

**ACTRA TORONTO
COUNCIL MEETING
TUESDAY, DECEMBER 6, 2016**

PRESENT

David Sparrow, President
Heather Allin, 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
Theresa Tova, Vice-President, Internal Affairs
Rebecca Applebaum
Linda Ballantyne, alternate for Catherine Disher
Christina Collins, alternate for Joel Keller
Sedina Fiati (afternoon only)
Dom Fiore
Jennifer Higgin, alternate for Shereen Airth
Marcia Johnson, alternate for Nicole St. Martin
Don Lamoreux, alternate for Colin Mochrie
Angelica Lisk-Hann
Constantine Meglis, alternate for Shawn Doyle
Jack Newman
Leah Pinsent
Freya Ravensbergen, alternate for Ferne Downey
Julian Richings

REGRETS

Maria Del Mar
Grace Lynn Kung

COMMITTEE & MEMBER CAUCUS CHAIRS

Joe Doran, Chair, Apprentice Caucus

GUESTS

Donal Hansman
Lorne Goodman

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
Stephen Waddell, National Executive Director, ACTRA
Luca De Franco, Public Relations Officer, ACTRA Toronto
Laura McKelvey, Senior Commercial Coordinator, 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 10:18 a.m. with President, David Sparrow, in the Chair. He welcomed everyone present.

December 6th is the National Day of Remembrance and Action on Violence Against Woman. A moment of silence was held.

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 Heather Allin, seconded by Jack Newman:

“That the Agenda for the ACTRA Toronto Council Meeting of December 6, 2016, be accepted.”

CARRIED

CORRECTION AND APPROVAL OF MINUTES

A number of minor changes were made to the minutes.

Page 1: Joe Doran was not present. Adam Nicholson, Vice Chair, attended on his behalf.

Page 6: Under Other Business, sentence should read: “~~DGC~~ **David Gale** will be ~~screening~~ **hosting** *Funny Bones* at the ~~Akai~~ **Aki** Studio”

MOTION #2

Moved by Leah Pinsent, seconded by David Gale:

“That the Minutes of the ACTRA Toronto Council Meeting of November 1, 2016, as amended, be accepted.”

CARRIED

PRESIDENT’S REPORT

David Sparrow reported on the following items:

- The great event organized by AYA.
- The ACTRA Toronto *Award of Excellence* recipient for 2017 will be Yannick Bisson.
- National Executive meeting in Vancouver. The second 2017 National Council meeting will be held on May 13th and 14th, (not June) to enable the National Councillors to attend the CLC Convention from May 8th to 12th. The new ACTRA National President will be elected at the May meeting. The AFBS AGM will be held at the AGO on May 15th.
- We will be meeting again with SAG/AFTRA in January to continue the discussion on non-union US commercial work in Canada and the United States.

- Catherine MacKinnon was named the 2016 *ACTRA Woman of the Year*. A reception was held to celebrate Catherine's achievements.
- Ubisoft negotiations have concluded and we have a deal. This will be going to the membership for ratification shortly. Sue Milling and Stephen Waddell also reported on the Ubisoft negotiations and presented the Terms of Settlement to the Council.

MOTION #3

Moved by David Macniven, seconded by Clara Pasioka:

"That ACTRA Toronto Council recommends approval of the Terms of Settlement negotiated between ACTRA and Ubisoft Entertainment Inc."

CARRIED

- CASCU has permission for a new share offering.
- FilmOntario Annual General Meeting was well attended. Minister Eleanor McMahon was the guest speaker and spoke very positively about working with the industry to see continued growth.
- AFBS Holiday Party held at the Arts and Letters Club was a good opportunity to meet with members and staff.
- The January Council meeting will be on Tuesday, January 3, 2017. David Macniven and Theresa Tova indicated their intention to run for President. Mr. Sparrow outlined the job of the President which he said is three-pronged: setting the meeting tone, inspiration/motivation/vision and voice/lobbying. Absent Councillors should instruct their alternates how they would like them to vote. There may be an open Executive position on Council, election of which will take place at the February Council meeting.

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Sue Milling reported.

- ACTRA Toronto and ACTRA National have been busy making submissions on Canadian Content in a Digital World. Links to the submissions are on the ACTRA Toronto and ACTRA National websites.
- She reported on non-union commercial production. The Commercial Producers Association of Toronto (CPAT) met with ACTRA and ICA-ACA where they voiced their concerns, one of them being that our agreement is too complicated. Work to simplify and streamline the agreement continues.

The all-inclusive radio rates flyer produced with the help of the Voice Committee was introduced. Discussion ensued.

MOTION #4

Moved by David Macniven, seconded by Heather Allin:

"That ACTRA Toronto Council endorse radio advertising "All-in" campaign."

CARRIED

David Sparrow left the meeting briefly and David Gale assumed the Chair in his absence.

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT (Continued)

Members of USW and COPE staff left the meeting as the two staff agreement negotiations were discussed.

MOTION #5

Moved by Leah Pinsent, seconded by Theresa Tova:

“That ACTRA Toronto Council approve the Terms of Settlement negotiated between the Council of Employers (ACTRA and ACTRA Toronto) and the United Steel, Paper and Forestry, Rubber, Manufacturing, Energy, Allied Industrial, and Service Workers International Union.”

CARRIED

MOTION #6

Moved by David Macniven, seconded by Clara Pasieka:

“That ACTRA Toronto Council approve the Terms of Settlement negotiated between the Council of Employers (ACTRA and ACTRA Toronto) and the Canadian Office and Professional Employees Union.”

CARRIED

THERESA TOVA – TAMAC / EIC WORK AND PROGRESS

Ms Tova reported on TAMAC/EICAA. The EICAA is now called the Canadian Talent Agents Group (CTAG). Both groups are working on revising their Code of Ethics.

ART HINDLE – IMPACT OF LOBBYING ALL THE TIME

Art Hindle reported on Minister McMahon's very positive speech at the FilmOntario Annual General Meeting.

Mr. Hindle attended the City of Toronto Film Board Strategic Planning session. David Sparrow attended a meeting of the Film Board with ACTRA Toronto members. David, Wendy Crewson, Jean Yoon and Joel Keller made a presentation on the importance of regulations governing CanCon. It is important when speaking about the point system to stress that the industry as an ecosystem is made up of domestic and service production. Any change to the rules and regulations needs to be helpful to the ecosystem.

NATIONAL REPORT

Stephen Waddell reported on the BC Animation Agreement negotiations, which is a separate from the BCMPA, unlike the IPA; upcoming NCA negotiations; CTV negotiations; public policy matters and ACTRA's submission to the CRTC on November 30th regarding the private license network renewals.

EXECUTIVE REPORTS

Past President – Heather Allin: Ms Allin reported on the following:

Diversity Advocate Report – on behalf of Jani Lauzon. We met with Caribbean Tales and Trinity Square to discuss our pilot project. The two films produced have garnered awards and a guaranteed screening at the Toronto Black Film Festival. It is hoped that this initiative will grow.

We are in discussion with another festival with a similar type of initiative.

The Reel Asian Film Festival event was spectacular. We have been approached by a sister organization to collaborate for next year. We have been successful in developing a relationship with Reel Asian Pitch winners.

The Toronto Black Film Festival panel has been passed over to the Diversity committee to alleviate any confusion. The agreement has been signed.

Industry Relations – IR staff continues to work with other Toronto staff on simplifying the online version of the NCA.

In November, Taisa Dekker talked to students at George Brown College and Toronto Acting Academy about ACTRA and encouraged them to join the union. She also met with two directors to inform them how to work with ACTRA members on their next film.

TAWC – Shooting went well on the National Women’s Committee video: 90% female crew and 100% female cast.

Diversity Committee – Sedina Fiati reported that the committee met last month and is continuing the momentum with *ShareTheScreen* and the Sandi Ross award for next year.

The committee is contemplating a professional development initiative.

Mr. Sparrow reminded the committee to send in their budgets for 2017 – 2018.

Vice-President, Member-at-Large – Wendy Crewson: *TAWC* – Marcia Johnson reported on behalf of Nicole St. Martin that the committee is working on offering another filmmakers workshop in March. Toolkit initiative is in place and the Nell Shipman Award Gala will be in the spring.

Stunt Committee – Ms Crewson reported that the Stunt Committee’s holiday party is on December 11th. The next committee meeting is on Friday, December 9th from 10:00 a.m. to 12:00 noon.

Vice-President, Member Services – Clara Pasiaka: Ms Pasiaka reported. The *Member Services Committee* did not meet.

The *Parades Committee* also have not met but continue to build energy around other activities.

YEAA – Last month was Bryn McAuley’s last meeting as Co-Chair. She thanked Ms McAuley for her leadership from the inception of YEAA and welcomed Kristina Esposito as Co-Chair.

YEAA Creates films were screened and the committee is looking for more opportunities to see what they can do with those films.

Vice-President, Communications – David Gale: *Conference Committee* – Marcia Johnson reported on behalf of Ms St. Martin that the workshops for the Winter Conference have been planned.

Awards: Mr. Gale reported on behalf of Maria del Mar that there have been a historic number of submissions this year.

Magazine: The *Performers* magazine will be out in time for the Winter Members Conference and Awards.

Performers On Set will be out in the next two weeks or so.

Performers Online – will be the voice of ACTRA Toronto on-line.

Vice-President, External Affairs – Art Hindle: Mr. Hindle reported on Mayor Tory's five-point plan for the screen-based industry which was approved by Toronto Council earlier in the year. He attended the strategic planning session which discussed how the plan will be implemented.

Voice Committee – Linda Ballantyne: Ms Ballantyne reported that she and Shauna MacDonald met with Ubisoft Casting Directors and suggested that they have an open house casting session. They also offered to hold a workshop with voice actors to make them aware of what is involved in working in video games.

Full Member Background Committee – Constantine Meglis: Mr. Meglis reported that the committee did not meet in November. Their next meeting is on December 14th from 10:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.

Vice-President, Internal Affairs – Theresa Tova: AYA – Jennifer Higgin reported on wonderful AYA event on December 5th. There was a lot of great energy in the room.

A workshop is planned for January 15th with Mary Ellen Mahoney – *Beating the Winter Blahs*.

Children's Committee: Christina Collins reported that an information session for parents of minors will be held on January 18th. There will be someone from the Toronto Police Department in attendance to talk about cyber security and stalking.

Ms Dekker will represent ACTRA Toronto at Humber College's the Business of Acting course and talk to the students about the union.

Agents: Ms Tova meets with TAMAC agents on a regular basis. The President of TAMAC is on the EIC Board. TAMAC is now vetting a new updated Code of Ethics as well.

Ombudsperson's Report: Karen Ivany will report at the January meeting.

Treasurer – David Macniven: *AABP Caucus* Chair, Les Williams, was unable to attend today's Council meeting. The caucus is working towards an event for January.

Apprentice Caucus – Joe Doran reported that they are planning an event to bring members together and promote themselves. This event is being planned for end January/early February.

OTHER BUSINESS

Cayle Chernin Award – Submissions open for another two months.

Thank You – from outgoing President, David Sparrow

Mr. Sparrow gave an end of term address thanking Council and Staff for their support and excellent work over the last four years and identifying the following priorities he hoped ACTRA Toronto would never lose sight of: building Work Ops & expanding our jurisdiction, the fight for CanCon, Copyright and Intellectual Property Rights protection, NCA (union density, simplicity), ACTRAonline (engager access & simplicity, member portal & communication), Member Retention (service & value proposition), constant lobbying (Fed/Prov/City), branding our professionalism (Reputation Capital), adapting to new technologies & practices, building even stronger relationships with our stakeholder partners, envisioning the steps necessary to see ACTRA Toronto grow and remain strong for another 75 years.

THE MEETING ADJOURNED AT 3:45 P.M.