

**ACTRA TORONTO  
COUNCIL MEETING  
TUESDAY, MAY 5, 2015**

**PRESENT**

David Sparrow, President  
Heather Allin, Past President  
David Macniven, Treasurer  
David Gale, Vice-President, Communications  
Art Hindle, Vice-President, External Affairs  
Theresa Tova, Vice-President, Internal Affairs  
Shereen Airth  
Bobby del Rio, alternate for Joel Keller  
Maria del Mar  
Catherine Disher  
Ferne Downey  
Donal Hansman, alternate for Eric Peterson  
Richard Hardacre  
Jani Lauzon  
Grace Lynn Kung, alternate for Wendy Crewson  
Don Lamoreux, alternate for Colin Mochrie  
Angelica Lisk-Hann  
Bryn McAuley, alternate for Tabby Johnson  
John Nelles (afternoon only)  
Jack Newman  
Clara Pasioka  
Leah Pinsent  
Nicole St. Martin

**REGRETS**

Lisa Berry  
Wendy Crewson  
Tabby Johnson  
Joel Keller  
Colin Mochrie  
Eric Peterson

**ABSENT**

None

**CAUCUS CHAIRS**

Larry Robertson, Chair, Apprentice Caucus, ACTRA Toronto  
Randi Shelton, Chair, Additional Background Performer Caucus, ACTRA Toronto

**ALSO PRESENT**

Sue Milling, Executive Director, ACTRA Toronto  
Judy Barefoot, Director, Commercial Production, ACTRA Toronto  
Indra Escobar, Director, Member Services, ACTRA Toronto  
Karen Ritson, Director of Finance and Administration, ACTRA Toronto  
Stephen Waddell, National Executive Director, ACTRA  
Mimi Wolch, Director, Independent and Broadcast Production, ACTRA Toronto  
Karen Woolridge, Public Relations Officer, ACTRA Toronto  
Freda Merritt-Gambrill, Recording Secretary, ACTRA Toronto

The meeting commenced at 10:15 a.m. with President, David Sparrow, in the Chair. He welcomed and introduced everyone present. This was followed by the reading of the ACTRA Equality Statement.

#### **APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

##### **MOTION #1**

**Moved by Jack Newman, seconded by Clara Pasieka:**

**“That the Agenda for the ACTRA Toronto Council Meeting of May 5, 2015, be accepted.”**

**CARRIED**

#### **CORRECTION AND APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

**Page 3: Treasurer’s Report:** Last sentence should read: “The ACTRA Additional Background Performers **Caucus and the Apprentice Caucus** Committee continues to meet on a regular basis.”

##### **MOTION #2**

**Moved by Heather Allin, seconded by Don Lamoreux:**

**“That the Minutes of the ACTRA Toronto Council Meeting of April 7, 2015, as amended, be accepted.”**

#### **PRESIDENT’S REPORT**

David Sparrow and Theresa Tova reported that Bill 17 finally became law, the first piece of legislation in ACTRA’s 75 year history that ACTRA has seen through to Royal Assent. This work began 20 years ago. The Bill had been brought forward four times on our behalf.

Sue Milling and Art Hindle reported on the debate at Third Reading. It demonstrates what endless lobbying can do.

David Sparrow spoke of how art and artists make a difference; and how collective action can bring about progressive change for all performers. He expressed gratitude for the passionate and hardworking Councillors acting on behalf of the membership.

Bill 17 will take effect in February 2016 – nine months after it receives Royal Assent.

Ms Milling said that work with the Ministry of Labour will ensure that housekeeping amendments are made to help in the implementation of the Bill as well as working with the Ministry on the education of inspectors.

Mr. Sparrow thanked staff for their work over the years.

Mr. Sparrow reported on the Provincial Budget/Ontario Tax Credits; his appearance on Business News Network talking about domestic and foreign service productions; the Casting ACTRA website; IPA focus groups; AFBS and the formation of the Healthy Artists Trust and the lobbying of government to give a grant for seniors when they buy additional coverage; Scrabble with the Stars in support of PAL; the National Executive meeting in Vancouver; and the Writers Guild of Canada’s Screenwriting Awards at Koerner Hall which was hosted by Ryan Belville.

Mr. Sparrow also reported on his attendance at two Liberal events last week where he met with Liberal House Leader Yasir Naqvi and Minister of Labour, Kevin Flynn.

The ACTRA/Equity relationship discussions continue.

#### **EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT**

Ms Milling reported on the focus group meetings.

#### **BARGAINING REPORT (IN-CAMERA)**

Ms Milling reported.

#### **ONTARIO BUDGET / CRTC / FILMONTARIO REPORT (IN-CAMERA)**

Ms Milling reported.

#### **EXECUTIVE REPORTS**

***Vice-President, Member Services – Jani Lauzon:*** Ms Lauzon reported on the Members Services Committee; Pride Parade to be held on Sunday, June 28<sup>th</sup>; Diversity Film Festival outreach; the Toronto International and Deaf Film and Festival, at which ACTRA will be hosting a panel; and the Diversity Committee joining forces with YEAA to host the TIFF party.

#### **COUNCIL ELECTION RULES & PROCESS DISCUSSION**

Ms Milling reported on Council election rules and process. A lengthy discussion ensued.

Councillors agreed that after the election the names of the candidates will be published alphabetically with number of votes received.

The process as outlined in the ACTRA Toronto By-laws for the interim replacement of Councillors was also discussed.

#### **EXECUTIVE REPORTS (Continued)**

***Treasurer – David Macniven:*** Mr. Macniven reported on ACTRA Toronto's Statement of Income and Expenses for the period ending February 28, 2015.

***Apprentice Caucus:*** Shereen Airth reported on behalf of Larry Robertson. The Caucus meets monthly on the third Wednesday at 10:00 a.m. They plan to meet with the Conference Committee in hopes of putting together a conference for Apprentice Members.

***Additional Background Performers Caucus:*** Randi Shelson reported.

***Past President, Heather Allin:*** Ms Allin reported on Industry Relations. She said that most of the work done by this department is one-on-one outreach. They are still making inroads. Ms Allin encouraged Councillors to forward any non-union breakdowns they come across to Tereza Olivero and/or Taisa Dekker.

***Vice-President, Communications – David Gale:*** Mr. Gale thanked Council and staff for the get well gift basket.

***YEAA:*** Clara Pasioka reported that the YEAA Committee will be meeting later this week. She also reported on the progress of the joint Diversity/YEAA TIFF party.

Bryn McAuley and Ms Pasioka are exploring mentorship training.

***Conference Committee:*** Nicole St. Martin reported.

*Awards:* Maria del Mar reported.

*Editorial Committee:* Mr. Gale reported. If any Councillors have a pitch for an idea, please let the Committee know.

***Vice-President, External Affairs – Art Hindle:*** Mr. Hindle reported on historic passage of Bill 17.

***Vice-President, Member-at-Large – Wendy Crewson: Stunt Committee:*** Angelica Lisk-Hann reported on stunt issues. The stunt riggers would like to start a Stunt Rigging Advisory Board. This issue will be discussed at the next meeting of the Stunt Committee.

*TAWC:* Ms Martin reported on the TAWC Gala which will be held on Monday, May 25<sup>th</sup>, at 6:30 p.m. to 8:30 p.m., Laurie Finstad-Knizhnik, Producer of *Strange Empire*, will be honoured with the *Nell Shipman Award*.

On May 13<sup>th</sup>, 1:30 p.m. to 5:30 p.m. Director, Annie Bradley, will be has an amazing session planned for TAWC members.

***Vice-President, Internal Affairs – Theresa Tova:*** Ms Tova reported on the *Cayle Chernin Award* event that is being held on May 13<sup>th</sup>.

*AYA:* This committee continues to be very active holding workshops and proceeding with their video project.

## **NATIONAL REPORT**

Ferne Downey and Stephen Waddell reported on the Feature Film Policy Review, Focus on Women 2.0, and UBCP's *Sam Payne Lifetime Achievement Award*.

Amanda Tapping was named the recipient of the ACTRA National *Women of the Year Award*.

CLC has been conducting an incredible social media campaign.

AFBS AGM is on June 1<sup>st</sup>. Ms Downey and Mr. Waddell will not be able to attend the AGM and the next ACTRA Toronto Council Meeting as they will be attending international meetings.

Mr. Waddell reported on bargaining issues re IATSE, LA, and IATSE, B.C. He also reported on the annual Ubisoft review and Game-On negotiations.

Ms Downey reported on the CLC *Time for a Change* theme.

## **OTHER BUSINESS**

Lisa Berry is stepping down as ACTRA Toronto Councillor. A by-election will be held at the June Council meeting to elect her replacement.

## **THE MEETING ADJOURNED AT 3:45 P.M.**

Many councillors and staff headed over to Queen's Park to celebrate the Royal Assent signing of Bill 17.