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Walter Alza joins a great line up of actors at CBC press conference talking on behalf of 22000 union actors and industry members challenging the leaders of Canada's political parties to tell Canadians where they stand on the issues of Canadian content, cultural funding and foreign ownership.

Date: Wednesday, January 11, 2006

ACTRA's Election 2006 News Conference

Location: CBC's Glenn Gould Studio, 250 Front Street W., Toronto

Type of Media covering the event National and Regional Television and Newspapers in Toronto.

TORONTO, Jan. 9 /CNW/ - On Wednesday, January 11, ACTRA will host a star-studded news conference to put Canadian culture on the federal election agenda. Canadian performers are challenging the leaders of Canada's political parties to tell Canadians where they stand on the issues of Canadian content, cultural funding and foreign ownership.

The cast of actors will include Walter Alza (Metropia), Lorne Cardinal (Corner Gas), Wendy Crewson (Sex Traffic, 24), Luba Goy (The Royal Canadian Air Farce), Shirley Douglas (Robson Arms), Dan Lett (Made in Canada), Miriam McDonald (Degrassi), Deb McGrath (Getting Along Famously), Colin Mochrie (Getting Along Famously), Cara Pifko (This is Wonderland), Fiona Reid (My Big Fat Greek Wedding), Wayne Robson (The Red Green Show), Sonja Smits (The Eleventh Hour), Julie Stewart (Cold Squad), and RH Thomson (Human Cargo).

ACTRA (Alliance of Canadian Cinema, Television and Radio Artists) is a national organization of professional performers working in the English-language recorded media in Canada. ACTRA represents the interests of 21,000 members across Canada - the foundation of Canada's highly acclaimed professional performing community.

**ALLIANCE OF CANADIAN CINEMA TELEVISION AND RADIO ARTISTS
(ACTRA)**

Extracted from Water's Speech: please, we are asking you to save our industry, we need those funds in order to show our culture in tv and film, we have an immense of talented individuals whom are not working, having to give up their houses, we need work for our talented actors, writers, producers, directors, crew members and casting directors. We need to tell our stories, we need the next government to be accountable, to keep their word, to watch crtc regulations. We need more funds for telefilm, cbc and everyone else. This English industry has been dying since 1999. If we produce compelling stories with great production value, our films and shows will have the potential to make money and in return that money will affect our economy and profile. We welcome our American cousin in with their productions, we called ourselves Hollywood north but we don't like to be stars. It is time to adopt certain strategies from our cousins.