

**ACTRA TORONTO
COUNCIL MEETING
TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 1, 2016**

PRESENT

David Sparrow, President
Heather Allin, Past President
Art Hindle, Vice-President, External Affairs
David Gale, Vice-President, Communications
David Macniven, Treasurer (morning only)
Clara Pasioka, Vice-President, Member Services
Theresa Tova, Vice-President, Internal Affairs
Shereen Airth
Rebecca Applebaum
Lisa Michelle Cornelius, alternate for Sedina Fiati
Maria Del Mar
Ferne Downey (morning only)
Dom Fiore
Jennifer Higgin, alternate for Catherine Disher
Joel Keller
Grace Lynn Kung
Don Lamoreux, alternate for Colin Mochrie
Jack Newman
Leah Pinsent
Freya Ravensbergen, alternate for Nicole St. Martin
Julian Richings
Safiya Ricketts, alternate for Wendy Crewson, VP, Member-at-Large
Richard Young, alternate for Shawn Doyle

REGRETS

Angelica Lisk-Hann

COMMITTEE & MEMBER CAUCUS CHAIRS

Adam Nicholson, Vice-Chair, Apprentice Caucus
Les Williams, Chair, Additional Background Performers Caucus

GUESTS

Jennifer Story
Marit Stiles

ALSO PRESENT

Sue Milling, Executive Director, 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
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 10:10 a.m. with President, David Sparrow, in the Chair. He welcomed everyone present.

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 David Macniven, seconded by Heather Allin:

“That the Agenda for the ACTRA Toronto Council Meeting of November 1, 2016, be accepted.”

CARRIED

CORRECTION AND APPROVAL OF MINUTES

A number of minor changes and typographical errors were made to the minutes.

MOTION #2

Moved by Leah Pinsent, seconded by David Gale:

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

CARRIED

PRESIDENT’S REPORT

David Sparrow reported on the following items:

- Day of Action – Mr. Sparrow thanked staff and Michal Hay for organizing a tremendous Day of Action. 750 members signed up to take action. “Our ACTRAvists are ready to lobby for positive change.”
- Cultural Strategy Review – Ontario and Federal. The Ontario Cultural Minister is in support of our industry and will be advocating stability in the federal consultations regarding culture.
- The last John Drainie Awards were jointly presented by ACTRA and CBC/Radio-Canada on October 5th to Mark Starowitz, Ann-Marie MacDonald and Rick Mercer.
- Mr. Sparrow will be meeting next week in Vancouver with Keith Martin Gordey to discuss permit rules in the National Constitution and By-Laws.
- ACTRA was well represented at the DGC Awards on October 22nd.
- TAMAC: met with the agents recently to discuss joint efforts in organizing, and promotion of voice talent.
- Met with the Canadian Media Guild (CMG) to talk about outreach to people working in Factual/Lifestyle and Reality television productions.
- Ubisoft negotiations are scheduled for November 28th and 29th in Montreal. The Executive discussed and recommended that Ivan Sherry, Grace Lynn Kung and David Sparrow represent ACTRA Toronto on the National Negotiating Committee.

MOTION #3

Moved by David Macniven, seconded by Heather Allin:

“That Council endorse the recommendation that Ivan Sherry, Grace Lynn Kung and David Sparrow represent ACTRA Toronto on the Ubisoft National Negotiating Committee.”

CARRIED

- ACTRA Toronto’s new President will be elected at the January meeting. This meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, January 3, 2017.

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR’S REPORT

Sue Milling reported.

- Day of Action – it was a great asset to have Michal Hays working with us on this project.
- Commercial production, including commercials for US use, is steady in Toronto.
- FilmOntario Annual General Meeting is on November 30th at 6:00 p.m. at the Ritz Carlton on Wellington.
- Workplace Change Review – ACTRA Toronto responded to the interim report. Hope to see a final report in the spring. Expect there will be further consultations with unions and guilds in the entertainment sector.
- Staff bargaining – bargaining with the staff unions, COPE and USW, is on-going.
- Murray Cruickshank is the new Acting CEO of CASCU.

NATIONAL REPORT

National President, Ferne Downey, reported on #DigiCanCon and the consultation meetings taking place across the country. We have got until November 25th to get our submissions in to the Ministry. She also reported on Telefilm Canada, CUES, the CLC Human Rights and Young Workers conferences, SAG-AFTRA’s attendance at the UBCP-ACTRA Awards and the Animation Agreement negotiations, and the very successful event to present the final John Drainie Awards.

STORIES FROM OCTOBER 13TH DAY-OF-ACTION

A brief discussion ensued.

ROUND TABLE – 3 QUESTIONS RE FEDERAL CULTURE REVIEW – HAVE YOUR SAY

A round table discussion was held with Marit Stiles and Jennifer Story facilitating. Council was joined by some of the members who had lobbied on the Day of Action to participate in the roundtable.

ROUND TABLE – 2017 AWARD OF EXCELLENCE RECIPIENT – IN CAMERA

A round table discussion took place regarding the 2017 Award of Excellence recipient.

ROUND TABLE – 2017 OP PLAN – BLUE SKY – BIG IDEAS

A blue sky session was held to discuss the 2017 Op Plan.

EXECUTIVE REPORTS

Treasurer – David Macniven: Mr. Macniven read Bryn McAuley’s email re the Young Workers Conference. Ms McAuley was grateful for being given the opportunity to attend this event.

Apprentice Caucus: There was nothing to report.

Mr. Macniven reminded Caucuses and Committees to submit their 2017-18 budget requests by the December Council or Executive.

Vice-President, Member Services – Clara Pasioka: YEAA: Ms Pasioka reported that YEAA Shorts at ReelWorld was well attended and inspiring. Much thanks to the committee leads and members who participated and attended the screening.

YEAA Creates – three of the creators have shot their movies.

Bryn McAuley is stepping down as Co-Chair of YEAA. Kristina Esposito is being recommended to succeed her.

MOTION #4

Moved by Clara Pasioka, seconded by David Macniven:

“That Council accept the recommendation that Kristina Esposito be appointed as Co-Chair of YEAA.”

CARRIED

Young Workers Summit – Ms Pasioka said that it was a great opportunity to be able to attend this summit in Ottawa.

Past President – Heather Allin: Ms Allin reported.

Diversity Committee: #ShareTheScreen continues as an on-line campaign and will be further developed in coming months.

The next committee meeting is on November 23rd.

Lisa Michelle Cornelius reported on the Coalition of Black Trade Unionists.

Diversity Advocate Report: Ms Allin reported on behalf of Jani Lauzon, on the following: The imagineNATIVE Film Festival, August Schellenberg Award of Excellence and Reel Asian Film Festival. She also reported that they are debriefing the process for the Caribbean Tales Film Festival and that the upcoming meeting of the Toronto Black Film Festival is on Thursday, November 3rd.

On Wednesday, November 9th ACTRA Toronto, along with CBC and Thunderbird Productions will be sponsoring a panel discussion along with the screening of two unaired episodes of *Kim's Convenience* at the Glenn Gould Theatre. ACTRA members are eligible for a 20% discount through the Reel Asian website.

Industry Relations: We continue to engage in outreach and organizing efforts.

We will be reaching out to a number of advertisers to talk to them about working with ACTRA on their next projects.

A New Media producer who reached out to us in September has recently confirmed that they will be engaging ACTRA performers on their production shooting this winter.

A producer contacted us seeking information about engaging ACTRA members on a short film. Shortly after that they submitted paperwork to do their project under the Canadian Independent Production Incentive Program (CIPIP).

Ms Dekker attended *Game on Ventures* – a video game conference. Taisa promoted ACTRA voice performers and voice.actraonline.ca to producers.

ACTRA National Women's Committee – video will be shooting in Toronto later in November.

Vice-President, Communications – David Gale: Editorial Committee: The committee will be meeting next week re *Performers Online*.

Conference Committee: The committee had a blue sky session at the last meeting. The dates for the conference are February 22, 23 and 24 (caucus meetings at the ACTRA Toronto office).

Awards Committee: A new award category has been added – *Best Ensemble Cast* of a series. The Awards will be on Saturday, February 25th. Submissions are welcome.

Vice-President, External Affairs – Art Hindle: Mr. Hindle reported. The Day of Action was a rousing success and we need to build on it.

He encouraged Councillors to attend the FilmOntario Annual General Meeting on November 30th.

Vice-President, Member-at-Large – Wendy Crewson: TAWC: Freya Ravensbergen reported. Toolkit B workshops are underway.

The latest TAWCkie, with Tony Williams, has been completed.

The committee is still working with AFBS re benefits.

Vice-President, Internal Affairs – Theresa Tova: *Act Your Age* – Jennifer Higgin reported that AYA's holiday event, *Let's Celebrate*, is on December 5th. Tickets are \$20 with all proceeds going to PAL and AFC. Cost is \$25 at the door.

The committee has organized dance classes and the *4 Score Tea* is on November 13th.

Stunt Committee: The committee has not been able to meet this month due to work commitments.

Voice Committee Update: Mr. Sparrow reported that the committee has been very active and eager to continue their work to increase work opportunities for Toronto voicer performers.

Stephen Waddell is in Vancouver for the BC Animation agreement negotiations.

Full Member Background Committee: The committee met over the last month and discussed the video that they would like to produce.

OTHER BUSINESS

David Gale will be hosting *Funny Bones* at the Aki Studio on November 4th and 5th at 8:00 p.m. and November 6th at 2:00 p.m.

Kim's Convenience will be screened at *Glenn Gould Theatre*.

THE MEETING ADJOURNED AT 4:03 P.M.