

**ACTRA TORONTO
COUNCIL MEETING
TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 5, 2017**

PRESENT

Theresa Tova, President
David Sparrow, Past President
Nicole St. Martin, VP, Internal Affairs
David Macniven, Treasurer (afternoon only)
David Gale, Vice-President, Communications
Art Hindle, Vice-President, External Affairs
Clara Pasieka, Vice-President, Member Services
Shereen Airth
Heather Allin
Rebecca Applebaum
Josh Barilko, alternate for Wendy Crewson, VP, Member-at-Large
Lisa Michelle Cornelius, alternate for Sedina Fiati
Maria Del Mar
Catherine Disher
Ferne Downey (morning only)
Shawn Doyle
Dom Fiore
Grace Lynn Kung
Leah Pinsent
Julian Richings
Constantine Meglis, alternate for Angelica Lisk-Hann
Joy Tanner, alternate for Joel Keller
Randy Thomas, alternate for Colin Mochrie
Richard Young

REGRETS

Wendy Crewson, VP, Member-at-Large
Sedina Fiati
Angelica Lisk-Hann
Joel Keller
Colin Mochrie

COMMITTEE & MEMBER CAUCUS CHAIRS

Ewa Green, alternate for Chair Apprentice Caucus
Karen Ivany, Ombudsperson, ACTRA Toronto
Les Williams, Chair, Additional Background Performers Caucus

OBSERVERS

Paul de la Rosa
Donal Hansman
Joanna Swan

ALSO PRESENT

Sue Milling, Executive Director, 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
Nicole Valentin, Director, Member Services, ACTRA Toronto
Stephen Waddell, National Executive Director, ACTRA
Elliott Anderson, Director, Public Policy & Communications, ACTRA
Luca de Franco, Public Relations Officer, ACTRA Toronto
Karen Woolridge, Public Relations Officer, ACTRA Toronto
Freda Merritt-Gambrill, Recording Secretary, ACTRA Toronto

The meeting commenced at 10:08 a.m. with President Theresa Tova, in the Chair. She welcomed everyone present.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

The Agenda was amended as follows:

Item (6) Finance Report – Budget Restatement was moved to after lunch
Add: Ombudsperson’s Report before lunch.

MOTION #1

Moved by Heather Allin, seconded by Clara Pasioka:

“That the Agenda for the ACTRA Toronto Council Meeting of September 5, 2017, as amended, be accepted.”

CARRIED

CORRECTION AND APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Council Meeting via Conference Call on Tuesday, July 18, 2017

Last line: The meeting adjourned at ~~2 pm~~ **12 noon.**

MOTION #2

Moved by David Gale, seconded by Leah Pinsent:

“That the Minutes of the ACTRA Toronto Council Conference Call Meeting of July 18, 2017, as amended, be accepted.”

CARRIED

Council Meeting of Tuesday, August 8, 2017

There being no corrections the following was moved:

MOTION #3

Moved by Constantine Meglis, seconded by David Sparrow:

“That the Minutes of the ACTRA Toronto Council Meeting of August 8, 2017, be accepted.”

CARRIED

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

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

Theresa Tova reported:

- Ms Tova attended Full Member Background Committee, TAWC and Agents meetings.
- Attended the Caucus prep and met with TAMAC and W&W Tor. members to prep for L& R discussion on US commercials shooting non-union in Canada.
- Observed the NCA Local and Regional Addendum negotiations in Vancouver. Landed on an exceptional circumstances side letter.
- She has been meeting with students and encouraging them to join ACTRA.
- Attended the successful YEAA Shorts Fundraiser and well attended labour day parade.
- Planning is underway for the ACTRA Day of Action, and ACTRA Day in LA
- Luncheon meeting with Beth Janson, the new CEO of the Academy of Canadian Cinema & Television. Ms Janson promised to help support some of ACTRA's objectives, i.e., more female representation, avoiding ageism, promoting the performers who appear on the red carpet and celebrating ACTRA's 75th.
- Ms Tova encouraged a discussion regarding recent member activity on social media.

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Sue Milling reported:

- Ms Milling said City Councillor Paula Fletcher, Ken Neumann, National Director, United Steelworkers, NDP candidate Guy Caron and MPP Peter Tabuns showed their support for ACTRA at the Labour Day Parade.
- Production is steady on the IPA and Commercial front.
- We gained 339 new Full Members, 428 new Apprentice Members and 122 new Additional Background Performer Members to date this year.
- Ms Milling had the privilege of attending the NCA Local and Regional Addendum negotiations in Vancouver. There are approximately 200 Toronto members who are eligible to vote in this referendum.
- Ms Milling gave a status report on Bill 148, the provincial labour bill. ACTRA Toronto made a joint submission with CMPA, the Motion Picture Association of Canada and FilmOntario for an exemption from a few of the provisions, particularly with regard to scheduling.
- The call for nominations for ACTRA Toronto Council closes on September 29th.
- Discussion ensued regarding the various social media pages.

EXECUTIVE REPORTS

Vice President, External Affairs – Art Hindle: *Day of Action* – Mr. Hindle said that planning for the Day of Action on October 12th is in progress. He asked Councillors to encourage members to get involved.

Labour Day Parade: It was exhilarating to see so many ACTRA members in attendance and to be able to interact with the members.

Census: Richard Young reported that the census was being emailed to all members and asked everyone to fill it out.

OMBUDSPERSON'S REPORT

Ombudsperson, Karen Ivany reported in camera.

EXECUTIVE REPORTS (Continued)

Vice-President, Internal Affairs – Nicole St. Martin: *Conference* – Ms St. Martin reported on the sessions planned for the September 23rd Members Conference. Cass Enright is working on the social media campaign.

TAWC – The committee is assessing their projects to-date and starting to look ahead for the next year. They are looking for volunteers, and spearheads for these initiatives that can be mentored by Ms St. Martin.

Child Advocacy – Michael Longstaff will be hosting the Audition prep session for kids at the conference. Child Advocate Christina Collins will lead the session for parents that will be taking place simultaneously.

Vice-President, Communications – David Gale: Mr. Gale reported that the *Performers* magazine is available now and should be in the hands of the members prior to the conference.

Treasurer – David Macniven: *AABP Caucus* – Chair, Les Williams, reported that the caucus had a lengthy debate and are asking the National Constitution and By-Laws Committee to review the eligibility requirements to run for the AABP caucus executive.

Apprentice Caucus – Ewa Green, alternate for Caucus Chair Joe Doran, said that the caucus had nothing new to report.

Full Member Background Committee – At the last FMBG meeting there was discussion regarding the video project. The next meeting is on September 13th.

FINANCE REPORT – BUDGET RESTATEMENT

The Draft Budget Restatement for the year ending February 28, 2018 was presented by Treasurer David Macniven.

MOTION #4

Moved by David Macniven, seconded by Shereen Airth:

“That ACTRA Toronto Council approve the 2017-2018 restated budget for the period ending February 28, 2018, as presented.”

CARRIED

President – Theresa Tova: *Voice Committee* – The committee will be meeting at 1:00 p.m. on September 20th.

Diversity Committee – Lisa Michelle Cornelius reported on behalf of Co-Chair Sedina Fiati. The committee is gearing up for the Sandi Ross Award Reception on September 13th at the Orchid Nightclub. Barbara de la Fuente will be spearheading this event.

The committee is continuing their relationship with *Working the Scene in Colour* to present a script reading series at the conference. Similarly, to last year, they will be presenting 8 scripts written by Indigenous writers and writers of colour, read by ACTRA Toronto members.

The committee is working on an initiative with the Writers Guild of Canada and *Working the Scene in Colour* which will provide a *Working the Scene* alumni with an in-depth work session with a showrunner or senior WGC member.

NATIONAL REPORT – DAVID SPARROW PRESIDENT AND STEPHEN WADDELL NED

David Sparrow reported on the current high priority files that National is working on: Cultural exemption for NAFTA; Heritage Minister Joly's scheduled announcement on September 28th; the Ontario Workplace review; the Copyright review and our push for Canada to sign the Beijing Treaty; reconsideration of the CRTC's five per cent PNI decision; obtaining a labour opinion for Temporary Foreign Worker permits; and ensuring the sustainability of the Canadian Media Fund.

Mr. Sparrow also met with the Canadian Media Guild. They would like to work together on public policy.

ACTRA National is working towards launching the ACTRA NCA engager portal in the new year.

Stephen Waddell reported about renegotiating the Local and Regional Addendum and talked about reaching out to Engagers who are producing commercials for global use.

UBCP will be engaging two organizers.

The Ubisoft Agreement was renegotiated last year and ACTRA National will meet with them in October for an annual review.

The BC Master Agreement is up for renegotiation. Negotiations will commence in November in L.A.

IPA negotiations will possibly start in the late spring of 2018.

Mr. Sparrow and Mr. Waddell will be going to Croatia in October for the FIA meetings.

ACTRA will continue to argue against the CRTC's New Media Exemption Order.

The "simsu" appeal will be heard on October 17th and 18th.

Ms St. Martin enquired about income tax averaging and Mr. Waddell confirmed that this is still on ACTRA's agenda. On a related note, the federal Ministry of Finance has proposed legislation designed to equalize tax collected from incorporated professionals, such as doctors, with unincorporated citizens. The proposal could catch incorporated stunt and high-earning performers in the same net, though their income is far more precarious and irregular. David Ferry has been asking members to write to their MPs about how these changes could affect them personally.

EXECUTIVE REPORTS (Continued)

Vice-President, Member Services – Clara Pasiaka: Winners of the *Labour Day Parade Contest* will be announced at the Members Conference on September 23rd.

Ms Pasiaka thanked everyone for attending the YEAA fundraiser. It is great to see young people taking leadership roles. A volunteer appreciation event will be held in December.

YEAA*Shorts* has 10 short films at the Reelworld Film Festival this year. Ms Pasiaka informed the committees that ACTRA Toronto now has a blanket policy for video production insurance.

YEAA's TIFF event is being spearheaded by Ayla Lukic-Roman, Cassidy Civiero and Keana Lyn Bastidas and is being co-sponsored by Serendipity Films.

Vice-President, External Affairs – Art Hindle (continued):

Legacy and Archives – Chair Joel Keller: Joy Tanner reported on behalf of Mr. Keller. Approximately \$500 was raised for AFC through the sale of our CanCon beer.

Re ACTRA's 75th anniversary, Mr. Keller suggested determining the date that ACTRA was founded and celebrate from that month onward.

INDUSTRY RELATIONS

- ACTRA Toronto is sponsoring the XOTO Lounge during TIFF.
- Two new independent video games were produced under an ACTRA agreement and were on display at Fan Expo in Toronto.
- Ms Dekker attended Interactive Ontario networking events in August to encourage content creators to engage union talent in their Interactive Digital Media productions.
- ACTRA Toronto attended a townhall for female filmmakers hosted by William F. White. The purpose was to see how WFW can support women in the industry.
- Industry Relations is continuing their outreach to post-secondary institutions.

OTHER BUSINESS

There was no Other Business.

TIP REPORT

Tasso Lakas, Coordinator, presented statistics on TIP's success as well as a detailed aggregate accounting of the financial investment made by ACTRA members working for discounted TiP rates. He described the program as a creative investment in micro-budget films. Director, Warren Sonoda thanked ACTRA members for the program and related how important TIP has been for his career development. He mentioned how critical BravoFact funding is to TIP programs and urged ACTRA to continue to fight for BravoFact's survival. He said that he tells directors that TIP is an apprenticeship in how to work with genuine professional actors.

LET'S CELEBRATE TIP!

TIP's 15th Anniversary was celebrated with Council and Staff.

THE MEETING ADJOURNED AT 3:45 P.M.