

**ACTRA TORONTO
COUNCIL MEETING
TUESDAY, OCTOBER 6, 2015**

PRESENT

David Sparrow, President
Heather Allin, Past President
David Macniven, Treasurer
Shereen Airth
Ferne Downey
Kristine Esposito, alternate for Clara Pasioka
Marcia Johnson, alternate for Nicole St. Martin
Joel Keller
Don Lamoreux, alternate for Richard Hardacre
Shawn Lawrence, alternate for Art Hindle (afternoon only)
Angelica Lisk-Hann
Jennifer Higgin, alternate for Wendy Crewson, Vice-President, Member-at-Large
Constantine Meglis, alternate for Theresa Tova, Vice-President, Internal Affairs
Farah Merani
Colin Mochrie (morning only)
John Nelles
Eric Peterson (afternoon only)
Leah Pinsent
Julian Richings, alternate for David Gale, Vice-President, Communications
Safiya Ricketts, alternate for Jani Lauzon
Richard Young, alternate for Tabby Johnson

REGRETS

Maria Del Mar
Catherine Disher
Jack Newman

MEMBER CAUCUS CHAIRS

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

OBSERVERS

Donal Hansman, Co-Chair FMBG Committee
Lorne Goodman

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
Mimi Wolch, Director, Independent and Broadcast Production, ACTRA Toronto
Karen Woolridge, Public Relations Officer, ACTRA Toronto
Max Wagner, Assistant Director, ACTRA PRS
Jessica Paes, Senior Claims Officer, ACTRA PRS
Freda Merritt-Gambrill, Recording Secretary, ACTRA Toronto

The meeting commenced at 10:13 a.m. with President, David Sparrow, in the Chair. He welcomed and introduced everyone present.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

MOTION #1

Moved by David Macniven, seconded by Don Lamoreux:

“That the Agenda for the ACTRA Toronto Council Meeting of October 6, 2015, be accepted.”

CARRIED

CORRECTION AND APPROVAL OF MINUTES

There being no corrections to the Minutes, the following motion was moved:

MOTION #2

Moved by John Nelles, seconded by Farah Merani:

“That the Minutes of the ACTRA Toronto Council Meeting of September 8, 2015, be accepted.”

CARRIED

The reading of the Equality Statement followed.

PRESIDENT’S REPORT

David Sparrow reported on the following:

- David reported on the National Executive meeting and the 50th anniversary of ACTRA Newfoundland.
- The Wages and Working Conditions committee met on September 17th and 18th. Our priorities going forward were discussed at this meeting.
- The New Media Sub-Committee met on September 28th and 29th. Prior to that this sub-committee met on August 31st.
- Re Council elections, David said that 41 candidates are running for 24 seats.
- ACTRA Toronto’s Fall Members’ Conference was well attended.
- Federal Elections – he reminded people to cast their vote.

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR’S REPORT

Sue Milling reported:

- Sue summarized the issues discussed at the meeting of the New Media Sub-Committee in September and what will be forwarded to general negotiations later in the month

- Sue provided update on Industry Relations.
- Casting Voice: agreement is pending on a project with independent Canadian publishers. Note will go to voice committee and performers to ensure their narration demo reels are up-to-date and uploaded to Casting Voice.
- The TAWC, Diversity and YEAA TIFF party was a success. It was a great opportunity for the Industrial Relations department to invite producers, etc., to see a diversity of talent.
- On the provincial front, the Ministry of Culture has issued a discussion document and scheduled Town Hall sessions to develop a Culture Strategy for Ontario. ACTRA Toronto will be participating in the Town Hall scheduled for Toronto, and encourages others to attend in locations outside of the GTA.
- Mimi Wolch helped to organize four events last week for a delegation from LA of studio representatives, and television producers and production companies including, a breakfast with Labour representatives, a lunch to discuss diversity casting with representatives from ACTRA Toronto's Diversity Committee and Jani Lauzon, ACTRA Toronto Diversity Advocate, participation in a dinner held by the City of Toronto, and a late afternoon event with FilmOntario. Ms Wolch is now the interim Managing Director of FilmOntario. Ms Milling thanked her for her service to ACTRA Toronto as the Director of Independent and Broadcast Production.

PRS & THE IPA – MAX WAGNER & JESSICA PAES FROM PRS

Max Wagner and Jessica Paes reported on the following:

- How the use fee backend works
- How PRS collects and disperses use fees

AWARD OF EXCELLENCE

This discussion was held in-camera.

TREASURER'S REPORT

David Macniven reported on the restated budget for the year ending February 2016.

MOTION #3

Moved by David Macniven, seconded by Heather Allin:

“That ACTRA Toronto Council approve the restated 2015-2016 annual budget.”

CARRIED

KATE TAYLOR – FEATURE FILM REPORTER AT GLOBE & MAIL

Mr. Sparrow introduced Kate Taylor, the Feature Film Reporter at the Globe & Mail. Ms Taylor addressed Council. A question and answer period followed.

EXECUTIVE REPORTS

Past President – Heather Allin: Ms Allin reported on ACTRA Toronto's organizing efforts. Our primary focus is on non-union producers. We continue outreach with industry personnel across the country. Recently, two films and

two commercials that were going non-union became ACTRA Toronto productions thanks to the outreach and organizing efforts.

Treasurer's Report – David Macniven: Mr. Macniven reported that the Finance Committee will be meeting with Addenda Capital within the next couple of weeks.

AABP – Randi Shelton, Caucus Chair reported about ill feeling on set with regards to a certain group of background performers. Mr. Sparrow advised her to contact an ACTRA Steward or speak to an OSLO on set.

FMBG – Mr. Macniven reported on behalf of Larry Robertson, Co-Chair of the Full Members Background Committee. The committee is publishing a monthly newsletter. They meet at 10:00 a.m. on the third Wednesday of every month.

Vice-President, Communications – David Gale: Mr. Sparrow reported.

Conference Committee: There were 430 attendees at the conference. Mr. Gale is looking for more members to join the committee.

YEAA: Kristina Esposito reported on the TIFF party and upcoming activities.

Vice-President, External Affairs – Art Hindle: Mr. Sparrow reported. He encouraged Councillors to get out and vote during the advance polling dates or on October 19th.

Vice-President, Member-at-Large – Wendy Crewson: **TAWC:** Jennifer Higgin reported that the TIFF party was a success. Toolkit 3.0 is coming up on November 28th. The committee is looking for scripts for women over 40.

Stunts: Angelica Lisk-Hann reported. The committee is working on putting together a heights training session. Two new sessions are booked for October and November.

Tania Cardwell, Stunt Committee Liaison, is assisting two injured members who are returning to work.

Re new member sessions – the Stunt Committee is looking into additional session for stunt members.

Vice-President, Member Services – Jani Lauzon: Safiya Ricketts reported.

Diversity: Farah Merani, Diversity Co-Chair, reported on diversity issue. She attended the South Asian Film Festival last week.

Vice-President, Internal Affairs – Theresa Tova: **Act Your Age:** Jennifer Higgin reported that the committee produced a short advocacy film that is now in post-production.

President – David Sparrow:

FMBG – Constantine Meglis reported on the members' conference. The next meeting of the committee is on October 14th from 10:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.

Voice Committee: Mr. Sparrow reported on successful conference workshop, and outreach efforts.

NATIONAL REPORT

Ferne Downey reported.

- Ferne will be attending an All Candidates' meeting with the three political parties.
- Ms Downey attended the 2nd Annual SAG/AFTRA Convention 2015 – Educate, Engage, Empower.
- ACTRA Day in L.A. is on Sunday, January 31, 2016.
- Ms Downey will be attending the Women of Steel 2015 Conference and hence will not be attendance at the November Council meeting. Stephen Waddell will also not be able to attend as he will be in South Africa.
- IPA opening day of bargaining is on October 19th.

OTHER BUSINESS and Reminders...

- IPA negotiations – updates will be provided by ACTRA - support of the negotiating committee is appreciated
- Council elections upcoming – voter information to be sent out mid-month
- Federal elections – reminder to vote and encourage others to vote
- Some members were offended with the wording in a recent casting breakdown – note to IPA department for follow-up
- Member, David Bolt, passed away earlier this month.

THE MEETING ADJOURNED AT 4:12 P.M.