect on Set Workshop.
- The newly revamped one-day Full Member Session was held on Saturday. This one-day weekend session was well received.
- YEAA and the Diversity Committee held two great events during TIFF. Thanks to the committee co-chairs and members for coordinating these events.
- Thanks to all those who attended the Rally for Decent Work at Queen's Park on Saturday, October 1st.
- Culture Days in Ontario runs from September 30th through to October 2nd.
- Ms Milling reported on the Roundtable with Minister Eleanor McMahon. The Minister wanted to know what is working under the current framework. The discussion was very helpful to the Minister who recognizes that any change to policy will have an impact on production in Ontario.
- Minister McMahon has agreed to be the Guest Speaker at the FilmOntario meeting on November 30th.
- NCA negotiations – we are working on a model to streamline the residual system.
- IPA – The producers are almost ready to sign off on the agreement.
- Staff bargaining is likely to conclude at the end of November.

FINANCIALS

David Macniven reported on the Statement of Income and Expenses for the period ending August 31, 2016. We are at 50% of the budget and our income is up overall largely due to production levels in IPA and Commercials.

LOBBY TRAINING

Council was joined by a number of engaged members for some Day of Action lobby training. Organizer Michal Hay and later Toronto City Councillor Mike Layton spoke and led Council through exercises to help develop effective lobby strategies. Part working lunch, those present had a chance to ask questions and to do some role playing in preparation for the 32 meetings with MPs, MPPs and City Councillors scheduled for October 13th and beyond.

NATIONAL REPORT

Ferne Downey reported on Open Facebook Town Hall on digital consultation, the ACTRA National Advocacy page, the protection of the CMF, the recently launched Canadian Unions for Equality on Screen (CUES) report, the final John Drainie Awards on October 5th. Ann-Marie MacDonald, Rick Mercer and Mark Starowicz will be presented with this award in recognition of their contributions to Canadian broadcasting. Ms Downey also reported on the SAG-AFTRA party and the UBCP/ACTRA Awards in November, which will be sponsored by SAG-AFTRA.

EXECUTIVE REPORTS

Vice-President, Member Services – Clara Pasiaka: YEAA: Ms Pasiaka reported that the event held at Dentsu Bos during TIFF was very successful. It was an opportunity to build a relationship with the DGC.

YEAA recently launched their Indiegogo campaign. YEAA Creates – the project has been selected. 4 actors will continue to the next phase.

The YEAA Committee will meet next week.

Member Services: The committee had its second meeting. AFBS is looking more closely at maternity benefits and other items related to mothers.

GIF boy and girl project has been fully launched.

Labour Day: Ms Pasiaka reported that the parade was well-attended.

Treasurer – David Macniven: Apprentice Caucus: Joe Doran, Caucus Chair, said that he had nothing to report.

AAPB Caucus: Les Williams reported that the Caucus will be holding a picture-taking and uploading session on a Saturday in January. Date has yet to be confirmed.

Past President – Heather Allin: Diversity Committee: Sedina Fiati said that the committee had a very busy September. The #ShareTheScreen campaign was launched.

The very first *Sandi Ross Award* recipients were very happy and honoured to receive the award.

The committee will be meeting within the next few weeks.

Advocacy Report: Ms Allin reported on behalf of Diversity Advocate Jani Lauzon on the following:

Caribbean Tales Film Festival – the two short film winners were successful in producing their films that were screened at the CTTF opening night party.

ReelWorld Film Festival – final arrangements are being made for the YEAA filmmakers to speak at *Arts Speak* the ReelWorld event on the Saturday prior to their Sunday screenings.

ImagineNATIVE – We will be sponsoring *The Northlander*, a feature film, this year. It will be screened at the TIFF Bell Lightbox on Sunday, October 23rd at 4:30 p.m.

Tom Jackson will be the recipient of the *August Schellenberg Award of Excellence* which will be presented the night before.

Reel Asian – On Wednesday, November 9th, ACTRA Toronto will partner with Reel Asian, CBC and Thunderbird to give the public the opportunity to see two back-to-back episodes of *Kim's Convenience*. This will be followed by a panel discussion consisting of the cast and producers. A discount code will be available for ACTRA members.

Industry Relations: Ms Allin reported. The Industry Relations department has spoken to 24 feature film producers and audio book producers and are hoping all will sign up with ACTRA.

Vice-President, Communications – David Gale: Mr. Gale reported. He urged everyone to tell their ACTRA member friends to register on *ACTRAOnline*.

Members Conference: The conference was very dynamic.

Awards: Deadline for submissions is October 31st.

Conference Committee: Marcia Johnson reported on behalf of Nicole St. Martin. The Fall Conference was a great success. She asked Councillors to not only attend the conference but to bring along two other members with them.

Performers and Performers On-Set: Mr. Gale reported that he has received a lot of positive feedback on both magazines.

Vice-President, External Affairs – Art Hindle: Mr. Hindle reported that the response from members regarding signing up for the Day of Action has been fabulous.

Vice-President, Member-at-Large – Wendy Crewson: *Stunts:* Kevan Kase reported. The committee has scheduled a meeting for this Friday in order to discuss AOS, etc. They sometimes meet via conference call.

TAWC: TAWC Tool Kit session 4.0 has launched.

Vice-President, Internal Affairs – Theresa Tova: *AYA:* The committee held their first dance class. AYA's annual holiday cabaret will be held on December 5th at PAL.

Agents: This group has not met since last reported.

Children's Committee: This meeting was very well attended. Non-members are invited to *Stage Parents Survival* classes.

THE MEETING ADJOURNED AT 2:29 P.M.