



ACTRA

DECEMBER 2000-JANUARY 2001

HOLIDAY BULLETIN

Holiday Greetings from ACTRA



DEAR MEMBERS:

As we approach the New Year, ACTRA is stronger than it has ever been in our 50-year history. Our membership is growing and members are working more - and earning more - than ever before. Our union has developed a dynamic new ACTRA Plan, setting clear objectives and benchmarks for the next five years. As well, our financial health is good, membership support is strong and we have an exciting new national home. We are also rolling out a contemporary new logo and image with this holiday bulletin.



The past couple of years have been challenging for our members and for performers around the world. But we have not only survived these challenges, we have grown stronger as a result. We have renewed our commitment to provide first-class service to members and position ACTRA as a leader in our industry. In the past year, new initiatives including the hiring of ACTRA organizers have promoted a strong sense of solidarity among members and a sense of purpose across the organization.

In addition, we have successfully supported our US colleagues during their difficult commercial strike. The experience proves that international solidarity may well be the key to dealing with the challenging negotiations that we will face next year. In the past, we have proven our abilities at the bargaining table. We must now speak with one strong voice, augmented by that of fellow performers around the world, to achieve the level of respect and remuneration we deserve.

The holiday period is traditionally a time of celebration and reflection. At ACTRA, we can celebrate major progress in key areas and reflect on a job well done.

I hope the holidays bring peace and happiness to every ACTRA member. As we enter 2001, I wish you and your family the very best for the New Year.

THOR BISHOPRIC
National President

NEW TIMES, NEW LOC

We are pleased to launch a new logo and new image for the organization with this bulletin.



ACTRA

"This new logo spotlights the essence of our organization and the artistry of our members," said David Macniven, chair of ACTRA's national Communications Committee.

"We believe it presents an image of ACTRA that is strong, contemporary, and performance-based."

Greetings from **coast to coast**



While we look forward to all the challenges we face in the New Year, Season's Greetings from all of us at ACTRA Maritimes. Happy Holidays and warmest regards.

ANDREW MACVICAR
ACTRA Maritimes President



ACTRA Montreal had its largest turnout ever for the recent Annual General Meeting and party, with over 350 members and apprentice members in attendance! I hope the upbeat mood and keen interest emanating from our members become infectious in our sister branches across the country as ACTRA heads into an exciting New Year.

MATT HOLLAND
Montreal President



Season's Greetings to all our members across the country, and best wishes in health, love and money in the New Year.

BOB COLLINS
ACTRA Toronto Performers President

OOK

ACTRA is moving in bold new directions.

For the last few months, a group of ACTRA officers and National Councillors have worked on the redesign of ACTRA's logo with Gottschalk+Ash, an international communications firm. ACTRA had a long list of requirements for the designers.

- We wanted a logo that focussed on performance and highlighted who we are and what we do. ACTRA's mission is to negotiate, safeguard and promote the professional rights of our members. Through three core activities - bargaining, organizing and service to members - we defend the rights of our members and enable professional performers to realize their individual dreams.
- We wanted a logo that is strong, bold and creative, human rather than industrial, warm rather than cold.
- We wanted a logo that is versatile, works well in all media, and lends itself to animation for our web site and electronic productions.

We believe Gottschalk+Ash delivered on all counts. The new logo represents the performer, in the spotlight, at the centre of every production...the performer protected by ACTRA and its three core activities represented by the three powerful spots...the performer confident in pursuing a successful artistic career.

In the coming weeks and months, you will see the logo on ACTRA stationary, publications, our web site, building signs, ACTRA merchandise, and in a series of industry ads. We will use it in new and innovative ways - to raise our profile as a central player in the industry and to demonstrate that ACTRA supports members' needs to pursue your individual artistic careers.



Greetings from snowy Saskatchewan! We've enjoyed a busy year here with increased opportunities for members - the development of a Professional Development Committee along with the deeming of performers under the Saskatchewan Tax Credit. Happy holidays and best wishes to all our brother and sister branches for 2001! Exciting times lie ahead!

CHRIS SCOTT
Saskatchewan President



Happy times to all performers from sunny Calgary, where we continue to improve not only our weather but work and training for our members. Our New Year resolution is to make 2001 the best year ever for our members.

ROD PADMOS
Calgary President



Season's greetings from your West Coast colleagues. We wish you a serene holiday season and a New Year chock full of productivity, success, and good health.

JOHN JULIANI
Union of BC Performers
President





ACTRA National moves to new home

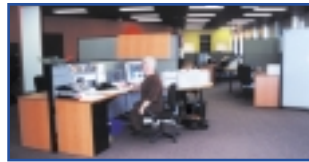


On August 28, ACTRA National moved into new offices at 625 Church Street in downtown Toronto.

The new quarters give ACTRA an attractive new home with efficient work space for staff and bright conference areas for ACTRA meetings and industry events.

ACTRA Toronto Performers Branch is located at the same address. Its new office features a large storefront membership area to ensure high quality service to members.

Please drop by whenever you have the opportunity!



ACTRA's new national office: The official opening

(top left) BC Councillor Kate Robbins and Toronto Councillor Jennifer Wigmore. (top right) Former National Treasurer Ian Black. (middle) Staff person Lee Lambert in her new work space. (left) Sean Mulcahy, Co-Chair of the National Archives and Heritage Committee, in front of photo wall. (bottom right) Toronto Councillor Ferne Downey with National Executive Director Stephen Waddell.

SAG and AFTRA thank ACTRA for support

On October 23, SAG and AFTRA's 165,000 members reached an agreement with the US commercial industry, bringing an end to the longest strike in US entertainment history.

John McGuire, chief negotiator for SAG, thanked ACTRA members for their steadfast solidarity with US colleagues, saying the US unions could not have achieved a fair and equitable contract without the tremendous support of fellow unions including ACTRA.

Bill Daniels, National President of SAG, said ACTRA members can count on solidarity from American performers when it is our turn at the bargaining table. "It is very clear that all unions in the future will be called upon to stand with another as never before and we will not forget your needs in the days and years ahead."

US performers are pleased with the settlement and delighted to be back at work. Daniels said, "We are proud of our achievements, in preserving the best of our past by fighting off rollbacks, addressing the present by achieving a fair rate of compensation for cable, and insuring our future by achieving recognition on the Internet. There are two goals in a strike: to get a better contract and to strengthen the union. We have achieved both."



Solidarity. During the six month SAG/AFTRA strike against the advertising industry, ACTRA did everything in its power and authority to support US performers.



(above) ACTRA President Thor Bishopric speaking at a SAG/AFTRA rally in Cincinnati

(left) Chuck Shamata and a striking SAG member taking part at an ACTRA solidarity rally at Toronto City Hall.