



ACTRA

CHOOSE A ROLE

MEMBER INDUSTRY SITESEER

JUMP TO

YOU ARE IN: ACTRA NATIONAL

ACTRA TOOLS

home site map glossary industry links contact

HOME

WHAT IS ACTRA

WORKING WITH ACTRA

MEMBERSHIP IN ACTRA

NEWS & INFORMATION

DOCUMENT LIBRARY

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

WHAT'S HAPPENING

FACE TO FACE ONLINE

ACTRA BRANCHES

ACTRA PLAN

ACTRA PRS

 **BACK**

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Striving for the Respect We Deserve



May 1, 2006

Dear colleagues, fellow ACTRA members:

We just saw a federal election campaign through which we hung in tough to put Canada's culture and the protection of our unique identity into the election planks of several parties. We did this from beginning to end with the concerted voices of our members, including some of our most prominent performers and our elected leaders. Our ongoing advocacy to make culture a priority for government and broadcasting is grinding work. But, thanks to all of you, we are having an impact... and we have no reason to stop.

With this experience we've offered proof again that our strength in unity gets results. This is the might and commitment we need now to back up the bargaining of the IPA, our big contract that, as I've written earlier in these pages, drives the engines of film and television production in so much of this country.

I want to assure you that our team of performers from across the country and our professional, seasoned negotiators working on this round of bargaining are committed to a clear theme – making respectful gains for all our members who seek and attain work in independent film and television production. And we are determined that when it comes to performing or competing for roles in 'foreign' productions destined for the giant U.S. market – productions we can easily describe as 'full budget' – the members of this union will be regarded as second to none.

Our struggle in negotiations will certainly be an uphill battle pitched against the hired expertise of major studios. They have advised us that we'd better get used to the idea of accepting concessions and offering deals across the board. And this comes at a time when our American cousins were successful in achieving respectful gains! We have never been better prepared, and we will do our best to keep you informed of the progress of our bargaining. I urge all the members of ACTRA to be united and supportive behind our negotiations. Staying together and strong, the employers will have to pay attention to us all. "What is my intention?" thinks an actor.

What strong and capable performers like us know how to do is to be clear about an intention, and then with full commitment, work to achieve it. Well, we are clear, we are passionate and determined, and we will achieve the respect that we merit.

In solidarity,

Richard Hardacre
National President
ACTRA