

From: Stephen Waddell
To: Simon Whipp
Cc: Ferne Downey ; Joanne Deer ; Marit Stiles ; Carol Taverner ; DJ Anderson
Sent: Tue Jul 28 02:52:39 2009
Subject: ACTRA Letter of Support for MEAA
July 27, 2009

To: Simon Whipp, Director, Equity Section, Media, Entertainment and Arts Alliance
(Australia)

Dear Simon:

Thank you for advising us that 98% of Australia's actors have voted to strike on offshore television commercials if a deal with the Screen Producers Association of Australia (SPAA) is not reached by August 7.

We understand that the Offshore Commercials Agreement is a joint Equity/SPAA contract that sets the rates of pay and conditions for performers' work on television commercials that are shot in Australia but screened overseas.

Australian and Canadian actors have a long-standing tradition of working together to improve the terms and conditions for performers. Our relationship is built on the natural solidarity that exists among performers everywhere.

In the event that MEAA is forced to take strike action against SPAA, ACTRA members will be instructed not to work on any advertising in Australia unless such commercials are being produced on a contract between the producer and MEAA.

We support our Australian sisters and brothers in their struggle and remain hopeful that negotiations between MEAA and SPAA can reach a fair and equitable deal.

In Solidarity,

Stephen Waddell
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