

## AGM 2005 MINUTES

7-10 Sept, St. John's NL  
Masonic Temple, 6 Cathedral Street

Meeting starts at 9:45

### 1. Introduction

Linda Norstrom, President, introduces the Board.

Fabrice Montal (Antitube), Deirdre Logue (CFMDC), Greg Woodbury (Charles St. Video), Diane Dickert (Em media), Melody Jacobson (CSIF), Becca Barker (ex CFAT), Dianne Searle (ex Media Net), Linda Norstrom (SAW), Claudie Lévesque (Main film and Films de l'autre), Murray Jurak (Dreamspeakers), Kym Gouchie (Ullus) Jean Smith (NIFCO) and Sylvia Jonescu-Lisitza (Moving Images)

### 2. Review of procedures

The moderator Frank Fagan explains the procedures.

### 3. Introduction of voting delegates

Wanda Vanderstoop (VTape)  
Grace Salez (MediaNet)  
Jason St. Laurent (Available Light)  
Paul Henderson (Faucet)  
Catherine Lachance (Spirafilm)  
Anne Golden (GIV)  
Jocelyn Robert (Avatar)  
David Zellis (Winnipeg Film Group)  
Stephen Puskas (WAMP)  
Deborah McInnes (Main film)  
Christopher Redmond (IFCO)  
Tim Dallet (paved)  
Gabriel Schroedter (Videopool)  
Steve Loft (Urban Shaman)  
Tony Merzetti (NB Film coop)  
James McSwain (CFAT)  
Penny McCann (SAW)  
Roy Mitchell (Trinity Square Video)  
Lauren Howes (Satellite Video Exchange)  
Liz Dent (ED Video)  
Collin McDonald (Em Media)  
Tom Leonhardt (PING)  
Camille Turner (Year01)  
Reisa Levine (Studio XX)  
Shelaine Sparrow (FAVA)

Marsh Murphy (Metro Cinema)  
Felipe Diaz (FilmPool)  
David Jones (CSIF)  
Eileen Kage (Western Front)  
Michelle Wong (NUTV)  
Martin Meunier (Vidéographe)  
Aaron Pollard (Oboro)  
Mille Clarkes (IMAC)  
Meg Thornton (Cineworks)  
Marc Almon (AFCOOP)  
Scott Berry (Images Festival)  
Michelle Stanley (TAIS)  
Linda Feeseey (Pleasure Dome)  
Roberto Ariganello (LIFT)  
Sharon L. Adams (QAS)  
Tamrin Hildebrandt (herland)  
Pauline Voisard (Vidéo femmes)  
Annick Nantel (Films de l'autre)

Board members also representing an organization:

Fabrice Montal (Antitube)  
Deirdre Logue (CFMDC)  
Greg Woodbury (Charles Street Video)  
Murray Jurak (Dreamspeakers)  
Kym Gouchie (Ullus)  
Jean Smith (NIFCO)  
Sylvia Jonescu-Lisitz (Moving Images)

#### 4. Adoption of agenda

Collin McDonald votes to adopt the agenda  
Liz Dent seconds  
Unanimously adopted

#### 5. Approval of 2004 AGM minutes

Deborah McInnes moves to accept  
Annick Nantel seconds  
40 in favor  
5 abstentions

The moderator mentions that nominations for President should be given in writing to Deirdre Logue before 3pm  
Linda clarifies that Board members do not vote unless they are the delegate for a centre.

#### 6. Ratification of new members

Claudie Lévesque speaks of Coop vidéo in Montréal

The Quebec region moves to ratify Coop vidéo  
Roberto Ariganello seconds  
Approved with no opposition and three abstentions

Dianne Searle speaks of Alternator Gallery in Kelowna  
The Pacific region moves to ratify the Alternator Gallery  
James McSwain seconds  
Approved unanimously

Dianne Searle speaks of the Vancouver Latin American Film Fest (VLAFF)  
The Pacific region moves to ratify VLAFF  
Steven Loft seconds  
Approved unanimously

Deidre Logue speaks of Flash Frame in Thunder Bay  
The Ontario region moves to ratify Flash Frame  
David Zellis seconds  
Approved unanimously

Murray Jurak speaks of the the Weeneebeg Aboriginal Festival. It is mentioned that the festival does not currently pay artist fees but will if accepted as a member. It is clarified that sometimes they do pay artist fees, depending on their means, i.e. that they support the payment of fees.

Camille Turner (Year 01), Tom Leonhardt (PING), Reisa Levine (StudioXX) and Marc Almond from AFSCOOP have joined the plenary

Discussion ensues regarding the payment of fees as a requirement for membership. It is mentioned that the organization is in a developmental phase and an important group in terms of outreaching to the North. Discussion continues.

The NIMAC region moves to ratify the Weeneebeg Aboriginal Festival  
Michelle Wong seconds

Approved unanimously

It was explained to the plenary that a mistake was made, that Weeneebeg, hadn't applied to the IMAA. Another group, Wabanoong applied and will be discussed later. An apology is made and Murray Jurak moves to rescind the previous motion

Deborah McInnes seconds  
Approved unanimously

## 7. National Director's report

Jennifer Dorner makes a brief report on the office work since she was hired. She expresses the wish of improving the use of the list-serves for increasing the

communication among members. (Note from the minute taker: these lists exist and are activated; only their subscribers haven't used them much lately)

#### 8. President's report

Linda Norstrom thanks the staff and the Board for their work and reports on past year's activities and changes. She speaks of the ongoing reflection on the Alliance governance; upcoming sections on the website for regional reports; sub-committees.

#### 9. Presentation on last year's motions

Board members report on the work done regarding last year's motions.

Regarding motion 2, Jocelyn Robert comments that he had contacted Peter Sandmark, previous Director of IMAA, with suggestions on how to proceed to establish fees for new media; he will send them to the office again.

Regarding motion 4, Penny McCann suggests that we ask Telefilm to reallocate the money they gave to the new International Film Fest of Montreal to the already existing Canadian festivals.

Delegates express the wish that the IMAA join the imminent lobby for doubling the Canada Council's budget, as being lead by the National Coalition for the Arts.

It is suggested to foresee many scenarios with respect to the next federal election outcomes.

Regarding motion 14 Tentative dates for the AGM 2006 in Winnipeg: Sept. 20 - 23.

Regarding motion 17, Linda Feesey and Roberto Ariganello explain actions made in the Ontario region over the past year in regards to censorship.

#### 10. Presentation of financial statements and appointment of auditor

Diane Dickert, Treasurer, presents the financial statements and moves to accept them as presented.

Deborah McInnes seconds

Approved unanimously

Diane Dickert moves to accept Marie-France Paquette as auditor

Collin McDonald seconds

Approved unanimously

Lunch break from 12:45 to 14:20

Tracy Jack from Ullus, Andrew Laskiwsky from Global Visions and Oswaldo Perez from VLAFV have joined the plenary.

Back to point 5.

The Board met during lunch to discuss the following:

Dianne Searle moves that Wabanoong be ratified as a member of the IMAA

Shelley Charles seconds

Approved unanimously

## 11. Motions

It is decided to start with motion 13.

The motion needs a seconder from the plenary: Stephen Puskas seconds  
Deborah McInnes suggests that, in the English version, the word “should” be replaced by “must” and so on, so that it reads as governance conditions.

Mention is made that Nunavut is not included in the geographic categories of the IMAA. Sheila Pokiak is mentioned as a contact for Nunavut Indigenous media artists and groups. The motion passes unanimously and reads as follows:

13.

PROPOSED BY the IMAA Board of Directors

SECONDED BY Stephen Puskas, WAMP

The IMAA Board proposes that the new bylaw on regions included below, which entails the inclusion of NIMAC as a permanent region of the IMAA, be ratified by the membership.

### By-law on Regions for the Independent Media Arts Alliance

The Independent Media Arts Alliance is comprised of six groups: 5 geographic regions. The ATLANTIC, (Newfoundland & Labrador, Nova Scotia, Prince Edward Island and New Brunswick), QUEBEC, ONTARIO, PRAIRIES and NORTHWEST TERRITORIES, (Alberta, Manitoba, Saskatchewan and the Northwest Territories), PACIFIC, (British Columbia and the Yukon Territories); and NIMAC (the National Indigenous Media Arts Coalition), a coalition representing Indigenous media arts organizations, collectives and individuals. An Alliance member organization belongs to the region where it is physically located, and Indigenous organizations are also represented through NIMAC.

Each of the 5 regions and NIMAC elect two representatives to sit as Regional Directors on the Alliance's Board of Directors, and must also choose two alternates that could replace a Regional Director upon resignation of their position from the Board. Each region and NIMAC are autonomous and self-determining in the way that they choose their two representatives.

Each region and NIMAC must hold two meetings per year, publicly announced at least 30 days in advance, one at the Alliance's annual general meeting, and one at another time in the year, within the region itself. The Regional Directors are responsible for organizing the meetings, and for reporting to the region about Alliance activity. The Regional Directors are also responsible for reporting in writing to the Alliance Board about activity within their region, and to the AGM, for publication.

The Regions and NIMAC may seek their own funding for the purposes of holding their own meetings, hiring their own staff, or for any other purpose each region and NIMAC deems pertinent. Funds can be administered through one of

the region's member-organizations, or in partnership with the Alliance, upon request.

1.

Proposed by Bryan Skinner, Cinevic

Seconded by Dianne Searle, IMAA Director for the Pacific Region

Whereas the portion of Canadian content on Canadian commercial theatrical screens is extremely low,

Whereas it is crucial to support access for artists to the screens of Canada and to develop the audience for Canadian regional content,

Be it resolved that IMAA supports the work of organizations that seek legislation which would impose a Canadian content quota system for theatres in Canada.

Discussion on whether motion 1 is appropriate to the IMAA.

Vote: 12 in favor, 18 oppose and 21 abstentions; it doesn't pass.

2.

Proposed by Pauline Voisard, Vidéo Femmes

Seconded by Marie-Dominique Bonmariage, Vidéographe

Given that the context of independent distribution is changing, notably since the bankruptcy of Cinéma Libre,

Given that independent distribution is today fragile,

Given that the funding programs for marketing correspond to the norms of the industry rather than to the reality of independent distribution,

It is proposed that the Alliance lobby the funding agencies so that they modify their marketing requirements so that financial risks be better shared (or split).

Motion 2 is carried with 26 in favor, 23 abstentions, no opposition.

3.

Proposed by the Quebec Caucus

Seconded by James McSwain

Whereas the Canada Council directives emphasize the importance of governance while failing to provide the support necessary to achieve this end,

Be it resolved that IMAA consult with its membership over the coming year and present a set of proposals to Council regarding governance.

Motion 3 is deferred for discussion during the break

4.  
Proposed by Linda Feeseey, Pleasure Dome  
Seconded by Stephen Puskas, WAMP

Whereas equipment inequities exist across the country and archival film and video equipment must be readily available for organizations to maintain their various formats,

Be it resolved that IMAA create a webpage on their website and a section in their monthly Newsletter for IMAA members to list equipment, technology and materials that are available or needed.

Mover Linda Feeseey proposes a friendly amendment in the preamble of motion 4 to extend it to new media practitioners: "Whereas equipment inequities exist across the country and film, video and computer equipment must be readily available..."

Seconded by Marsh

Carried as amended with 46 in favor, 0 oppositions and 3 abstentions

5.  
Proposed by: Roy Mitchell, Trinity Square Video  
Seconded by: David Zellis, Winnipeg Film Group

Whereas the IMAA National Conference offers a unique opportunity for Production Centers to address and discuss a variety of issues that are of concern to them,

Be it resolved that the 2006 Conference dedicate an entire day to issues identified by Production Centers. These topics should include HD Technology, membership activation and services, programming, New Media, residencies, workshops/training and community building.

Steve Loft, mentions that as an organizer of the next AGM, he finds it inappropriate to prescribe a full day with specific items. They will, of course, take these and any other suggestions into consideration while organizing the AGM.

Becka Barker proposes a friendly amendment: "Be it resolved that the production centres who are members of the IMAA work in concert with the IMAA to create opportunities for more time and space to discuss issues pertinent to production centres such as HD technology..."

Passed with 40 in favor and 8 abstentions

Break from 4pm to 4:10pm

Back to motion 3: it's been withdrawn.

6.  
Proposed by: Aaron Pollard, Oboro  
Seconded by: Becka Barker, IMAA Atlantic Director

Whereas the IMAA strives to serve the diverse needs of all independent media art disciplines and communities,  
Be it resolved that the IMAA formalize a new media caucus to facilitate on going, on-line discussions and in-person discussions when feasible, to represent the needs and issues of new media.

Motion 6 is carried unanimously

7.  
Proposed by: Becka Barker, IMAA Atlantic Director  
Seconded by: Aaron Pollard, Oboro

Whereas language and terms surrounding the creation and dissemination of new media work present a distinct set of challenges new to the IMAA discourse,

Be it resolved that the new media caucus, IMAA conference organizers, and Board of Directors ensure appropriate opportunities for discussion of new media concerns throughout the 2006 conference.

Motion 7 is carried with 4 abstentions and no opposition

8.  
PROPOSED BY: Roy Mitchell, Trinity Square Video  
SECONDED BY: Jason St-Laurent, Available Light Screening Collective

WHEREAS censorship in all of its forms is a major national issue affecting each region in specific ways;

AND WHEREAS IMAA annual conferences provide an opportunity for delegates from member centres to become better educated and informed about threats to the Charter right to free expression;

AND WHEREAS anti-censorship motions have passed at 3 IMAA national conferences in the last 4 years;

BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Board of the IMAA mobilize and direct its Censorship Advisory Network (CAN), which was endorsed at the 2004 AGM, to organize a plenary session at the 2006 national conference in Winnipeg;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT the CAN's panel present an overview of current threats to media artists' right to free expression in Canada's diverse regions, and that the session be used as a mechanism to consult with IMAA's broad membership in order to create and clarify IMAA's anti-censorship policies, with the purpose of lobbying government agencies.

Motion 8 is carried with one abstention and no opposition

9.  
PROPOSED BY: Penny McCann, SAW Video  
SECONDED BY: Deirdre Logue, CFMDC

WHEREAS IMAA member groups work tirelessly and ceaselessly, with limited resources, to produce, promote, exhibit and distribute Canadian media art works; and, despite these contributions, Canadian media art works remain largely unseen, underappreciated, and underserved;

AND WHEREAS as the largest public art institution in the country the National Gallery of Canada has failed to do so with any consistency for close to a decade;

BE IT RESOLVED THAT IMAA make public the inexcusable lack of Canadian media art programming at the NGC and to simultaneously lobby the NGC and the Minister of Canadian Heritage to increase the presentation and acquisition of Canadian media art works and to formally request the appointment of a Media Art Curator at the National Gallery of Canada.

Motion 9 is carried unanimously

10.  
PROPOSED BY: Roberto Ariganello, LIFT  
SECONDED BY: Scott Berry, Images Festival

WHEREAS as part of its ongoing advocacy efforts on behalf of media arts centres and media artists, earlier this year IMAA submitted a brief and made an oral presentation to the Standing Committee on Canadian Heritage during its review of the 2000 Canadian federal film policy, "From Script to Screen";

AND WHEREAS this policy review will involve changes and impact many areas of significant interest to all IMAA members, including, but not limited to: funding for production, for festivals, and for preservation;

AND WHEREAS the Standing Committee issued an Interim Report on the review process in June 2005, which came with an invitation for interested parties to intervene in a second round of consultations, beginning Fall 2005;

BE IT RESOLVED THAT IMAA work to ensure that the interests of IMAA and its diverse membership are represented in this second phase of the Standing Committee on Canadian Heritage's review of its "From Script to Screen" policy.

Motion 10 is carried with one abstention

11.  
PROPOSED BY: Jennifer Watkins, Moving Pictures Festival of Dance on Film

and Video

SECONDED BY: Tom Leonhardt, PING Media Network

WHEREAS a rate structure that is inclusive of all media arts practices represented within IMAA's membership needs to be developed in a timely manner;

BE IT RESOLVED THAT IMAA develop suitable rate schedules in consultation with a representative group of the membership to be used as guidelines for member organizations;

BE IT FURTHER REVOLVED THAT IMAA bring these guidelines to the attention of CARFAC, RAAV, and other relevant organizations that represent artists.

Motion 11 is carried with two abstentions

12.

PROPOSED BY: Deirdre Logue, CFMDC

SECONDED BY: Wanda Vanderstoop, VTAPE

WHEREAS there is an evident and disturbing absence of dialogue and action in relation to the preservation, archiving, cataloguing, and collection maintenance of Canadian media art works.

BE IT RESOLVED THAT IMAA engage the Department of Canadian Heritage, including the Canadian Audio Visual Preservation Trust and the National Library and Archives of Canada, in a dialogue towards finding both the means and the ways to begin the process of preservation, archiving, cataloguing, and collection maintenance of Canadian media art works.

Wanda Vanderstoop wishes to include the Canada Council among the institutions listed in motion 12.

Motion as amended is carried unanimously.

14.

PROPOSED BY Becca Barker, IMAA Atlantic Director

SECONDED BY Mireille Bourgeois, CFAT

Whereas a crisis has been identified in the lack of a broader community awareness of independent media arts,

Whereas the value of ongoing communication among member centres and with the broader public has been identified as a priority for the IMAA,

And whereas several regional caucuses struggle to keep up ongoing communications with each other and the public due to barriers such as geography, population and resources,

Be it resolved that the IMAA lobby federal agencies both within and outside the arts sector to better subsidize IMAA's ongoing regional communications.

Motion 14 is carried unanimously

15.

Proposé par Jocelyn Robert, Avatar

Appuyé par Anne Golden, GIV

Given that there is a growing unbalance between the distribution of electronic art and audio art and the means available for the distribution of other media arts,

It is proposed that the IMAA lobby the funding agencies, particularly the Canada Council, for the urgent support for the creation and development of a specialized distributor for electronic art and audio art.

Jocelyn points out a transcription mistake in motion 15.

Michelle Wong proposes an amendment: adding, after the word "support", the following: "financially and otherwise,"

Carried unanimously

16.

Proposed by Melody Jacobson, Calgary Society of Independent Filmmakers

Seconded by Tim Dallett, *paved* ART + New Media

Given that many media arts centres across the country are facing crisis situations regarding their facilities, imminently or within five years,

Be it resolved that IMAA/AAMI investigate potential funding resources and strategies that have been successful elsewhere and disseminate such collected information to the membership.

Motion 16 is carried unanimously

17.

Proposed by Collin McDonald, Em media

Seconded by Shelaine Sparrow, FAVA

Given that the Recordable Media Tariff, introduced in 1998 was intended to compensate for illegal recordings of copyrighted material,

Given that the Recordable Media Tariff is being applied to media used by media artists,

Given that artists are not being consulted on the re-distribution of said tariff,

Be it resolved that IMAA/AAMI recommend to the Federal Government that IMAA/AAMI is consulted on the distribution of said tariff.

Motion 17 is carried with 4 oppositions

## 12. Election of president

Diane Dickert nominates Linda Norstrom as President

Tom Leonhardt seconds

Linda accepts and the plenary accepts her with acclamation

## 13. Presentation of the new board of directors

Dianne Searle steps down; Grace Salez from Media net will be the new Pacific Director and Lauren Howes from Video out will be alternate. Sylvia Jonescu-Lisitza from Moving Images will remain as the second Pacific Director.

Becka Barker and Jean Smith step down; Mireille Bourgeois from CFAT and Walter Forsyth from AFSCOOP will be the new Atlantic Directors. Paul Henderson from Faucet will be alternate.

Murray Jurak will step down; Steve Loft from Urban Shaman will be the new NIMAC Director. Kym Gouchie from Ullus Collective will remain as the second NIMAC Director.

Melody Jacobson replaced Victor Jerrett-Enns who stepped down over the course of the last year and will be the new Prairie & NWT Director. Alternates for the Prairie & NWT region are Stephen Puskas from WAMP, Felipe Diaz from the Saskatchewan Filmpool and Sandee Moore from Videopool. Diane Dickert from EM Media will remain as the second Prairie and NWT Director.

Claudie Lévesque replaced Chantal Molleur in the course of the past year and will remain as Quebec Director; Jocelyn Robert from Avatar replaces Fabrice Montal as the second Quebec Director. Catherine Lachance from Spirafilm and Anne Golden from GIV are the Quebec alternates.

Deirdre Logue and Greg Woodbury step down; Roberto Ariganello from LIFT and James Missen from Available Light are the new Ontario Directors. Alternates are Linda Feesey from Pleasure Dome and Juana Awad from Southern Currents / Alucine.

## 14. AGM 2006/2007

The AGM 2006 will be in Winnipeg, tentative dates proposed are from Sept. 20 to the 23<sup>rd</sup>.

The AGM 2007 should be in central Canada for financial reasons. Centres in Toronto, Guelph or Montreal are invited to consider holding the Conference in 2007.

A gift and flowers are given to Jean Smith in reward for the excellent Conference she has put together with the indispensable help of Anna Petras and Clint Butler.

## 15. Adjournment

Diane Dickert moves to adjourn.