



November 3, 2006

Dear Colleague and fellow ACTRA member,

As you are aware, the *Independent Production Agreement* [IPA] expires on December 31, 2006. After months of delays by the producers, negotiations between ACTRA's bargaining committee and the producers' associations kicked off on October 23 and 24.

Unfortunately, while ACTRA put forward reasonable proposals for incremental increases to our pay and improvements to our working conditions, the producers proposed widespread cuts that would take our agreement back fifteen years. Their demands are a comprehensive attack on every area of our contract. Thus ACTRA has now sought labour mediation in an attempt to move beyond the producers' regressive proposals, and come to a reasonable agreement before the contract expires.

We are sending you this letter – and the enclosed materials – so that you are fully informed about the state of negotiations. The negotiating team has recommended, and ACTRA's National Council has now authorized, seeking a strike mandate from the entire membership. On November 15<sup>th</sup>, a strike referendum ballot will be mailed to all members eligible to vote, and your negotiation team will be looking for your support. Your vote to authorize a withdrawal of service is a powerful mandate. It could be used if negotiations break down irreparably. And it will certainly send a strong message to producers that our members are not willing to stand for their proposed cuts.

Your future and that of all your fellow members is now at stake. Please read the enclosed letter from some of Canada's most respected and prominent performers – your ACTRA brothers and sisters. Then we ask that you judge for yourself, using the comparison of ACTRA and Producer proposals that is included in this mailing. We urge you to visit our website frequently at [www.actra.ca](http://www.actra.ca) for updates, fact sheets, and other bargaining information. If you are not receiving regular email updates on bargaining, please send your email address to [ipa@actra.ca](mailto:ipa@actra.ca)

If you do not receive a referendum package after November 15<sup>th</sup>, but you think you are eligible to vote, please contact your local ACTRA Branch.

Please watch your mailbox for this important referendum package.

In Solidarity,

Richard Hardacre  
National President  
ACTRA  
and Chair, IPA Negotiation Committee

Stephen Waddell  
National Executive Director  
ACTRA  
and ACTRA Chief Negotiator

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**Alliance of Canadian Cinema, Television and Radio Artists**

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Affiliated with the Canadian Labour Congress (CLC)  
and the International Federation of Actors (FIA)

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