

Saskatchewan Media Production Industry Association Annual General Meeting

Tuesday, June 22, 2021@6:00pm (ZOOM)

Board Members Attending: President Lioz Bouganin, Dawn Bird, Brent (tBone) Blazieko, Alan Bratt, Layton, Burton, Lowell Dean, Andrea Hoffman, Darryl Kessler, Ryland Lukiwski

New Appointees: Valerie Bradshaw, Anthony Towstego

Regrets: Peter LaRocque, Ben Lies ,Hugh Patterson

Executive Director Ken Alecxe and Office Manager Jolene Kriska

Call to order [6:15]

1. Introduction of Patricia J. F. Warsaba QC/McKercher LLP Presentation

Topic: Relevant Legal Issues on Covid - Copyright, Insurance

2. Welcome From Lioz Bouganin - President

3. Call to Order

4. Approval of Agenda

Motioned: Joanne McDonald **Seconded:** Darryl Kessler **CARRIED**

5. Approval of Minutes from the June 26, 2020 AGM

Motioned: Stevan Fuchs **Seconded** Patricia Warsaba **CARRIED**

Alan Pratt is changed to Alan Bratt from AGM 2020

6. President's Remarks (Lioz Bouganin) In Annual Report 2021

7. Executive Director's Remarks (Ken Alecxe) In Annual Report 2021

8. Approval of the 2020/2021 Audit

Motioned: Mike MacNaughton **Seconded** Jack Walton **CARRIED**

9. Appointment of Directors to the SMPIA Board & explanation of process

Names and Bios Listed below

1. Voted on entire slate

Re Elected:

Lioz Bouganin
Dawn Bird
Hugh Patterson

2 new Board Appointed Members

Valerie Bradshaw
Anthony Towstego

10. Adjournment of the formal AGM:

Motioned: **Seconded** Lowell Dean **Adjourned: 6:45pm**

11. Town Hall

i) Community Engagement Report and Discussion

Presented by Mike MacNaughton

Town Hall meeting

Community Engagement Report and Discussion Presented by Mike MacNaughton

- Approximately 100 to 150 meetings for support to industry for endorsers.
- Around 30 endorsers have signed up and we have more that may come on board.
- Most that are in the province are on board.
- Some Ministers are starting to repeat what we are saying.
- Have strong support those who have strong ties and support from the Gov't.
- Have meetings booked in the future.
- Surveys show we have 80% support for the film industry in Saskatchewan.
- Continuing to reach out with businesses in Saskatchewan and have more rural business and chambers.
- When you let them know what it is about, they in some cases turn to being strong supporters
- Many voices for all directions speaking for us.
- Hoping this fall to have some government movement but may have to wait for the next budget.
- Bill C-10 that was passed last night. It is projected at about a billion dollars worth of production funding to the eco system. Which none may show up here and will have to still pay the fees like Netflix's.
- As we start to open up, it will help build relationships with Ministers and if they have any question please let us know so we can address them.

COMMENTS FROM MEMBERS:

- Great to hear that there is some movement from the Regina Economic Authority but within the last year in Alberta they are being very public and coming forward with the numbers and are in partnership with government and are working hard for the industry. Toronto, BC and Manitoba are opening multiple Studios and that are helping. Have we used this as point to show that they had reduced credits but had to revert back?
 - Alberta great example they have moved from a Grant System to a Tax Credit System. Pulled the cap off of productions only to put back. Manitoba made their grant program then they doubled down twice.
- What is with the Saskatchewan Chamber? They have signed on and is organizing a presentation for others.
- Bill C10 was passed but our government has been very critical. How does SMPIA navigate that Bill C10 is not going away.
 - We have been trying to separate the two issues. This has stopped the push back. Must have better messaging.
- Thank You for all the good work.
- We are trying to encourage government
- Trends in Regina & Saskatoon from an entire new crop of filmmakers and creators are creating hybrid tech form artists that are using tech and VR animation and the whole digital sector. They are going to be the creators that use tech. How do we engage that community? Are a large amount of service providers in the video production industry for corporation commercial sector and are branching out in film a lot. Have we approached these filmmakers or engaged with them to watch their developments?
 - We have worked with Sask Interactive but have not approached these groups. There is a group that wants to help us with our membership profile and SMPIA needs attention and realize we need to make this change
- SMPIA needs to get more training about NFT's and there is so much global movement. It will help establish filmmakers.
- New breed of filmmakers are emerging and SMPIA should engage them. Need to see how we can bring them into the fold.
- If Covid had not happened we could be face to face with Ministers. University is trying to intersect with how to keep people safe when they start coming back. There will be more students wanting to work in this industry. This has been a challenging year to run workshops virtually in all areas. University is going to be wearing masks in hallways and classrooms

regardless of what the government mandates and what is SMPIA going to do with the workshops. Are we going to be encouraging people to wear masks.

- We have to go through a transition and do not know what it looks like and we cannot go from rules to no rules and we cannot trip up in this industry and when it comes to SMPIA events we can only ask but not enforce. We will encourage them to wear masks and social distance. Important to make people comfortable.

BOARD SLATE: CANDIDATE PROFILES

FOLLOWING THE RESULTS OF THE CALL FOR NOMINATIONS THE CANDIDATES BELOW ARE RENEWED FOR ANOTHER TERM OR ARE FILLING THE TWO VACANT BOARD POSITIONS.

THE NEW MEMBERS FILLING THE POSITIONS ARE

VAL BRADSHAW & TONY J. TOWSTEGO

OTHERWISE, ALL CURRENT BOARD MEMBERS REMAIN IN THEIR POSITIONS WITH THE

EXCEPTION OF (TBONE) BRENT BLAZIEKO

SMPIA would like to thank him for all of his excellent work on the board and look forward his continued contributions that he provides on our committees!



Lioz Bouganin-Producer Bio

Lioz Bouganin is an award-winning producer and writer with over fifteen years of experience in the film and television industry. A graduate of the University of Regina film production program, Lioz started his career at Regina based Four Square Entertainment. Lioz's programs have aired on networks such as CBC, Citytv/Rogers, YES TV, History, Discovery and APTN. Lioz has a long-standing partnership with Missinipi Broadcasting Corp (MBC) based in La Ronge. Together they produced a number of documentary and children's programs for APTN. He is the producer and co-writer of the children animated series, Louis Says seasons 1-3 (52 episodes). The series airs in Canada on APTN, YES TV and Citytv and a new season is currently in production (16 episodes). His other credits include feature film "Mercy" (executive producer), animated series Sonny's World (Citytv), documentary film Jim Brady: In the Footsteps of the Metis Leader (APTN) and CBC documentary "Under the Skin: Drugs, Dreams and Demons" (Golden Sheaf Winner for Best of Saskatchewan).

Lioz continues to develop film and TV projects through his Regina-based company, Landslide Entertainment, including factual formats, scripted series and two animated series co-productions with Brazil and Scotland. He is also working on a co-production with Germany for a documentary film on the January 2021 U.S Capitol attack. Lioz is the

president/board chair of SMPA as well as a National Screen Institute (NSI) graduate and a voting member of the Academy of Canadian Cinema & Television.



Dawn Bird, Producer

Originally from British Columbia, Dawn is an actor, writer, casting director and producer for tv, film and web in Regina, Saskatchewan. She runs three Regina-based production companies: B.E.ZEE Productions Inc., DBD Productions Inc and Iron Door Productions Inc.

Dawn produced the TV series Teen Zone for Shaw Cable, as well as the comedic web series Over the Fence, which she also co-wrote.

Dawn produced the film Bread Thieves, which won the Rising Star Award at The

Canadian International Film Festival in 2014. She also wrote and produced the short film Dressed to Impress, which was one of three winners of the ACTRA diversity competition and was shown at the Yorkton Film Festival in Saskatchewan.

Dawn has worked on numerous films and television programs as a Production Manager/Coordinator, Field Producer and Line Producer. She has also helped produce a number of TV commercials (SGI, Sasktel and Saskatchewan Union of Nurses) and worked as an Associate Producer on the reality TV series Nordic Lodge.

Currently, Dawn is a producer of a preschool animated tv series called Why Am I for City TV. She is working on the show's third season which will be aired in August of 2021.

Dawn completed the production of the feature film "Mercy," in 2020, which was nominated for Best Canadian Feature at The Whistler Film Festival, was a finalist at 4th Dimension Film Festival, won best Queer Narrative Feature at Beyond the Curve International Film Festival and has recently been picked up by Summer Hill Films Distribution. Most recently, Dawn landed the role of Producer for a comedic web series entitled "Zarqa" which has been picked up by CBC Gem and will be going into production October 2021.



Hugh Patterson, Producer Echolands

Hugh has fifteen years experiencing all aspects of film production and distribution. Starting as a technician, he is now an award-winning Producer. Hugh continues to build Echolands, establishing itself on the global film market and continues to leverage our experience and expertise in development, financing and producing content for major Canadian, American and International broadcasters and distributors.

Echolands Creative Group, Inc, is an independent motion picture production company managed by business, creative, entertainment, legal and media professionals. We share a common goal to produce unconventional, sustainable and riveting independent films. Based in Regina, Saskatchewan, Canada, the executives started Echolands Creative Group in 2009 to drive their collective passions of storytelling in a variety of mediums while collaborating with like minded individuals across North America.

The film industry has limitless possibilities, and we look forward to being a part of Saskatchewan's growth.

Board Elected Candidates



Val Bradshaw, Educator - Journalist

Val Bradshaw started her media career as a broadcast journalist with CHAT Radio & TV in Medicine Hat Alberta. Her responsibilities grew into Program Director for what was then known as Cablevision where she wrote, filmed, produced & hosted human interest radio & television programming with reach across Alberta & Saskatchewan.

After moving to Calgary AB, she embarked on several major projects for the news department at CFCN Television. Partnering with then-reporter Ralph Klein, the pinnacle

of those endeavours was producing an award-winning documentary on “Interferon – the IF drug for cancer” ... the same drug that provided some relief to Terry Fox during his Marathon of Hope.

Over the years Val has been active in various media efforts, including voice-over commercials, Social Media Director for Smooth Draws Cigar Radio which broadcast out of Atlanta, GA and was producer for KMA Radio in Florida.

After moving to Saskatchewan in 2008, Val immersed herself in mainstream media and now hosts a monthly Wine & Whisky television segment as seen on CTV Regina where she puts her Wine & Spirit Education Trust Level 3 Sommelier accreditation to use with educational information about wine & spirits appreciation.



Anthony J. Towstego: Television and Feature Film Producer

Anthony J. Towstego, President of Thomega Entertainment Inc., now in his fourth decade of production experience as a producer of feature films, dramatic and unscripted television series, documentaries, corporate, commercial, educational videos nationally and internationally. Anthony has an award-winning reputation in all areas of business operations, management, and strategic communications. His success is further

recognized through his strong presence in the provincial and national film and television industry as a past producer with the Canadian Broadcasting Corporation, a Juror for the Gemini Awards, Yorkton Festival an Ambassador and Film Industry advisor, council member with the Saskatoon Regional Economic Development Authority, and a past five year member of the Board of the Saskatchewan Motion Picture Association and 1996 Showcase, membership committees chairman.

He is past Treasurer and founding member of the Saskatchewan Film Producers Association (SFPA). In 2001, Anthony was appointed to the Provincial Film Agency (SaskFilm) Advisory Board. Anthony regularly attends numerous film and television market events throughout Canada, the United States, and Europe.. He has tutored students at U of S, Evan Hardy High School Media program and help trained over one hundred through training sponsored programs. He has educational programming and guides in school curriculums in schools across the country.

In 2005 Anthony graduated from the Banff Executive Leadership Program, for Television and Film Executives.

In recognition of his efforts in film production he was given a standing order Hansard, in Parliament, house of commons in 1996, where his efforts were announced to the house.

In 1998, Variety (Hollywood) magazine called Anthony Towstego a "Film Maverick"

In 2015 Anthony was given an honorary membership into the Korean War Veterans Association, recognizing his efforts in documenting and preserving Veterans stories for the past 17 years.