

**ACTRA TORONTO
COUNCIL MEETING
TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 7, 2017**

PRESENT

Theresa Tova, President
David Sparrow, Past President
Wendy Crewson, VP, Member-at-Large
Art Hindle, Vice-President, External Affairs
David Gale, Vice-President, Communications
David Macniven, Treasurer
Clara Pasioka, Vice-President, Member Services
Heather Allin
Rebecca Applebaum
Maria del Mar (morning only)
Catherine Disher (morning only)
Shawn Doyle
Toni Ellwand, alternate for Shereen Airth
Sedina Fiati
Dom Fiore
Barbara Gordon, alternate for Nicole St. Martin, VP- Internal Affairs
Kyra Harper, alternate for Ferne Downey
Jennifer Higgin, alternate for Colin Mochrie
Kevan Kase, alternate for Angelica Lisk-Hann
Joel Keller
Grace Lynn Kung
Julian Richings (morning only)
Richard Young alternate for Jack Newman

REGRETS

COMMITTEE & MEMBER CAUCUS CHAIRS

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

OBSERVERS

Donal Hansman
Alex Ross
Jason Smith

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, Film, Television and Digital Media, ACTRA Toronto
Karl Pruner, Director, Communications, Education and Outreach, ACTRA Toronto
Karen Ritson, Director, Finance and Administration, ACTRA Toronto
Stephen Waddell, National Executive Director, ACTRA
Luca De Franco, Public Relations Officer, ACTRA Toronto
Karen Woolridge, Public Relations Officer, ACTRA Toronto
Elliott Anderson, Director, Public Policy, Research & Communications, ACTRA
Freda Merritt-Gambrill, Recording Secretary, ACTRA Toronto

The meeting commenced at 10:04 a.m. with President, Theresa Tova, in the Chair. She welcomed everyone present. Ms Tova noted that Ferne Downey, National President, was in Ottawa, at the CLC.

Jack Newman has resigned from Council. A by-election to replace his seat will take place at the March Council meeting.

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

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

MOTION #1

Moved by Clara Pasieka, seconded by Heather Allin:

“That the Agenda for the ACTRA Toronto Council Meeting of February 7, 2017, be accepted.”

CARRIED

CORRECTION AND APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Page 1: Typographical error in Shereen Airth’s name.

MOTION #2

Moved by David Gale, seconded by Clara Pasieka:

“That the Minutes of the ACTRA Toronto Council Meeting of January 3, 2017, as amended, be accepted.”

CARRIED

PRESIDENT’S REPORT

Theresa Tova thanked Past President, David Sparrow, for a seamless transition. She also thanked the Finance Committee for attending a 9:00 a.m. meeting prior to the Toronto National Caucus meeting.

Theresa Tova reported on the following items:

- FIA – the work done by this organization is very inspiring.
- The Toronto Executive Meeting was on January 17th.
- National and Toronto stunt committee meetings were both very positive.
- The theme at the upcoming Ontario Federation of Labour (OFL) meeting on March 11th is *Our Shared Humanity*.
- Meeting with TAMAC on January 23rd. 80% of casting notices were union.
- Voice Committee meeting on January 23rd was very well attended.
- ACTRA Day in LA. Met with AFBS and members in LA. Also met with SAG/AFTRA and talked about joint research and outreach and making a joint statement.

- Prime Time in Ottawa. CMPA's Reynolds Mastin gave a strong, inspiring speech and called for OTT and ISP providers to make contributions to the production fund. Peter Keleghan was on a panel debating Canadian Content regulations.
- Ms Tova asked all Councillors to attend the Members Conference, especially the plenary, so that she could honour them.

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Sue Milling reported:

- Commercial and IPA production is steady.
- CMPA released its 2016 Profile report at Prime Time. Women and Leadership in Media Roundtable was held at Prime Time, during which time the Women & Leadership study that was commissioned by the CMPA was released.
- ACTRA met with the CBC to persuade them to encourage third party producers to go union. One of the productions that was to go non-union is now going union.
- Ubisoft Memo of Settlement has been ratified.
- Voice Committee report, i.e. audiobooks. A large Canadian publisher is not happy with Amazon and will be producing in Canada. Ms Disher said that all this came about because one member brought his/her concerns forward.
- Alistair Hepburn and Ms Milling will be going to LA next month to meet with producers and for the FilmOntario meeting.

ORDER OF THE DAY - ELECTIONS

Ms Milling assumed the Chair.

ELECTION – VICE-PRESIDENT, INTERNAL

The floor was open for nominations.

NOMINATIONS

Heather Allin - Accepted.
Nicole St. Martin - Accepted – via e-mail. Her speech was via Video and she called in to take part in the Q & A.

The candidates gave their nomination speeches and a question and answer period followed. Barbara Gordon and Jennifer Higgins were appointed scrutineers by the candidates to assist staff in counting the ballots.

Ballots were cast.

The scrutineers reported that they observed a fair and accurate count.

ELECTED : **NICOLE ST. MARTIN**

President Tova thanked Heather Allin for her service and highlighted initiatives she stewarded including mentoring women leaders, TAWC, the conferences, etc.

EXECUTIVE REPORTS (during the counting of the ballots)

Vice-President, External Affairs – Art Hindle: Art Hindle reported on Prime Time in Ottawa, including the panel moderated by CRTC Chair, Jean-Pierre Blais, augmented reality, Heritage Minister, Melanie Joly’s speech and Reynold Mastin’s address.

ELECTIONS (Continued)

ELECTION – EXECUTIVE MEMBER ACTRA NATIONAL

The floor was open for nominations.

NOMINATIONS

David Sparrow	-	Accepted
Heather Allin	-	Declined

David Sparrow acclaimed.

MOTION #3

Moved by Heather Allin, seconded by Maria del Mar:

“That the ballots be destroyed.”

CARRIED

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR’S REPORT (Continued)

- We are coming up to dues time. It is hoped that the dues invoices will be mailed out to the membership in early March.
- We have started preparations for NCA negotiations and will be organizing focus groups.
- We now have a printed version of the new IPA.
- ACTRA Toronto has been working with the CMPA to make amendments to the *Protecting Child Performers Act*. It is hoped that this will be finalized and in effect in the spring.
- Richard Young’s application for ACTRA Toronto to receive funding from the OMDC for a membership census was successful. Draft questions will be ready in April and the diversity census will go out to the membership in the summer. Results will be out in the fall. Members are encouraged to keep their profiles up to date on diversity.ACTRAonline.
- CASCU has hired a new CEO. A new share offering is now available to other unions and guilds.

Cathy Disher thanked Ms Milling and Indra Escobar for work on audiobooks.

Vice-President, Member Services – Clara Pasieka: YEAA: Ms Pasieka reported that YEAA has selected three spearheads – Alice Moran, Herschel Blatt and Emily Stranges, for the Canadian Screen Awards event.

A video showcasing the work of the various ACTRA Toronto committees (YEAA, TAWC, AYA and Diversity) has now been completed. It will be screened at the conference and will be used in future full member and apprentice training sessions.

ACTRA’S 75TH AND CANADA’S 150TH BLUE SKY:

Council was divided into groups and put forth various ideas for celebrating ACTRA's 75th anniversary and Canada's 150th birthday.

EXECUTIVE REPORTS (Continued)

Past President – David Sparrow: *Voice Committee:* Mr. Sparrow reported on the all-in radio rates that are being promoted.

Ubisoft is holding a gaming workshop for members of the Voice Committee. This will take place on Tuesday, February 21st from 6:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m.

Vice-President Communications – David Gale: Mr. Gale thanked Heather Allin for her service to the membership as President, Past-President and various capacities on the Executive.

TAWC: Barbara Gordon reported on behalf of Nicole St. Martin. The Nell Shipman Gala subcommittee is currently accepting nominations. The committee is seeking names of women and those who identify as women who hold positions of power and who forward gender equity both in front of and behind the camera. Suggestions should be emailed to Nicky.

TAWC will be holding an AFBS information session for working moms and dads.

Conference: Barbara Gordon reported on the workshops available at the Winter Members Conference.

We are once again providing childcare at no charge at the conference.

Mr. Gale reported that Social Media Ambassador, Ivan Soares, is organizing a social media campaign for the conference. The Conference Committee will evaluate whether this campaign increased member attendance.

Awards: Mr. Gale reported on behalf of Chair, Maria del Mar. This year Councillors and Advocates will have assigned seating.

OPERATING PLAN AND BUDGET 2017 – 2018

Ms Milling reported on the draft Operating Plan dated January 16, 2017.

MOTION #4

Moved by Heather Allin, seconded by Leah Pinsent:

“That Council accept the ACTRA Toronto Operating Plan 2017 – 18, as presented.”

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Karen Ritson reported on the draft budget for the fiscal year 2017 – 18.

MOTION #5

Moved by Wendy Crewson, seconded by Art Hindle:

“That Council accept the draft budget for the fiscal year 2017 – 18.”

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Report from Heather Allin: Council viewed one scene from the National Women’s Committee. It was well-received. The committee’s plan is to distribute it to festivals and the CLC. Mr. Young suggested that she approach the website Jezebel.

Industry Report: We continue to receive non-union breakdowns from members and other industry partners.

A non-union CBC production, *True North Calling*, is now going union after discussions with ACTRA.

Diversity Advocate – Jani Lauzon: Ms Allin reported. The Toronto Black Film Festival is next week. We were able to organize the screening of one of our member’s short film, *Do You Remember Me*, that was originally developed through the Caribbean Tales Film Festival.

Alistair Hepburn and Ms Lauzon will be meeting with Caribbean Tales on February 8th to discuss the film competition 2.0. We are also in talks with Trinity Square Video as to how we can create a potential partnership.

We are consulting with Catherine MacKinnon regarding our involvement at this year’s Toronto International Deaf Film Festival.

Diversity Committee – Co-Chair Sedina Fiati: Ms Fiati reported. ACTRA Toronto will be hosting a panel at the Black Film Festival. They will also be hosting a session about Deaf Performers on Screen at the Winter Members Conference.

The committee is working on an event honouring Sandi Ross during TIFF.

NATIONAL REPORT

Stephen Waddell reported. National Council met on January 21st and 22nd. It was well attended.

Earnings are up 23% overall.

Mr. Waddell said that at FIA, ACTRA put forward 8 of the 33 motions. They discussed issues regarding diversity and health and safety under a global agreement. Mr. Waddell and Ferne Downey will be attending the first of meeting of that group in Brussels in March.

Changes to the ACTRA Constitution were presented at the last National Council meeting and will be voted on at the meeting in May. All National Councillors and staff attended the Women’s Day march.

ACTRA Day in L.A. was attended by approximately 500 members. The event is similar to ACTRA Toronto’s Member Conferences. Kim Coates was the recipient of the *Award of Excellence*.

SAG/AFTRA is still on strike with videogame companies. DGA have settled.

360i SOCIAL MEDIA STRATEGY PRESENTATION RE OPERATING PLAN OBJECTIVES

Cass Enright from 360i (DenstsuBos) presented a social media strategy to Council. Council decided to support this strategy.

EXECUTIVE REPORTS (Continued)

Treasurer – David Macniven: *Apprentice Members Caucus:* Joe Doran reported that the committee has scheduled a workshop for members on how to use ACTRAonline.

Full Members Background Committee: Mr. Sparrow reported that the Full Members Background committee will be meeting tomorrow, February 8th.

Report from Theresa Tova: *AYA:* AYA will be working in conjunction with YEAA with regards to reading a play.

Children's: We had a well-attended session with parents, chaired by Christina Collins.

Vice-President, Member-at-Large – Wendy Crewson: *TAWC:* The sub-committee is seeking nominations for the Nell Shipman Award. Please email Nicole St. Martin.

Naomi Sneikus' new TAWC-kie video is on our website.

Stunt Committee: Kevan Kase reported on the recent Stunt Committee meeting and the issues discussed and concerns raised.

Legacy Committee: Please contact Joel Keller if you wish to attend the meeting.

THE MEETING ADJOURNED AT 4:32 P.M.