

Letter to the President of The Canadian Actors Equity Association

November 24th, 2017.

Dear Scott Bellis,

Groups of women are talking. Artists are converging across this country to share their stories and connect in ways never before seen in our industry. We are talking openly for the first time about how we move forward from here, during this cultural shift taking place around workplace harassment. We are having these conversations and would like you to join us. Your silence is disappointing. We note your absence at yesterday's ground-breaking meeting of our industry partners and in the face of such leadership from our sister union ACTRA, we are looking for your voice in this fight.

We acknowledge the action taken in creating *Not in Our Space*, but need to address why all this effort is still not encouraging members to speak out, to come forward and officially report. The crippling fear of reprisal has kept us silent and alone and allowed systemic abuse over generations. In this paradigm shift, Equity has an opportunity to seize the momentum of change, to address the holes in its by-laws and policies with stronger language and real action.

We have asked for a meeting with our Toronto representatives and look forward to the discussion about what has been the focus of members' concerns for many years. We write this open letter to you as a call to become the public face of our union, as you were elected to be, to work alongside our industry partners, to bring together the membership and lead us united to end workplace harassment.

Signed,

Martha Burns	Thalia Kane	Jennifer Wigmore	Maev Beaty
Mikaela Davies	Chala Hunter	Alice Snaden	Deborah Drakeford
Joanne Boland	Laura de Carteret	Grace Lynn Kung	Briony Glassco
Susan Coyne	Amanda Lisman	Tess Bengert	Susanna Fournier
Fiona Reid	Nancy Palk	Ellie Moon	Jeanie Calleja
Jackie Maxwell	Diane Flacks	Angela Besharah	Kelly McEvenue
Brenda Robbins	Mandi Nicholson	Beth Brown	Tennille Read
Blair Williams	David Storch	Barbara Gordon	Cate McKim
Kaitlyn Riordan	Nora McLellan	Emma Mackenzie-Hillier	Mayko Nguyen
Sarah Kitz	Diana Bentley	Sochi Fried	John Cleland
Charlotte Dennis			