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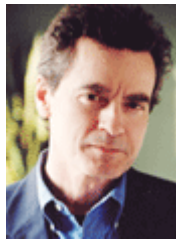
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## PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

## The Members of this Union are Second to None



March 23, 2006

### Dear colleagues, fellow ACTRA members:

I want to touch on some of the initiatives that ACTRA is continuing to stoke on the national front, all of which we maintain, hand-in-hand, with the full support of all of our members.

There are three areas to tell you about:

- \* our work towards compelling the federal government and the broadcasting establishment to bring about a renaissance of our Canadian film and television industry;
- \* the solidifying of a good business agreement between ACTRA and the AFBS (read more about this in the upcoming issue of *InterACTRA*);
- \* and our highest priority - to achieve a fair and proper deal for all our members who work in independent film and television through the negotiation of our national IPA (Independent Production Agreement).

In our campaign for a prosperous homegrown film and television industry, ACTRA continues our efforts to change public policy. Focusing on both Parliamentary legislators in Ottawa and the bureaucrats and regulators that have protected the status quo, the full-on lobbying for Canada's unique cultural identity must be intensified. This has never been a small project and we've not deluded ourselves on the commitment it requires. The sea change needed is an immense challenge, one we must keep up not simply for our careers but for the greater promise of our culture.

The corporate players in broadcasting are continuing to make massive revenues while hiding from the fact that we have a distinct culture - one that is more than daytime U.S. soaps, non-scripted 'reality' programming, and big-budget series blasting in simulcast over the frontier.

This status quo has to go. It is bankrupt of any real encouragement for the cultural identity of English-speaking Canadians.

ACTRA has been building our efforts to turn this situation around. We are committing full-time resources on the National level, our members have been weighing in when called upon, and our high profile performers are lining up to help get ACTRA's message across.

We will continue to lead the way to a dynamic and healthy future for our industry. We can, and will, build a place in which all of us have the opportunity to share in the prosperity of a strong cultural industry for this nation.

As we continue to work to build our industry, we're also preparing for our biggest test, the renewal of the IPA.

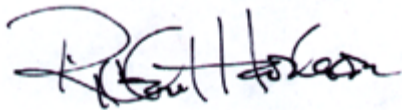
We are fighting for respectful gains for all performers. Above all, we are determined that when it comes to working in productions destined for other markets, the members of ACTRA are second to none. We deserve to be paid at the same levels as the SAG members who we share scenes with on the same projects. We will continue to welcome the major studios to come up and shoot in Canada, but our bargaining team is going to drive into the minds of the those studios the message that we are tired of being treated as second-class on our own soil. This too will be a big battle and, again, one we can't ignore. We have heard across the country that it's a just cause. I have spoken about it with members from Vancouver to St. John's.

Our round of bargaining will follow on the heels of that of the UBCP, ACTRA's branch in British Columbia.

That is ongoing, and we are offering the solidarity of ACTRA's full 21,000 membership in support of our sisters and brothers of UBCP who are determined to resist the insulting demands being made by producers for unprecedented concessions and wage roll-backs.

We are counting on you and every ACTRA member to preserve our unity. ACTRA is a powerful union of proud performers. Let's keep making it better and stronger.

In solidarity,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Richard Hardacre". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a large initial "R" and "H".

**Richard Hardacre**  
**National President**  
**ACTRA**