



STAGeworks

Connecting The
Canadian Live
Performance
Community

Stageworks

The monthly electronic newsletter for members of the Canadian Institute for Theatre Technology / Institut canadien des technologies scénographiques.

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CITT/ICTS
National Office/Bureau national
340-207 Bank St.
Ottawa ON K2P 2N2
T: 613-482-1165
F: 613-482-1212
info@cittf.org
www.cittf.org

Collaborators / Collaborateurs:
**Al Cushing, Kathleen Irwin,
Bob Johnston and Ron Morissette**
Photos submitted by numerous
delegates / Les photos ont été
soumises par divers délégués
Editor / Éditrice: **Monique Corbeil**
Layout / Montage: **Philippe Provencher**

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For advertising rates and submitting
ad material, please contact the
National Office at 613-482-1165
or info@cittf.org

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NATIONAL OFFICE NEWS

- Monique Corbeil, National Coordinator

We did it!! Proud Mo and Daredevil Don salutes the one and only CITT Rendez-vous venue change to occur less than 3 weeks prior to the event by cheering the last venue to be secured for the conference: the Steamworks pub in Gastown for Swag Bingo. Don Parman and I spent the entire day of July 30 surveying the UBC Robson Square and Vancouver Conference & Exhibition Centre venues in efforts to relocate the 7-day Rendez-vous 2007 event, following the closure of the Roundhouse Centre (the designated conference venue) due to the City of Vancouver municipal workers strike that was triggered on July 20. "The show must go on" as they say! In spite of this hindrance, the venue transition was virtually seamless: we managed to greet over 200 persons, welcome an international delegation of OISTAT members, set up a sold-out trade show, present over 30 sessions and panel discussions and fly 17 delegates to Victoria on a floatplane for one of Rendez-vous' most exciting theatre tour to date, all without any major incidents.

One of the conference's highlights was the Saturday night keynote and award banquet harbour cruise. The weather was perfect to navigate in the Vancouver harbour and enjoy the Pacific sunset aboard the Abitibi. More than 150 people gathered to hear Marti Kulich, Program Director for the Vancouver Organizing Committee for the 2010 Olympic Winter Games, and to honour and recognise individuals and companies that excel in their field of live performance in Canada. The evening culminated with delegates dancing the night away to the Ska music of

> Continued on page 2

NOUVELLES DU BUREAU NATIONAL

- Monique Corbeil, coordonnatrice nationale

On a réussi !! Mo et Don trinquent à l'exceptionnel (et probablement le seul) changement de lieu d'un Rendez-vous CITT/ICTS à se produire moins de trois semaines avant le début de l'événement. Nous trinquons à la dernière location de salle confirmée chez Steamworks (un pub situé dans Gastown) pour la tenue du Bingo Butin. Don Parman et moi avons passé la journée du 30 juillet à visiter le UBC Robson Square et le Vancouver Convention & Exhibition Centre pour transférer le Rendez-vous 2007 (d'une durée de 7 jours!), suite à la fermeture du Roundhouse Centre - l'espace désigné pour la tenue de l'événement - conséquence de la grève des employés municipaux de la Ville de Vancouver déclenchée le 20 juillet dernier. *The show must go on!* comme on dit. Malgré ce contretemps, le changement de lieu s'est fait pratiquement sans failles. Nous sommes parvenus à accueillir plus de 200 personnes, à recevoir une délégation internationale de membres de l'OISTAT, à monter une exposition commerciale qui affichait complet, à présenter plus de 30 ateliers et panels et à déplacer 17 délégués à Victoria par hydravion pour l'une des visites de théâtres les plus originales de l'histoire des Rendez-vous; le tout sans incidents majeurs.

Un des moments culminants fut la croisière et le banquet avec remise de prix et conférencier invité. Le temps était parfait pour naviguer dans le port de Vancouver et admirer le coucher du soleil sur la côte du Pacifique à bord du bateau Abitibi. Plus de 150 personnes étaient présentes pour entendre Marti Kulich, directeur de la

> Suite en page 3

PRESIDENTS REPORT

AUGUST 18, 2007 VANCOUVER, BC

I would like to take this opportunity to thank Robert Hamilton and the entire Vancouver planning committee for their hard work and dedication to getting our 2007 conference, Ties to the Community, together. As most of you know, there was quite a challenge a few weeks ago and thanks to the work of Rob Hamilton, Don Parman, Monique Corbeil and the rest of the committee members here we are today. THANK YOU to everyone involved. As well this year we welcome the OISTAT delegates who are attending from various countries.

I would like to thank you, the membership for attending this conference and making it a great success. Hopefully it has and will continue to meet your or exceed your expectations and I hope that you will take the time to complete the feedback forms that were in your conference package. This information is vital to our future conference planning in all areas, THANK YOU for attending this year.

This year, we will officially be under our new Board of Directors format. We have reduced the size of the board and are striving to get our work done through active committees for which there are 4: Finance, Board Development, Member Relations, and Programming and Communications. Each of these has a Chair and I would like to ask each of the chairs to say a few words about their committee and in particular, give you all a vision of where they are going. As you may have seen and read, we are entering year 2 of our second 4-year plan. The committee work is crucial as it is where we move the organization forward. In year 1, we achieved some of our goals, and fell short on others and we will be reviewing those in detail as well as re affirming our plan to achieve the year 2 goals at our board meeting on Monday.

We need your help with this; CITT/ICTS is an organization that is driven by the needs of the membership. Many hours of meetings and planning go on each year but it cannot be done just at the board level, I would ask each of you to listen carefully to each of these committee

chairs today and ask yourself if you feel that you could add value by joining one of the committees. Ask a chair for further details of the 4 year plan if you are interested, CITT/ICTS is a philosophical organization that depends on finances to achieve it's goals, these goals are designed for you the members, get involved if you can. If you are not able to serve on a committee, and I understand that many of you will not be able to commit the time, I would like to ask a question of all of you and would like you to simply respond with a show of hands.

Would each of you agree with me that you know one person who is not a member of CITT currently that could benefit from becoming a member? Please raise you hand if you do. For those of you that did not raise your hand, I would love to talk to you about why that is as a side note before the conference is over, perhaps our goals are not clear and you have questions. For those of you that did raise your hands, please consider discussing CITT with your colleagues.

Our first chair will be Finance, then Board Development, then Member Relations and finally Programming and communications, 5 minutes each please.

I would like to report for a moment on our work with CHRC, Cultural Human Resources Council of Canada. CITT has been on the theatre technician steering committee for quite some time and many great things have been produced from this hard working committee. In particular, the charts of competency in the areas of: Automation Technicians, Stage Hands, and most recently Entertainment Riggers. If you have not seen these, I have a copy of them here and as well you can get them from the CHRC website at www.chrc.ca. These are just a part of the work that is being done and has great benefit to you the members. As part of our ongoing membership development, we are reaching out further to new markets to continue to develop our industry, this coming year Mr. Tyler Johnson will join the board and he is an interesting young man. He is a student in the

Toronto District School Board who created the Toronto Stage Crew Council, this is a group of over 160 students who will associate with CITT and we will be developing similar templates for other school boards around the country. This is in an effort to continue to develop the next generation of CITT professionals with a focus on training and education. I am also very pleased to have Norbert Muncs with us on the board to help drive this process. You will be seeing more information about this in the coming months. Once again, we are striving to present VALUE to the membership.

A topic that is going to be focused on more in the coming year is the relationship with the individual sections. This is an area that we are working on to ensure that from coast to coast, we are driving towards implementing the common goals. The new board structure will continue to have regional representation not only in terms of executive team members but also having the regional section chairs there as well. This will ensure continued communication in conjunction with the programming and communications committee but also continue our goal of having board members at all section functions annually. I see this as a great vehicle to make sure that we are all getting what we need.

Lastly, you will be asked to take part in a straw poll on a potential name change. This is part of our ongoing realization that both technology and creativity are changing and evolving and that as CITT, we deliver VALUE to all markets in the entertainment world. There is such crossover now we want to be driving that process, not chasing it.

THANK YOU once again for participating and making this conference a success, I look forward to speaking with all of you if I have not done so already, and please continue to be a part of moving CITT/ICTS forward.

Bob Johnston
President

> National Office News

David Neal and his band Skaboom at the Arts Club on Granville Island.

We will profile each recipient of the 2007 CITT/ICTS Awards in the following months' editions of StageWorks. In the meantime, I invite you to scroll through this month's issue and catch up on the organisation's evolution and progress over the past year by reading the reports from the President, the Treasurer, and the Programming & Communication Committee Chair. Also included are the 2007 AGM (unapproved) minutes, the OISTAT meeting opening statement as well as a Rendez-vous photo album on pages 8 and 9.

Once again, Rendez-vous was a great success and there are many people to thank for that – view the complete list on page 7. As for me, I owe my gratitude to the Moral Support, Essential Services & Survival Kit which included: Bertha, Monika, Don & Mike, coffee, the Curry Dance, the Kids, the pink flamingos, Jo and the Surrey gang, BBQ Sockeye salmon, cappuccinos, Visine, WiFi, David, Eric, BC wines, double latte, Leks' UNICEF box, fruits at breakfast, the Momo Meter, HollyNorth swag lanyard pens (lots of them), laughter, the entire catering staff, espressos...and mostly: real fun! **See you next year in OTTAWA!!**

RAPPORT DU PRÉSIDENT

18 AOÛT 2007 VANCOUVER, C.-B.

Je veux saisir cette occasion pour remercier Robert Hamilton et le comité organisateur de la conférence de Vancouver pour leurs efforts persévérants à réaliser la conférence 2007 *Liens avec la communauté*. Comme la plupart de vous le savez, il y avait, il y a quelques semaines, tout un défi à surmonter et grâce au travail de Rob Hamilton, Don Parman, Monique Corbeil et le reste des membres du comité, nous sommes ici aujourd'hui. Un chaleureux MERCI à chacun d'entre vous pour votre collaboration. Par ailleurs, cette année nous souhaitons la bienvenue aux délégués d'OISTAT qui proviennent de divers pays.

Je veux aussi remercier les membres qui assistent à cette conférence et contribuent à son succès. J'espère que la conférence atteindra ou continuera à excéder vos espérances et que vous prendrez le temps à remplir les formulaires d'évaluation qui sont dans votre pochette de conférence. Cette information nous est essentielle à la planification de futures conférences, dans tous ses aspects. MERCI d'être parmi nous cette année.

Cette année, nous oeuvrons officiellement sous le nouveau format du conseil d'administration. Nous avons réduit la taille du conseil et tâcherons d'effectuer notre travail via quatre comités actifs, soit : Finances, Développement du conseil d'administration, Relations avec les membres, ainsi que Programmation et Communications. Chaque comité a un président que j'invite à vous dire quelques mots à propos de leur comité et plus particulièrement, d'offrir leur vision de leur démarche. Comme vous l'avez remarqué, nous entamons l'an 2 de notre plan quadriennal et le travail des comités est crucial pour l'avancement de l'organisme. En l'an 1, nous avons réalisé une partie de nos objectifs et avons fait défaut sur d'autres. Nous les réviserons en détail, de même que nous réaffirmerons notre volonté à atteindre les objectifs de l'an 2 lors de notre réunion de conseil lundi prochain.

Pour cela, nous avons besoin de votre aide ; CITT/ICTS est un organisme donc sa visée est guidée par les besoins des membres. Beaucoup d'heures sont consacrées à des réunions et à la planification durant l'année, mais le conseil ne peut tout faire pare lui-même. Ainsi, je demande à chacun d'entre vous d'écouter soigneusement aujourd'hui chaque président des comités et à

vous demander si vous estimez pouvoir ajouter un plus value en joignant l'un des comités. Si cela vous intéresse, allez demander aux présidents des comités plus de détails au sujet du plan quadriennal. CITT/ICTS est un organisme philosophique qui dépend du financement pour atteindre ses objectifs, et ces objectifs sont conçus pour vous, les membres. Or, impliquez-vous, si vous pouvez. Si vous n'êtes pas en mesure de siéger à un comité - et je comprends qu'il y a plusieurs parmi vous qui ne pouvez pas consacrer du temps pour cela - j'aimerais alors vous posez une question et je veux simplement que vous répondiez par main levée.

Chacun de vous est d'accord avec moi que vous connaissez au moins une personne qui n'est pas un membre de CITT/ICTS actuellement et qui pourrait tirer avantage de devenir un membre. Veuillez lever la main si vous en connaissez. Pour ceux de vous qui n'ont pas levé la main, j'aimerais bien discuter avec vous d'ici à la fin de la conférence sur pourquoi c'est ainsi ; peut-être que les objectifs ne sont pas clairs et que vous avez des questionnements. Pour ceux qui ont levé la main, je vous invite à causer de CITT/ICTS avec vos collègues.

Le premier président des comités à prendre la parole sera celui des finances, puis suivra le président du comité développement du conseil, puis des relations de membre et finalement programmation et communications ; chacun aura 5 minutes.

Je voudrais aussi prendre un moment pour mentionner notre travail avec le Conseil des ressources humaines du secteur culturel (CRHSC). Le CITT/ICTS siège au comité directeur des techniciens de scène depuis un certain temps et plusieurs travaux ont été réalisés par ce comité, notamment les chartes de compétences pour les techniciens en automation, les techniciens de scène et plus récemment les gréeurs de spectacles. Si vous ne les avez pas consultées, j'ai une copie de chacune ici et vous pouvez également les obtenir sur le site Internet du CHRC au www.chrc.ca

Voilà un exemple des travaux réalisés pour le bénéfice les membres. Dans le cadre de notre plan de recrutement de membres, nous cherchons des nouveaux marchés pour développer notre secteur et cette année, Tyler

Johnson se joindra au conseil, et croyez-moi, il un jeune homme fort intéressant. Tyler est un étudiant à la commission scolaire de Toronto qui a mis sur pied le Toronto Stage Crew Council (Conseil des équipes de scène de Toronto), un groupe de plus de 160 étudiants qui s'associera à CITT/ICTS. Nous voulons développer des formules semblables pour l'autres écoles à travers le pays. C'est dans un effort de continuer à développer la prochaine génération des professionnels du CITT que nous misons sur la formation et l'éducation. Je suis également très heureux d'accueillir Norbert Muncs au conseil pour nous assister avec ce processus. Vous recevrez de l'information supplémentaire à ce sujet au cours les mois à venir. De nouveau, nous tâchons d'offrir un PLUS VALUE à l'adhésion.

Un sujet qui sera approfondi au cours de la prochaine année est la relation avec les sections. Nous voulons travailler davantage ce volet afin d'assurer que nous avançons ensemble à établir des buts communs d'un bout du pays à l'autre. La nouvelle structure du conseil aura une représentation régionale non seulement au sein de l'équipe exécutive, mais également grâce à la présence des présidents de chaque section. Ceci assurera une communication plus fluide avec le comité de programmation et de communications et contribuera à notre objectif d'avoir des membres du conseil présents aux événements annuels des sections. Je vois d'un bon œil cet engagement qui nous permettra à tous d'obtenir ce dont nous avons besoin.

Pour finir, vous êtes invité à participer à un vox populi sur un changement de nom potentiel de l'organisme. Il va sans dire que la technologie et la créativité sont en constante évolution et en tant que le CITT/ICST, nous devons offrir une VALEUR ajoutée à tous les sphères du milieu du spectacle. Il y a tellement chevauchement maintenant que nous devons être chef de file et non pas traîner dernier.

MERCI à nouveau de votre participation et à contribuer au franc succès de la conférence. J'espère avoir l'occasion de jaser avec vous tous au cours de l'événement et continuez à apporter votre contribution à l'avancement du CITT/ICTS.

Bob Johnston
Président

> Nouvelles du Bureau National

programmation au Comité organisateur des Jeux olympiques d'hiver 2010 de Vancouver, et pour honorer les individus et les compagnies qui ont excellé dans le milieu des arts de la scène au Canada. La soirée a culminé lorsque les délégués ont dansé toute la nuit au son de la musique Ska de David Neal et son groupe Skaboum aux Arts Club, sur l'île de Granville.

Nous publierons un profil de chaque récipiendaire des prix CITT/ICTS 2007 dans les éditions à venir de StageWorks. D'ici là, je vous invite à feuilleter le bulletin de ce mois-ci et de vous mettre à jour sur l'évolution et le développement de l'organisme au cours de la dernière année en lisant les rapports du président, du trésorier et du président du comité Programmation et communications. Sont également inclus le procès-verbal (non adopté) de l'assemblée générale 2007, le message d'ouverture de la rencontre de l'OISTAT et l'album de photos du Rendez-vous, aux pages 8 et 9.

Le Rendez-vous a connu un franc succès, une fois de plus, grâce à une pléiade de gens que nous remercions sincèrement - voir la liste complète à la page 7. Quant à moi, je dois ma gratitude au soutien moral, aux services essentiels et à la trousse de secours qui comprenait, entre autres : Bertha, Monika, Don & Mike, le café, la danse du Curry, les jeunes, les flamants roses, Jo et la gang à Surrey, le saumon Sockeye BBQ, le capuccino, Visine, WiFi, David, Eric, les vins de la C.-B., le double latte, la boîte UNICEF de Leks, les fruits au petit-déjeuner, le vumètre Momo, les stylos à cordon HollyNorth (en quantité industrielle), le rire, le traiteur et son personnel, l'espresso...et surtout le pur plaisir ! **Au plaisir de vous voir à OTTAWA l'été prochain !!**

Finance Committee Report to the Membership on the Financial Year 2006-2007

- Al Cushing, Treasurer Retired

The Finance Committee chaired by the Treasurer monitors on behalf of the Board and the membership the financial activities of the Institute. Specifically it will:

- Make recommendations, on matters financial, to the Board.
- Review, adjust and recommend the annual CITT/ICTS budget, prepared by staff, to the Board.
- Review, adjust and recommend the annual conference budget, prepared by staff and the Conference Committee, to the Board.
- Oversee and monitor the financial reports prepared by staff.
- Ensure the effectiveness of internal financial controls and recommend any necessary changes.
- Ensure compliance with financial policies established by the Board.
- Ensure that the insurance coverage arranged by staff is adequate.
- Recommend investment policy and the selection of investment bankers or managers.
- Recommend the selection, and monitor the performance of the external auditor.

The Finance Committee has reviewed our year-end financial reports and has received the Audited Statements for fiscal year 2006-2007. The Statement of Operations indicates that we had a busy year with both revenues and expenses up over the previous year.

Some key points to note are:

- Although Membership Revenue increased over the previous year we did not meet our budgeted revenue goal. Overall membership numbers were up however many of the new members were students. Student membership fees are kept low to encourage participation.
- Although we add new members each year we continue to lose an almost equal number of existing members. The Board has developed, as part of the four-year plan, tactics to address the issue of membership renewal.
- Through the efforts of the National Coordinator E-StageWorks revenue was up by \$1888.
- The Toronto conference net revenue was \$14,000 more than was budgeted, including an increase of \$9145 in sponsorship revenue. This revenue helped to offset the shortfall in membership income.
- For the last two years we have budgeted \$18,000 in federal funding for special projects and included a matching, non-specific special projects expense item. Once again we did not get the looked for federal support. However, we did expend some special project funds; supporting our OISTAT activities and outreach activities. In particular, to raise our profile nationally and regionally, we funded attendance by the National Coordinator and others at a number of conferences and contacts such Alberta Showcase, Pacific Contact, Contact Ontario, Atlantic Presenters Association, CAPACOA and PACT.



Treasurer Al Cushing at the AGM
/ Le trésorier Al Cushing lors de
l'assemblée générale des membres.

CITT/ICTS completed the 2006-2007 year with a contribution to retained earnings of \$2,281, which was an improvement of \$500 over budget. This amount was less than the previous year because CITT/ICTS elected to put more resources into growing the organization.

The complete Audited Financial statements are available for review by any member. If you wish a copy please request a copy from the National Office.

For 2007-2008 CITT/ICTS will have a new Treasurer, Mr. Jerry Van Dyke. Al Cushing will continue to serve on the Finance Committee.

Rapport du Comité des finances aux membres pour l'exercice 2006-2007

- Al Cushing, trésorier retraité

Le Comité des finances, présidé par le trésorier, veille aux activités financières de l'Institut, au nom du conseil d'administration et des membres. Plus spécifiquement, le comité :

- Fait des recommandations au conseil sur les sujets financiers ;
- Révise et ajuste le budget annuel du CITT/ICTS préparé par le personnel, et le recommande au conseil ;
- Révise et ajuste le budget de la conférence annuelle préparé par le personnel et le comité organisateur, et le recommande au conseil ;
- Examine les rapports financiers préparés par le personnel ;
- Assure l'efficacité du contrôle interne des finances et recommande tous les changements nécessaires ;
- Assure la conformité des politiques financières établies par le conseil ;
- S'assure que la police d'assurance contractée par le personnel soit adéquate ;
- Recommande la politique d'investissement et le choix des investisseurs banquiers ou gestionnaires ;
- Recommande le vérificateur externe et évalue sa performance.

Le Comité de finances a passé en revue les rapports financiers et a reçu les états financiers vérifiés pour l'exercice budgétaire 2006-2007. L'état des résultats indique que nous avons eu une année très chargée tant pour les revenus que les dépenses par rapport à l'année précédente.

Quelques points clés à souligner :

- Bien que le revenu d'adhésion ait augmenté par rapport à l'année précédente, nous n'avons pas atteint l'objectif qui avait été budgétisé. Le nombre total d'adhésions est en hausse, mais plusieurs des nouveaux membres sont des étudiants ; or, les frais d'adhésion d'étudiant sont maintenus bas pour encourager la participation.
- Bien que nous accueillions de nombreux nouveaux membres tous les ans, nous continuons à perdre un nombre presque égal de membres existants. Le conseil a ainsi développé, dans le cadre du plan quadriennal, des stratégies pour aborder la question du renouvellement des membres.
- Grâce aux efforts de la coordonnatrice nationale, le revenu de publicité du bulletin électronique StageWorks a augmenté de 1 888 \$.
- Le revenu net de la conférence annuelle de Toronto présente un surplus de 14 000 \$. Ce montant comprend une augmentation de 9 145 \$ du revenu de commandites. Ce surplus aidera à combler le manque à gagner du revenu d'adhésion.
- Pendant les deux dernières années, nous avons prévu recevoir un montant de 18 000 \$ en subventions fédérales pour des projets spéciaux et avons inclus une dépense équivalente pour des projets spéciaux non spécifiques. Et, une fois de plus, nous n'avons pas reçu l'appui fédéral espéré. Cependant, nous avons quand même dépensé des fonds pour soutenir des projets spéciaux telles les activités d'OISTAT et pour la promotion. Plus précisément, afin d'accroître notre profil nationalement et régionalement, nous avons délégué la coordonnatrice nationale et d'autres membres pour assister à un certain nombre de conférences et d'événements contacts, parmi lesquels : Alberta Showcase, Pacific Contact, Contact Ontario, Atlantic Presenters Association, CAPACOA et PACT.

Le CITT/ICTS a terminé l'exercice 2006-2007 avec un excédent de 2 281 \$, soit 500 \$ de plus que ce qui était prévu au budget. Cette somme est moindre que l'année précédente parce que le CITT/ICTS a choisi d'injecter plus de ressources financières dans la croissance organisationnelle.

Les états financiers vérifiés complets peuvent être consultés par tous les membres. Si vous en désirez une copie, veuillez communiquer avec le bureau national.

Pour 2007-2008, le CITT/ICTS aura un nouveau trésorier, monsieur Jerry Van Dyke. Al Cushing continuera à siéger au Comité des finances.

CANADIAN INSTITUTE FOR THEATRE TECHNOLOGY

(Incorporated under the laws of Canada in 1990)

BALANCE SHEET

AS AT JUNE 30, 2007

	2007	2006
ASSETS		
CURRENT		
Cash and short term deposits	\$ 40,430	\$ 49,324
Accounts receivable	5,755	3,410
Prepaid expenses and sundry assets	14,083	12,000
	60,268	64,734
LIABILITIES AND NET ASSETS		
CURRENT LIABILITIES		
Accounts payable and accrued liabilities	\$ 5,031	\$ 2,457
Deferred revenue	31,495	40,816
	36,526	43,273
NET ASSETS		
Unrestricted	23,742	21,461
	\$ 60,268	\$ 64,734

STATEMENT OF OPERATIONS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2007

	2007	2006
REVENUE		
Membership	\$ 80,293	\$ 75,408
Publication Revenue	2,388	1,510
Conference Income	71,094	46,341
Workshop and Project Revenue	2,315	8,900
Callboard Subscriptions	510	3,945
Sale of Goods	30	475
Fundraising - Sponsorships and Donations	25,615	17,378
Investment Income	20	21
	182,265	153,978
EXPENSES		
Membership expenses	4,917	5,144
Conference expenses	70,592	47,376
Workshop and Project expenses	7,066	8,244
Publication expense	6,956	6,167
Callboard expense	12,740	10,885
Regional Sections funding	5,139	8,083
Professional fees	50,149	43,895
Office and general	8,713	6,239
Financial expenses	1,761	2,075
Board expenses	10,800	6,078
Organizational Memberships	1,151	935
	179,984	145,121
INCOME FROM OPERATIONS	\$ 2,281	\$ 8,857

OISTAT EDUCATION COMMISSION OPENING STATEMENT

Thursday August 16, Vancouver BC

Hello. My name is Kathleen Irwin. I am the Canadian Education Commissioner and have filled this position since 1997 when Halifax-based designer Robert Doyle stepped down. This lofty title, rather vague in its definition and terms of duties and responsibilities, became somewhat more concrete, when in March 2005, at the World Stage Design conference in Toronto, the Chair of the Education Commission and my esteemed colleague, Marina Raytchinova, quietly approached me with the suggestion that perhaps it was time for Canada to host an Education Commission annual meeting. Of course, I recognized that this was a brilliant idea whose time had come but... how to implement this wonderful suggestion? I turned to the current host of OISTAT Canada – the Canadian Institute for Theatre Technology with the request.

To those of you who are not familiar with the history of the OISTAT Canada – here is a brief backgrounder. Prior to the Prague Quadrennial in 1999, OISTAT Canada was hosted under the auspices of the Associated Designers of Canada; since that time, the hosting responsibilities have been assumed by CITT. While it is expressly stated that “the responsibilities of the host organization include disseminating information and providing hosting support for annual meetings, from time to time, for the internal commissions” this request for support came as something of a surprise to the CITT Board. They convened to consider their options and to their credit, bravely stepped up to the plate. With the magnanimous support of Monique Corbeil from CITT, Robert Gardiner, Bob Eberle and Alison Green from the Dept. of Theatre Film and Creative Writing at UBC, this joint CITT/ UBC/OISTAT conference is about to become a reality. Many, many thanks to them for the patience and diligence and, of course to Marina for her suggestion lo these many months ago and for her sustained support during this long-distance process.

OISTAT’s principle purpose is to foster opportunities for co-operation between and among theatre organisations. Its mission is to stimulate the exchange of ideas and innovations, and to promote international collaboration in professions which support live performance; to promote the formation of centres in each country in order to achieve these aims; to encourage life-long learning among live performance practitioners; and to respect the integrity of all cultures and celebrate the diversity as well as the similarities of those who work in support of live performance.



The Education Commission meets annually to discuss pedagogy and methodology relevant to the teaching of scenography in an international forum. This is done to give educators an opportunity to exchange philosophy and best practice and to prepare and review activities at past and future PQ Scenofests - the main activity of the OISTAT Education Commission. Scenofest is an integral and growing component of the PQ and these two events (the PQ and Scenofest) are vitally important to the development of both professional and student designers in Canada. This has been recognized and supported by Canadian designers and design teachers since the first PQ in 1962. The OISTAT Education Commission believes that building international bridges among students and professional designers is integral to developing human understanding and a more humane worldview.

The agendas of the EduCom meetings typically embrace two major items: working commission sessions and open workshops and presentations on topics of interest for the host countries. It is indeed an honour to be able to provide a forum for discussion at this year’s Education Commission annual meeting. As 2007 is also the year of the Prague Quadrennial and the EduCom’s Scenofest, the conference in Vancouver will be the only opportunity to discuss and overview the events of the exhibition. Hosting the EduCom meeting alongside the CITT Annual Conference obviously increases opportunities and synergies.

In hosting the EduCom Annual meeting, the host organization, CITT, goes a long way in fulfilling its responsibilities as Canada’s host organization for OISTAT. As laid down by UNESCO’s charter in 1962, each participating country will, in turn contribute to the international network of theatre professionals who seek to build bridges and opportunities for international discussion and consensus building around the relevance of theatre making for current and future generations. In 1962, reflecting the world’s political contingencies, the ideals were high-minded and utopic. There is perhaps even a greater need to recognize the importance of discussion around theatre practice as a way of breaking down ideological borders. In the past, Canada has been key in supporting these goals outside our borders on the world’s stage of the PQ, and this is an opportunity to declare our willingness to continue to do so within our own jurisdiction.

Thank you and enjoy the conferences!



SOME OF PARTICIPANTS AT THE OISTAT EDUCATION COMMISSION MEETINGS

- BELGIUM, Jan Strickx** BASTT (Belgische Associatie van Scenografen en Theater Technici) *Voting Delegate*
- BULGARIA, Marina Raytchinova** National Academy of Art, UBA Bulgarian OISTAT Center Chair Education Commission *Voting Delegate*
- CANADA, Kathleen Irwin** Associate Professeur, University of Regina - Theatre Dept. CITT/ICTS OISTAT Centre *Voting Delegate*
- CANADA, Ron Fedoruk** University of British Columbia *Non-voting Delegate*
- CANADA, Alison Green** University of British Columbia *Non-voting Delegate*
- CANADA, Paul Court** Humber College *Non-voting Delegate*
- CANADA, Sarah Hirst** Sheridan College, *Non-voting Delegate*
- CANADA, John Mayberry** York University *Non-voting Delegate*
- CANADA, Eric Mongerson** Concordia University *Non-voting Delegate*
- CANADA, Ross Nichol** Douglas College *Non-voting Delegate*
- CANADA, Marijka Brusse** *Guest/Student*
- CANADA, Akira Nishio** *Guest*
- CHINA, Zhang Kangmei** Dean of the Dept. of Stage Design, The Central Academy of Drama, China Institute of Scenography, Chinese Center of OISTAT *Voting Delegate*
- CHINA, Ju Ping** China Institute of Scenography, Chinese Center of OISTAT *Non-voting Delegate*
- GERMANY, Martemaria Scheunemann** Bayerische Theaterakademie DTHG (Deutsche Theater-technische Gesellschaft), *Voting Delegate*
- JAPAN, Mikio Ogawa** Technical Director, National Theatre of Tokyo, OISTAT Japan Center *Voting Delegate*
- NEW ZEALAND, Dorita Hannah** OISTAT Individual Member, *Voting Delegate*
- SWEDEN, Anders Larsson** Lighting Designer, Dramtiska Institutet STTF (Svensk Teater-technisk Förening) *Voting Delegate*
- USA, Cindy Limauro** Professor of Lighting Design, Carnegie Mellon School of Drama, USITT OISTAT Centre *Voting Delegate*
- USA, Christopher Popowich**, Lighting Designer, *Non-voting Delegate*

OISTAT EDUCATION COMMISSION THANK YOU LETTER

August 20, 2007

Bob Johnston, President
CITT/ICTS National Office

Dear Bob

On behalf of the OISTAT Education Commission and as Canadian Education Commissioner to OISTAT, I am writing to thank CITT/ICTS for its generous support in hosting the EduCom Annual General Meeting in tandem with RENDEZ-VOUS 2007 CITT/ICTS' 17th Annual Conference and Trade Show in Vancouver. Our meeting brought together international delegates, from Germany, Bulgaria, Belgium, Canada, New Zealand, Japan and China and allowed us the opportunity to reflect on the work of our commission, make plans for the coming year and share ideas with our colleagues from other Canadian universities as well as from CITT/ICTS.

Not only was much work accomplished, the days we spent together afforded us the opportunity to enjoy Vancouver, many for the first time, and to experience Canada's energy and beauty.

OISTAT's principle purpose is to foster opportunities for co-operation between and among theatre organisations. Its mission is to stimulate the exchange of ideas and innovations, and to promote international collaboration in professions which support live performance; to promote the formation of centres in each country in order to achieve these aims; to encourage life-long learning among live performance practitioners; and to respect the integrity of all cultures and celebrate the diversity as well as the similarities of those who work in support of live performance.

In supporting this event, you have also supported these high-minded ideals. Again, many thanks, especially to national co-coordinator Ms. Monique Corbeil. Without her diligence, patience and hard work, we would not have realized our goal.

Sincerely,
Kathleen Irwin
OISTAT Education Commissioner

Associate Professor
Theatre Department
University of Regina

Many thanks to the following people for their contribution in the success of Rendez-vous 2007 / Un gros merci aux personnes suivantes pour leur contribution au succès de Rendez-vous 2007

Conference Committee / Comité organisateur : Mike Dickinson, Bob Eberle, Steven Goodman, Robert Hamilton, Bob Johnston, Jayson McLean, Scott Miller, David Neal, Ross Nichol, Don Parman, Mark Stevens, Victor Svenningson.

Vancouver Island Theatre Tour Planners / Les organisateurs de la visite des théâtres sur l'île de Vancouver : Ian Rye & David Shelsiek (Pacific Opera Victoria), Mike Bowen & Bruce Halliday (The Port Theatre), Shawn Donnellsen & Leslie MacMillan (Belfry Theatre) Lloyd Fitzsimmonds, Tom Heemskerk, Richard Gould & Blair Morris (The Royal and McPherson Theatres Society).

OISTAT Education Commission : Ron Feroduk, Robert Gardiner & Alison Green (Theatre UBC), Kathleen Irwin (University of Regina), Marina

Raytchinova (OISTAT Education Commission Chair, Bulgaria) and the international delegates/et les délégués internationaux : Dorita Hannah, Zhang Kangmei, Anders Larsson, Cindy Limauro, Mikio Ogawa, Martemaria Scheunemann, Jan Strickx.

Student Volunteers/ Étudiants bénévoles : Eleanor Antoncic, Pierre-Luc Brunet, Marijka Brusse, Elizabeth (Lisa) Fox, Samantha Hindle, Mark Houghton, Melynda Jurgenson, Alisa Lokshin, Lauren Palidwor, Ian Paterson Alaina Perttula, Leks Raamat, John Thomson, Nichola Timmenga.

Registration Desk Hostess / L'hôtesse du bureau d'accueil : Monika Seiler

Conference Programme Layout / Graphisme programme de la conférence : Aimée Frost

Keynote Speaker / Conférencier invité : Marti Kulich

Presenters and Panellists / Formateurs et panélistes : Cory Allan, Robert Bell, John Bilyk, Alan Brodie, Marijka Brusse, Marty Clausen, Tim Clinton, Bill Coons, Paul Court, Paul

Del Motte, Tony Devai, Bob Eberle, Ron Fedoruk, Vaino Gennaro, Steven Goodman, Richard Goode, Mario Govorchin, Phil Ghul, Tom Heemskerk, Samantha Hindle, Shawn Hines, Jack Jamieson, Jimmy Katsipis, Heather Kent, Darren Luce, Tracy Lynch, Michelle MacIntosh, Scott Miller, Eric Mongerson, Blair Morris, Ron Morissette, Norberts Muncs, Tedfred Myers, Rob Navalainen, Ross Nichol, Jim Pfitzinger, Ian Phillips, James Pollard, Christopher Popowich, Brent Rossington, Ray Salverda, Bill Sapsis, Richard Schick, Sharon Secord, David Smith, James D. Smith, Mark Stevens, Byron Tarry, Bert Timmermans, Andrew Tugwell, Martin Van Dijk, Gerry van Hezewyk, David Winstanley, Tina C. Wright.

Sponsors / Commanditaires : IATSE, MDG Fog, NASCO Staffing Solutions | CinequipWhite Theatre UBC, Engineering Harmonics, GALA Systems, Mirvish Productions, Strand Lighting, | Douglas College, PAXAR Technologies, Belfry Theatre, Pacific Opera Victoria, The Royal and McPherson Theatres Society, The Port Theatre, LA Limousine, Sennheiser Canada | Technically Yours, TRIZART

Alliance, Christie Lites, TMB, RC4 Dimming | Ontario Staging, Roland Systems Group, SHAPE, Westbury National Show Systems, Group CETEC Groupe, GerrAudio Distribution | Fairey & Company Ltd., SE Design & Fabrication, SF Marketing, Trotac Marine, IATSE Local 168 and all the Swag donors! | et tous les donateurs d'articles promo !

Technical support / Soutien technique : Christie Lites, Contact Distribution, Stagefab and Colourtime Printing & Digital Imaging

Venue Coordination Support / Responsables des salles : Kyle Nelson (UBC Robson Square), Amy Duquette, Sabine Granoux & Kim Hayes (VCEC), Tomoko Sato (Steamworks), and as well as to all their staff / ainsi qu'à tout leur personnel. A warm thank-you to Jeremy Baxter and his assistant Liz Baca at the Roundhouse Centre / Un merci tout special à Jeremy Baxter et à son assistante Liz Baca au Roundhouse Centre.

vancouver island theatre tour



junk challenge



swag bingo





*Trade show
&
corporate bbq
Luncheon*



awards



sessions



and keynote



people



CITT/ICTS ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING MINUTES (*unapproved*)

Saturday August 18, 2007 at 12:15PM | UBC Robson Square, Theatre C300, 800 Robson St. Vancouver, BC

Quorum- in place

Called to Order: 12:40 pm Pacific

Bob Johnston: Opening Remarks.

Welcomes everyone and thanked a number of representatives and board members present. He encouraged the crowd to ask questions and participate.

1) Approval of the Agenda

Moved: Mark Stevens

Seconded: Ron Morissette

Carried

2) Approval of the AGM August 2006 meeting minutes

Moved: Al Cushing

Seconded: Graham Frampton

Carried

3) Presidents Report

Submitted: **Bob Johnston** (*Full report at the end of the minutes*)

Highlight

Bob Johnston:

- Thanked the Vancouver Planning committee.
- Thanked: Don Parman, Rob Hamilton, Monique Corbeil, The planning committee, OISTAT Representatives, The Membership.
- Asked everyone to fill out the conference feedback forms that were handed out with their packages so that we can learn and improve the conference in the future.
- Thanks to our leaving Board members:
Mark Stevens, Pasquale Cornacchia

Announcement:

This will be the first year under the new **board structure**

- Description of the Committee structure: Invite to the Committee Chairs to come up and talk about their committees.
- Appeal to the membership to consider joining a committee.

Al Cushing: Finance Committee Chair

Role: Monitor all financial activities

Looking for: 2 or 3 other members to help oversee and seek out revenue opportunities

Graham Frampton: Board Development Committee Chair

Role: Populate the slate of officers every year

Finding ways to develop the board and the section boards alike

Members:

Gerry van Hezewyk

Graham Frampton

John McArthur: Member Relations Committee Chair:

Role: Bring value to the membership fee e.g. Insurance program, 10% discount on books, etc.

Meetings through CallBoard

Looking for: Ideally needs 3 people to join

Ron Morissette: Programming and Communications Committee Chair

Role: Oversees the annual conference committee in conjunction with National Office

Development of Communication and Marketing – Work with the membership

Develop new national programming that originates at the national level and tours

Looking For:

People with a variety of communication skills – WEB, writing, telephone, design etc.

Bob Johnston:

- Discussed involvement with CHRC (Cultural Human Resources Council) and the round table that took place earlier this week. Competency Chart development for:

- Automation Technicians
- Stage Hands
- Entertainment Riggers

You can go to www.culturalhrc.ca to learn more.

- We are entering year 2 of the 2nd 4-year plan. Things are going well, and the document has played an important role in assessing the progress of the board and the organization.

Challenge to the membership:

-Bob asked of the Membership to go out and bring one new member to the organization. Use word of mouth as a tool. Become an active promoter of the organization and of becoming a member.

Introduction of Tyler Johnson:

-A young student that held his own technical theatre convention as a 19 year old. He asked Bob to come and speak at the Hard house Theatre in Toronto as the Keynote speaker. There were 167 People in attendance.

-Tyler has been asked to become a member of the national board and develop his student template and take it to every high school board of Education in Canada.

Relationship with the regional sections:

Announcement: Karl Simmons has agreed to be new Atlantic section representative on the National Board.

- Largest growth this year: Atlantic Canada (40 new members from Newfoundland & Labrador)

Goal:

-Increase of membership 5% we achieves 20% growth (We did not see that as financial growth though.)

Announcement: Desire to change the name of the organization.

Description of the straw poll that will be held over the duration of the weekend. Members were asked to look at 2 possible new names and acronyms and vote on them. It is a survey of member reaction only. The President asked Ron Morissette to speak about the proposed name change. Ron's comments included the following: a sub-committee of the Programming and Communications committee was set up to investigate a possible name change for CITT. The reasons for this are:

- a) THEATRE: CITT/ICTS includes all sectors of the performing arts, not just theatre: opera, dance, live music, symphony orchestra, musicals, entertainment, special events, etc.
- b) The term INSTITUTE is misleading, and obsolete.
- c) To avoid confusion: There are many other organizations with the same English acronym such as:
 - Canadian Institute of Traffic and Transportation (CITT)
 - The Canadian International Trade Tribunal (CITT)
 - The Center for Innovations in Training Technology (CITT)
- d) To blend in the French appellation of the organisation.

What DOES the name need to say?

- Location: We are from Canada.
- Sector: We work in the Entertainment industry.
- Domain: We evolve in Technology and Production
- Status: We are an Associative Network organisation.
- Language: We are bilingual.

The committee studied many many names and finally retained two. They are:

CAET-ACTS: Canadian Association for Entertainment Technology / Association canadienne des technologies scénographiques

ETAC-ACTS: Entertainment Technology Association of Canada / Association canadienne des technologies scénographiques

The President thanked Ron and repeated that a straw poll be set up for the duration of the conference to gather feedback from the membership.

End of Presidential Address

4) Approval of Bylaw amendment

Motion: That Article V Section 7 be rescinded and replaced with "QUALIFICATIONS. Nominees for all officers and directorships shall be individual, Student or Professional members of the CITT/ICTS, or the individual designated as the voting representative of an Organizational, Sustaining or Contributing membership for the year of their nomination"

Graham Frampton:

- Described the problem with the current wording in the Bylaws. It is difficult to get people on the board and opportunities are missed.

Discussion with the membership:

Comment: Concern that the bylaw exists to protect the board from drastic change

Comment: We want to bring in people with a fresh perspective

Comment: Suggest that there is a limit of numbers of new members

Comment: There is a need to trust the board and their goals at the time

Comment: Concern about missed opportunities: Allowing us to go out and pursue people who may benefit the board.

Comment: We have a rotating board – Not possible to overthrow the board all at once.

Comment: Support of pursuing talent when the opportunity arises.

Motion: To accept the bylaw amendment as presented

Moved: Graham Frampton

Seconded: John Mayberry

Opposed: 4

Carried

5) Treasurers Report – Al Cushing

- CITT/ICTS completed the 2006-2007 year with a contribution to retained earnings of \$2,281, which was an improvement of \$500 over budget. This was less than the 2005 retained earnings because CITT/ICTS elected to put more resources into growth.

- The Audited Financial statements are available for review by any member. If you wish a copy please speak to the National Office Co-Ordinator.

Some Points of Interest:

- Although Membership Revenue was up over the previous year we did not meet our budgeted revenue goal. The continuing problem is with membership renewal. We add new members each year but still tend to lose an almost equal number of existing members. The Board has developed, as part of the four year plan, tactics to address this issue.

- E-StageWorks revenue was up by \$1,888. The Board thanks Monique for increasing this revenue stream.

- Toronto conference net was \$ 14,000 more than budget, including an increase of \$9,145 in sponsorship revenue. This revenue helped to offset the shortfall in membership revenue.

- For the last two years we have budgeted \$18,000 in federal funding for special projects and included a matching, non specific special projects expense item. Once again we did not get the looked for federal support. However, we did expend some special project funds; supporting our OI/STAT activities and our outreach activities.

- Although we generally kept our operating expenses below budget; the Board, to support our growing circle of friends authorized additional travel expenses for the National Office Coordinator. This allowed for travel to a number of regional contacts and organizational meetings.

*** The membership stood and clapped in appreciation of all the work that Al Cushing has done.**

Motion: To accept the Treasurers Report as presented.

Moved: Ron Morissette

Seconded: Graham Frampton

Carried

6) Approval of Auditor for 2007/2008

Motion: To approve the Auditor Michael Keltz for 2007/2008

Moved: Al Cushing

Seconded: Graham Frampton

Carried

7) National Office Report**Introduction of Monique Corbeil**

- Outreach activities: traveled to many events all over the country; it has been a good experience that brings in new members and we will be sustaining the activities

- e-Stageworks is a great place to keep up with the National Office and the boards' activities.

8) 2007 National Board Results**- Bob Johnston announces by acclamation**

Bob Johnston – President

Adam Mitchell – Secretary

Jerry Van Dyke – Treasurer

Tom Heemskerk – Director at Large

Tyler Johnson – Director at Large

Eric Mongerson – Director at Large

Section Chair (or designate) – non-voting members

B.C. – Steven Goodman

Alberta – Alan Welch

Ontario – Aimée Frost

Quebec – Norberts Muncs

Atlantic – Karl Simmons

Remaining

John McArthur - Vice-President

Graham Frampton - Past- President

Aidan Cosgrave - Director at Large

Ron Morissette - Director at Large

Liza Tognazzini - Director at Large

Gerry van Hezewyk - Director at Large

One vacancy

9) Section Reports**BC - Steve Goodman**

The BC Section of CITT/ICTS has enjoyed another successful year. We chose to limit the number of activities we engaged in so we could dedicate our time to hosting the 2007 Conference. Our two major activities were Student Night 2007 and our own AGM.

Student Night returned to Douglas College this year on Feb 2, 2007 where we had an excellent turn out of students and industry professionals. As this event is becoming a fixture on everyone's calendars we hope that this event will continue to grow in popularity. Many thanks go out to Ross Nichol for heading up this project once again this year.

The AGM was held at the Bell Performing Arts Centre on Apr 24, 2007 and included some product demos and networking opportunities. Agreement was made to decrease the number of members on the Board of the BC Section to make it easier to facilitate meetings.

The BC Section of CITT was also involved in Pacific Contact this year by assisting Monique Corbeil and the National Office present a session regarding technical issues for presenting theatre and touring artists. I believe the session was very well received and we look forward to presenting another session next year.

The majority of the BC Section's work this year was planning the 2007 conference. Many thanks to our two chairs, Don Parman and Rob Hamilton, and to everyone on the conference committee.

We look forward to a more active year and we are in the beginning stages of planning a venue tour of theatres in the Seattle area.

Alberta – Adam Mitchell

Mount Royal College in Calgary Alberta was the site of this year's CITT Alberta Section Annual General in December of, 2006. The AGM was held in conjunction with a Safety in the Field workshop weekend and Tour of the new Theatre Junction space- the grand.

In the past few weeks Every Theatre company, Arts Facility, Educational Institution, Union Office and many individuals received a copy of Theatre Alberta's long awaited Safety in the field binder SAFE STAGES. Many of our Members, The board and the individual membership all participated in the creation of this exciting and long awaited document. The Alberta Section of CITT-ICTS received a number of copies as well and will be helping in the distribution and launch of SAFE STAGES over the next few months.

In March 2007 our chair Alan Welch of the University of Alberta was stricken with a massive stroke. He was taken to the hospital, and was being treated within the first half hour and happily I come today to wish everyone a warm and healthy hello from Alan, who is well on his way to making a full recovery and has began working one day a week. In the Interim, at a meeting in Red Deer in early may it was decided that I would finish this term as chair in Al's absence.

We retained the administrative services of Terry Runyon who happily kept us on track though out the year and continues to be an asset to the section.

Upcoming in the fall, focus will turn to planning this years AGM which Dave Horner and the Citadel theatre will be hosting. It will happen along with a workshop weekend, this year focusing on Greening up the Theatre- an environmental challenge, and we hope to expand the weekend's events to encompass two day programming and a student night social on the Saturday evening prior to the AGM.

Alberta Section Board includes

- Chair:** Alan Welch
Vice Chair South: Robyn Ayles
Acting Chair / Vice Chair North: Adam Mitchell
Secretary: Matt La Brie
Treasurer: Murray Palmer
Students at Large: Lester LeeDave Butt
Directors at Large: Jesse Carrol, Al Cushing, Dave Horner, Roy Jackson, Tim Koll, Marcus Sirman, Harold Truckle

Ontario Bob Johnston

- Discussed the Ontario Section's activities.
- This year's Student Job fair and AGM was very successful
- Tour of the National Ballet School

Québec - CQICTS AGM Summary

Presented by Norberts Muncs, Chair and Eric Mongerson, Director at large and Past CQICTS Representative

CQICTS held its 4th Annual General Meeting on Monday March 12, 2007 and revealed fascinating accounts of the work and numerous activities carried out over the past 12 months. It was, by far, CQICTS' busiest year to date. Some of the work done over the course of the year includes:

Workshop Activities

- Planned Rendez-vous technique 2006 in Québec City (2 days, 11 workshops, 55 participants);
- Planned a workshop on demystifying the technical language for presenters during the annual Bourse RIDEAU event in February (30 participants);
- Planned the 1st edition of EN COULISSE Conferences for April 5 and 6, 2007 (over 50 participants)

Advocacy - CQICTS members were active on the following committees:

- CSST Performing Arts Occupational Health and Safety Working Committee;
- Theatre Technician Steering Committee (CHRC);
- Expert Committee for the Revision of the CEGEP Theatre Production Program by the Québec Ministry of Education.

Outreach Initiatives

- Supported Québec au LDI (Las Vegas) in October 2006;
- Offered an Information Session to the National Theatre School of Canada students in January 2007;
- Met with representatives of L'Association des théâtres francophones du Québec (ATFC) to discuss future collaboration between the two organisations.

On the financial side, CQICTS' Treasurer Gilles Benoist presented a well-justified surplus, which will enable CQICTS to undertake, among other things, the much needed French translation of some of CITT/ICTS communication tools such as the website and newsletter.

As pointed out in the annual report conclusion, CQICTS, with its limited resources, has been quite busy over the year in representing the organisation in numerous dossiers related to the industry, as well as increasing its profile within the performing arts milieu in Québec. It has been encouraging that CQICTS has been continually asked by several important Québec and Canadian bodies, such as CSST, CQRHC, RIDEAU, ATFC and CHRC, to

provide its expertise on a variety of issues related to the performing arts industry.

Board Elections: Sylvain Prairie and Eric Mongerson were re-elected by acclamation and will both be serving a two-year term in the company of Norberts Muncs, Monique Corbeil and Gilles Benoist.

For 2007, CQICTS will focus mainly on the following items:

- Hold Rendez-vous technique 2007 on August 29 and 30, 2007 at Méduse, Québec;
- Continue attending CSST Performing Arts Occupational Health and Safety Working Committee meetings;
- Support initial training and professional development projects for riggers in Québec;
- Pursuit with Student Information Sessions at Collège Lionel-Groulx, Cégep de Saint-Hyacinthe, Centre d'études collégiales de Montmagny, John Abbott College, Concordia University, etc.;
- Translate into French the CITT/ICTS website and other related documents.

Atlantic (No report was given)

10) Questions from the Members on the Floor

Q - (In regard with the name change straw pole) If we vote in the straw pole what is the next step? Is it automatic or does it have to come back to the membership.

A: The feedback will be taken by the committee and brought to the next AGM for voting.

Q - (In regard with the name change straw pole) Will there be a 3rd option to reject the 2 choices?

A - The Board will listen to any ones concerns, please contact the Communication committee. The committee recommends these two names, but will work with any suggestions that come.

The idea is that this is a long-term process that includes the membership at each step.

*** A minute of silence is taken to remember our members and others who have passed during the year.**

11) Other Business

Bob Johnston

- A thank you is extended to Al Cushing for his over 10 years of service to the board and for staying on as an advisor to the board.

12) Adjournment

Motion:

Moved- Al Cushing

Carried

Note from the Editor: The Presidents report is printed on page 2.



Report from the Chair of the Name Change Committee

- Ron Morissette, CITT Director-at-large

Following the mid-year meeting of the Board of CITT in February 2007, it was requested that the Programming & Communications Committee be set up to look at the recurring question of a name change (update) for CITT. The Programming & Communications Committee set up a Name Change sub-committee to look into this question and to make recommendations to the Board. The Name Change committee is formed of me, Past-president Graham Frampton, director-at-large Liza Tognazzini and assisted by Monique Corbeil as National Coordinator.

THE BACKGROUND

The basis for our work was to update the name of the organisation: it was felt that our name should be inclusive of the entire entertainment industry involved in the production (craft) fields.

The current name creates much confusion in the general public and does not clearly identify who we have become and what we do. This is a for real problem that the National Office (dating way back to Pat's time in 2002) deals with constantly.

The CITT mandate is to connect its members working in the Canadian entertainment industry with professional development, networking, health and safety awareness, and information on industry technology issues. Our mission statement, as posted on our web site, reads:

The Canadian Institute for Theatre Technology/ Institut canadien des technologies scénographiques serves

- Designers
- Technicians & craftspeople
- Managers
- Educators & Students
- Consultants & Architects
- Suppliers & Manufacturers

MISSION STATEMENT

CITT/ICTS's Mission is to actively promote the professional development of its members and to work for the betterment of the Canadian live performance community.

- Promoting safe and ethical work practice
- Organizing workshops conferences and other development opportunities
- Encouraging the development of industry standards
- Advocating at the local regional, national and international level
- Disseminating information and facilitating communication
- Encouraging research and the publication of the results
- Promoting and recognizing work of excellence
- Encouraging its members to take an active role in fulfilling CITT/ICTS's mission

The Committee was charged with looking at options for a name update that would be more inclusive of the membership as it has developed

and to be more inviting for new members that worked in entertainment, but not necessarily in theatre per se. The Board has set an objective of growing the membership by 5% per year over the next five years. This growth is required to keep CITT dynamic and to give it the resources to better deliver the services that the current members are asking for. This level of growth is possible when we are inclusive of all aspects of the performing arts and live entertainment, not only theatre as the current name suggests.

The assumptions that the committee worked with were:

- a) THEATRE: CITT/ICTS includes all sectors of the performing arts, not just theatre: opera, dance, live music, symphony orchestra, musicals, entertainment, special events, etc.
- b) The term INSTITUTE is misleading, and obsolete. We are often confused with teaching institutes. We are closer to the definition of an association.
- c) To avoid confusion: There are many other organizations with the same English acronym such as:
 - Canadian Institute of Traffic and Transportation (CITT)
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- d) To blend in the French appellation of the organisation.

The committee recognized that the name had to say the following:

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- Status: We are an Associative Network organisation.
- Language: We are bilingual.

The above information on the assumptions and some other background info was read by me to the members present at the AGM.

THE COMMITTEE'S FINDINGS

To that end, the committee studied many many names and finally retained two. They are:

CAET-ACTS Canadian Association for Entertainment Technology / Association canadienne des technologies scénographiques

ETAC-ACTS Entertainment Technology Association of Canada / Association canadienne des technologies scénographiques

THEN, A BALL WAS DROPPED

I dropped it. Due to the challenges of both personal life and professional life, my commitment to CITT must sometimes move to the back burner. Apart from the splendid work

that the one paid staff member does, CITT is run through the generosity of members that give of their time and of their personal and professional resources to the organization. I did not have the time to write the current article for publication in StageWorks prior to the recently held AGM in Vancouver. The work of the committee should have been explained prior to the AGM, the results of the committee's work should have been published, a call for response from the membership should have been made, the work of the committee should have continued based on the membership response, and finally, a report should have been made at the AGM with a vote put to the membership, both those present at the AGM and those absent.

Because of the delays caused by my personal and professional lives, I suggested to the President and other board members that we seized the opportunity to hold a straw poll on the question of the name change at the AGM to get some feedback. The ballots were prepared too quickly and unfortunately only the two choices were shown but it was clearly stated by me at the AGM in the explanation of why a name change was being considered that other names could be proposed and that the work of the committee was on-going.

The results of the straw poll were as follows:

35 CAET

36 ETAC

2 Annulled

4 Keep the name with the following comments:

- Leave the same: change Theatre for Theatrical
- No Change
- Neither, keep Theatre in it!
- Neither

TOTAL: 77 votes

Number of CITT member delegates registered at the conference: 78

THE FALLOUT

The lack of proper procedure was the subject of a message thread in CallBoard. I made a quick report to the members in CallBoard (all of the information I gave is contained above). I also mentioned that we would, as we do from time to time, reprint excerpts of the comments so that they could be shared by the many members that do not use CallBoard.

On CallBoard I reacted strongly to the messages because, as I stated above, I felt that it was unfair to volunteer board members to be taken to task so rigorously for a lack of procedural observance. That is why I have named this sub-section of my report "The Fallout".

"Unfortunately I was not able to attend the conference and AGM. Did I miss something posted in Stageworks about a name change? My gut reaction to a name change would be, "are you nuts?" and "No frigging way!" For the benefit of those members who can not attend the conference every year and before I run off at the mouth, I'd like to hear from the governance of the CITT/ICTS about their reasoning for changing our name and what the name proposals are."

- Robert Vernon

"You did not miss something about a name change on StageWorks - that was the point - it should have been publicized ahead of time for everyone to think about instead of surprising us at the AGM. Maybe someone on the board could fill us in on the reasons and proposed ideas."

- Robert Hamilton

"CITT has a Board Committee called Program-Communications. One item that came up at the committee level was the name of the organization. Is it helping or hindering us? I believe the suggested name options are for discussion, and that no decision has been made, or can be made without membership input and approval.

Also, at the conference there was a clearly stated request for people to join the Program-Communications committee (indeed all of the new Board committees).

So while I have no problem discussing name change, or participating in straw votes etc., I would still like to know what the proposed options were (are)."

- Mark Stevens

This is where in the thread that I explained the situation and the reasoning for the name change (RM)

"I find that the above choices have some challenges in my opinion: Neither seems to represent what we are or where we are going (or would like to go).

1. Most of our members are managers (or similar), not technicians. TD's PM's DOP's etc.
2. The word technology tends to alienate the craft side of our business - props, paint, wardrobe.
3. It does not encompass stage management or design very well.

If we are hoping to service and represent our membership (managers) and attract groups who should be members but so far have not shown up much (crafts, sm's, designers), we will need a name that is more inclusive.

Ideas from Rob H: (I won't attempt the French translation, but it would be added to each)

- EPAC - Entertainment Production Association of Canada
- EMAC - Entertainment Management Association of Canada
- CAEP - Canadian Association for Entertainment Production

If anyone has any other ideas or comments on the above, please post."

- Robert Hamilton

"Rob, I support your thoughts on inclusionism, but the EMAC moniker seems to completely belie those thoughts. I find it to be a most unsatisfactory name, as I perceive it to completely exclude little non-managers like me, and what I do for a living, and the craft and technology involved... and I suspect other practitioners, students, equipment suppliers, performing groups, schools, etc. may feel the same way towards something called a "Management Association"....

- Tom Heemskerck

"In reference to the AGM in Vancouver, and the name change straw poll; and having thought about it for a week, I think we should move on. So, here is my proposal:

Canadian Association for
Live Performance Technology
Association canadienne des
technologies scénographiques

The organisation's slogan is after all, Connecting the Canadian Live Performance Community"

- Norberts Muncs

"I'd like to support retaining the name CITT/ICTS.

The major reason to retain it is that we have almost 20 years of history with this name. It is our brand. It has taken a lot of time and effort from many present and past members of this organization to build its reputation under this name and the name, as for every other organization, is shorthand for that reputation.

It is the name under which we are a legal entity. We do business under this name. We are partners with government under this name. Let's not confuse those that we work with by changing our name.

In the business world names with history are not hastily thrown away if they become inaccurate. Canadian Tire is not just a tire store. London Drugs sells as many computers as prescriptions. Most often companies changing names are desperately looking to buy recognition. We are already recognized throughout the industries that we represent.

If the specific words in our name are the issue there are two options. The first has been mentioned- add the words we need outside of our acronym as IATSE has done. In my phone book their full name takes up 3 lines and the last 13 words are not in 'IATSE'. The second option, and my preference, is to ignore the actual words and build on only the acronym. Many major companies have taken this route; IBM, BMO, RBC, CNN etc. I admit this is often to get them around difficulties when translating into other languages. Obviously we work in two languages and will still have a hyphenated official name while using CITT or ICTS in casual reference.

Bilingualism is not well served by our name. However the suggestions are no better. Especially as, in my rudimentary understanding of French, 'ACTS' does not translate as 'CAET' or 'ETAC'. And in English ACTS is what performers do. No clarity there. If we could come up with names that work in both languages and share an acronym, I would be in favour of that change.

We should not be changing our name to follow trends because we will need to change the name again as business conditions change.

If the problem is having an acronym that is confused with others, show me one that will not be. (The suggested CAET is also the Canadian Association of Electroneurophysiology Technologists. The on-line Free Dictionary gives a dozen choices for ETAC.)

Institute does sound stuffy but the dictionary says an institute is 'An organization founded to promote a cause'. That's accurate enough for me.

Let me end with another major reason to not change the name. It is going to take time and money to make this change. We are a small, non-profit group. That means that money is always in short supply. More than that, we were told at the AGM that we, the general membership, are not giving enough time to the organization. I don't argue this and I thank the present and past boards for their hard work. However that being the case, we should invest the energies of those willing to do the work on the growth of the organization. Let's not rebuild what already works at least as well as any of the alternatives."

- Ross Nichol

"I applaud and totally agree with Ross' viewpoint on this issue. We do have a history with CITT and now CITT/ICTS. We separated ourselves from our USITT roots because we needed a Canadian Identity for dealing with government agencies and other National organizations. Lets not discard this.

As for the archaic reference of the word, Institute. In Ontario, the former Colleges of Applied Arts and Technology have taken on the moniker of, INSTITUTES of Technology and Advanced Learning.

If the CITT/ICTS designation is too long and cumbersome, we could operate solely under the French Acronym, like the industrial gas company, Canadian Liquid Air. They operate in both languages as, Air Liquide. Bringing it closer to our industry, consider OISTAT which only uses the French acronym.

As Ross stated, if we want to encompass other areas of entertainment, then append this to the CITT/ICTS and operate under the shorter acronym."

- Robert Vernon

"I agree with maintaining the name as it is. How about "Canadians Involved in Technical Theatre, Entertainment, the Arts and Live Performance" and just call it CITT for short :-)"

- Michael Taugher

"Personally, I would vote to continue operations under CITT/ICTS. As stated, we have a long history with the name, not to mention we are known to governments and other entertainment organizations as CITT/ICTS.

But this is a democratic organization after all. I strongly feel that any question as to the possible name change must be publicized across the

whole of the membership and well in advance of the vote. Plus there needs to be an open and honest forum for a free and longer discussion than the brief time during the AGM.”

- Robert Vernon

“I’m siding with keeping the acronym, but adding a tag line that always goes with it in print, web site etc

CITT/ICTS - in service of Canada's performing arts - as long as they aren't members of Actor's Equity ”

Ok that is too vague, but you get my drift. My reason not too change (other than not being able to remember any new acronyms)

-We have a hard enough time getting recognized-switching names will just undo years of work. The situation with the phone companies in the US is a good lesson- after AT& T was broken up (creating the "baby Bells") and years of mergers and numerous re- brandings, the biggest phone company in the US is re-branding itself as" A.T&T"

Even though "Atlantic Telephone & Telegraph " means nothing relevant now, "A. T & T" is still the most recognizable brand for phone services

- while some of the proposed names are marginally more accurate than CITT/ICTS, none of them are "dead on"- all have some ambiguity, possible overlap with other organisations (i.e. "Production" is frequently used in reference to financiers and tour bookers) and/or unintentionally appear to be omitting areas that we do consider part of our scope.

As Churchill (I think) said " Democracy is the worst form of government- except for all the rest "

"CITT/ICTS " ain't broke enough to need fixing, IMHO

But - still, kudos to those who raised this issue and have worked hard on it for getting us to re-examine the situation. Complacency is always worth testing.”

- Craig Blackley

ADDITIONAL BACKGROUND INFORMATION

The National Office has been told numerous times by non-renewing members that the reason they were not renewing was because they were working in a different field (not theatre) such as corporate events, festivals, etc, and therefore did not feel the connection in belonging to CITT. The same was told by many potential members (corporate, not for profit, individual, etc) that worked in the entertainment industry (and not theatre) who didn't see the reason of being part of a theatre organisation. Despite the sale pitches to prove them wrong, the name itself was a good enough reason not to join.

A name change can be and is a positive thing when it is done to reflect the true essence of an organization. In this case, CITT growth and expansion depends on being aligned with the evolving live performance industry, new emergence work opportunities and overlapping occupancies.

There have been numerous national companies and associations that have changed their name and banner and are very successful:

Read this interesting article: Why Companies Change Their Name
http://www.namedevelopment.com/blog/archives/2005/11/why_companies_change_their_name.html

Or this study on names changes: <http://www.namedevelopment.com/company-naming-changes.html>

Or this interesting name change journey by a major Canadian association: (excerpt from the Canadian society of Association Executives (CSAE) website: www.csae.com):



Ron Morissette at the AGM in Vancouver / Ron Morissette à l'assemblée générale de Vancouver

A Half-Century of Service

On June 8, 1951, a committee of six trade association executives founded the Institute of Canadian Trade Association Executives (ICTAE) – a group of chief executives from national trade associations based in Montreal, Ottawa and Toronto. Operating from a small Ottawa-based office, the new association developed a constitution, bylaws, hired part-time staff, and began a remarkable tradition of service.

In 1953, the fledgling Institute held its first annual business meeting, approved 25 membership applications, and elected the first woman – Florence Montgomery of the Canadian Restaurant Association – to its board. Member services included a newsletter, employee referral and group insurance discounts.

The Institute changed its name to the Institute of Association Executives (IAE) in 1956 and opened its doors to all individuals employed by non-profit associations. On October 18, 1962, the Institution was incorporated under federal charter and moved from Ottawa to Toronto two years later. In 1987, the association changed its name again – this time to its current title, the Canadian Society of Association Executives (CSAE).

CITT could use the name change timing for a much needed re-branding of the organisation and to help promote the growth in membership that we need to continue to offer more and better services to our membership.

There will be limited cost related to a name change for there is no stationary stock and we print small patches of business cards for \$15 as needed. We would have to redo the logo (for a small graphic artist honorary fee) and reprint new banners (a few hundred dollars) the cost would be less than \$1000.

Part of the reasoning behind the name change is also that CITT must update its corporate documents with the Federal government. The ICTS French language name was to be officially added at that time. Since we had to re-file, and because of the more important reasons given above, we chose to take a look at our name and the need to update it.

CONCLUSION

The Name Change Committee is now seeking input and additional comment from the membership over the next 60 days. The committee will issue a final report to the Board after that period and the Board will make its recommendations known to the membership for a regulation vote. Please forward your comments to: cittnamechange@citt.org

Respectfully submitted,

Ron Morissette

Director-at-large, CITT National Board
 Chair, Programming and Communications Committee
 Chair, Name Change Committee
 Past President, CITT
 Founding member, CQICTS
 Founding member, St-Lawrence section, USITT

MEMBERSHIP NEWS

Welcome to our new and returning members!
 Bienvenue à nos nouveaux membres et à ceux qui reviennent!

STUDENT/ÉTUDIANT

- Mark **BELKIE** Calgary AB
- Leks **RAAMAT** Toronto MB
- Katie **RAISLEY** Vancouver BC
- Andrea **ROCCHIO** Banff AB

INDIVIDUAL/INDIVIDU

- Jordan **DAVIES** Kelowna BC
- George **GORTON** Richmond BC
- Jennifer **HARE** Orilla ON
- Gary **HARRIS** Coquitlam BC
- Scott-George **LAFLUER** Edmonton AB
- Glen **POPE** Surrey BC

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Upcoming Events/ Événements à venir

SEPTEMBER / SEPTEMBRE 2007
SENNHEISER RF ACADEMY
 September 25 - Vancouver, BC
 September 27 - Edmonton, Alberta
<http://www.citt.org/?ID=37>

CONTACT EAST 2007
 September 30 - October 3
 Liverpool, Nova Scotia
www.contacteast.ca

OCTOBER / OCTOBRE 2007
ONTARIO CONTACT
 October 17 - 20
 Mississauga, Ontario
www.ontariocontact.ca

ALBERTA SHOWCASE
 October 18 - 21
 Banff, Alberta
www.artstouring.com/showcase/

MANITOBA SHOWCASE
 October 19- 21
 Thompson, Manitoba
www.communityarts.mb.ca

SKATCHEWAN SHOWCASE
 October 25-28
 Lloydminster, Saskatchewan
www.communityarts.mb.ca

NOVEMBER / NOVEMBRE 2007
20th annual CAPACOA Conference
 November 1 - 5
 Ottawa, Ontario
www.capacoa.ca

LDI 2007
 November 12-18
 Orlando, Florida USA
www.ldishow.com



YOU ARE CORDIALLY INVITED TO ATTEND THE LAUNCH OF SAFE STAGES AN OCCUPATIONAL HEALTH AND SAFETY BEST PRACTICES RESOURCE FOR THE ALBERTA THEATRE COMMUNITY

Published by Theatre Alberta and Alberta Employment, Immigration and Industry

Edmonton Monday, September 24, 2007
 Northern Alberta Jubilee Auditorium (Main Stage)
 11455-87 Avenue

Calgary Tuesday, September 25, 2007
 Southern Alberta Jubilee Auditorium (Lower Level)
 1415-14 Avenue NW

both events 11:00am to 4:00pm refreshments and lunch will be served

please join us to...

- recognize the contributions of all those who generously supported and ensured the success of Safe Stages
- discuss the scope and content of the resource
- hear from international leaders in theatre health and safety

11:00am - 11:30am welcome and introduction to Safe Stages from Theatre Alberta and Alberta Employment, Immigration and Industry

11:30am - 12:00pm welcome and keynote address from Janet Sellery, CRSP
 • Health and Safety Manager of the Stratford Festival of Canada

12:00pm - 1:00pm lunch

1:00pm - 3:30pm lecture/workshop with Monona Rossol, MS, MFA
 • President and Founder of Arts, Crafts & Theater Safety, a New York City based organization dedicated to providing health and safety services to the arts (www.artscraftstheatersafety.org)
 • Health and Safety Director for IATSE Local 829

3:30pm - 4:00pm wrap-up and q&a

RSVP to Theatre Alberta, indicating in which city you will be attending, by September 14, 2007
 780-422-8162 / 1-888-422-8160 | theatreab@theatrealberta.com | www.theatrealberta.com

please extend our invitation to colleagues—everyone is welcome and encouraged to attend!

