



2015 ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

4-H Canada

Thursday June 11, 2015

Jr. Ballroom - Crowne Plaza

Fredericton, New Brunswick

MINUTES

Present

Brad Adams	Todd Klink
Lyanne AlMBERG	Louise Lachance
Shirley Barnable	John MacDonald
Jennifer Bishop	Diane MacDougall
Rob Black	Mary Magee
Donna Bridge	Kim McConnell
Debra Brown	Randy Mowat
Cameron Choquette	Kelly Mullaly
Jennifer Christie	Lorelei Muller
Cindy Cooper	Lorraine Parkinson
Al DeJong	Valerie Pearson
John Drummond	Linda Porter
Kendra Elliott	Rob Schmeichel
Stan Figley	Leanne Sprung
Terri-Lynn Gillett	Marguerite Stark
Morley Handford	Lyndon Stewart
Blain Hjertaas	Val Stone
David Hovell	Carlie Whetter
Lorie Jocius	Ted Young

Observers:

Stephanie Allison	Kelly Power
Marianne Fallis	Clayton Robins
Erica Jackson	Kevin Rothwell
Ally McConchie	Cera Youngson
Amy McConchie	

Staff:

Jennifer Austin
Shannon Benner
Emily Brown
Andrew Collicott
Gurprasad Green

Trish Hill
Elizabeth Jarvis
Erin Smith
Heidi Vallinga
Scott Westlake

1. Call to Order

President of the Board Valerie Pearson called the meeting to order at 1:36 p.m. and welcomed the group in attendance as well as viewers that are streaming online.

An announcement was made to members that when they arrived and registered at the front of the room, they were given a green voting card to hold high when a vote was called.

It was announced that there were 40 voting members in attendance and this number is an increase from previous years.

Valerie Pearson announced that the hashtag for the 2015 Annual General Meetings is #4HAGM and to feel free to tweet and post on Facebook at any time.

Also presented were greetings from the Right Honourable Stephen Harper, Prime Minister of Canada.

“I am pleased to extend my warmest greetings to everyone attending the 4-H Canada Annual General Meeting. For over a century, 4-H clubs across the country have helped countless young people acquire life skills through hands-on learning activities in the areas of agriculture, food, science, and civic involvement. The 4-H motto of “Learn to do by doing” is key to developing self-confidence, a sense of responsibility, and leadership skills amongst its members. This meeting offers an opportunity to acknowledge the achievements of past year and look ahead to new innovative ways to continue the organization’s valuable work. I commend everyone involved with 4-H Canada for their commitment to encouraging Canadian youth to achieve their fullest potential. Please accept my best wishes for a pleasant and productive meeting and for continued success in the years to come.”

Valerie then called Cameron Choquette and Kendra Elliott to lead everyone in the singing of the national anthem and the 4-H pledge in both languages.

2. Introductions

The Chair commenced the introductions with a roll call asking each person to stand and identify themselves and state whom they're representing. Valerie Pearson also asked Past Presidents and honorary members who were present to stand and be recognized.

There was a moment of silence to reflect and remember those who have been involved with the 4-H movement across the country as a member, leader, parent, staff or supporter who have passed away.

3. Approval of Agenda

There were no additions to the agenda

MOTION: Rob Black / Marguerite Stark: "That the agenda be approved as presented."

CARRIED

4. Approval of 2014 Annual General Meeting Minutes

MOTION: Stan Figley / Linda Porter: "That the 2014 Annual General Meeting minutes be approved as presented."

CARRIED

5. Presidents Address

The President's message can be found on page 1 of the 2014/2015 Annual Report. Highlights from the past year were reported by Valerie Pearson on behalf of the board of directors.

Over the past year the board continued to work as a governance board. A committee was struck to review the governance manual and was updated to include council as well as foundation policies.

The board also had a chance to take a look at 4-H Canada's mission and vision for some tweaking as well.

The board of directors has also been working hard globally and is looking forward to hosting the 2017 Global 4-H Summit in Canada.

Valerie also congratulated the brand committee on the new brand launch: it was a great success and something that all are very proud of. It was a good process and great team work.

One highlight from the past year that the council is very proud of is provincial

funding. There was an increase in funds over the past three years and this is something that the board worked very hard towards nationally and provincially, and are very pleased with this result.

The board will continue to work on 4-H Canada's policies and procedures. Board committees will revise terms of references and the board will also work towards a new mission and vision. The board will also take an active role in planning of the 2017 Global 4-H Summit.

Some focus areas for the future are to continue to be diversified in what we offer. The board will keep working towards good governance and continue to develop the overall strategy and directions. The staff team will define the strategies to support the directions given by the board. 4-H now has a new brand and we must build the brand and the relationships across the country. Financial strength is another area that must have continued growth. 4-H instills diversity values in what we do and this affords us great strength, knowledge, skill, and opportunities.

Valerie offered some wrap-up thoughts to keep in mind.

- What does success look like in the future?
- How do we ensure we fulfill our purpose?
- To prepare for future generations, we need to keep thinking about the future.

6. Financial Report

At this time, Valerie Pearson invited Donna Bridge, Vice President and Chair of the Audit & Financial Review Committee, to the podium.

Highlights from the 2014-2015 Financial Statements were that 4-H Canada broke even in annual operations, and had a reporting deficit of \$103,693 due to a timing issue for revenue recognition. This did not have any impact on 4-H Canada's cash flow nor on its ability to deliver on its 2015-16 operational plan in the execution of our mission. The deficit is a result of two unexpected occurrences:

- Accelerated depreciation (move) 29,190
- Revenue recognition timing 109,900

With a total of \$103,693

More information can be found on page 22 of the Annual Report.

MOTION: Lyndon Stewart / Rob Schmeichel: "That the 2014-2015 financial statements be approved as presented."

CARRIED

The board of directors has gone through a review process with our auditor and sent out a RFP. The board has put forward a recommendation to appoint KPMG

for a three year period.

MOTION: Donna Bridge / Lyndon Stewart: “That KPMG be appointed as the auditors for 4-H Canada for a three-year term of 2015 to 2018.”

CARRIED

On behalf of the members, President Valerie Pearson thanked Donna Bridge and the Finance and Audit committee for all their hard work during the past year.

7. National Office Report

The group welcomed Shannon Benner, Chief Executive Officer with 4-H Canada. Shannon started off by sending out a thank you to the 4-H New Brunswick host committee. They did a wonderful job and made everyone feel welcomed.

Shannon thanked the Board of Directors and Foundation trustees for their time and dedication and the ongoing commitment that has guided this organization forward. Thank you went out to national staff that put so much effort into this event and added that 4-H is a great community to be a part of.

Shannon started by saying that today is a great success in terms of progress made with the 4-H identity and noted that she has been very fortunate over the past year to have been engaged in grassroots, provincial, national and global dialogue about how we represent 4-H, our brand, our identity, and our community to the world.

She touched on a couple of points about community and having a sense of belonging. Society’s view of adolescence has changed over the years and it was recognized that youth need more support. Youth programming across the country has given youth a sense of belonging in the community. As 4-H moves forward with this exciting brand, we need to consider how to create a deeper sense of belonging in our community. We have launched our aligned, strengthened and resilient brand. Next, we need to ensure that we utilize it to welcome, engage, create belonging and inclusiveness and take advantage of this opportunity.

Shannon shared two videos on community and inclusiveness. Those videos offered a number of things to consider in terms of community:

- A sense of belonging.
- Skills and mentorship

The issues youth face today are not the issues of 1913 but the principles of positive youth development hasn’t changed. The need for belonging, inclusiveness and community impetus hasn’t changed. This is about recognizing what we do as being important, and in 2015 it is needed more than ever.

A challenge is to think about ways we can leverage the refreshed 4-H brand to welcome and be inclusive of all young people today and see what we can achieve collectively.

Valerie Pearson thanked Shannon as well as the entire staff team.

MOTION: John MacDonald / Kim McConnell: “That the national office report be approved as presented.”

CARRIED

8. Nominations Report

Valerie Pearson called Rob Black, Chair of the Nominations Committee, to present the nominations report.

First Valerie announced Rob Black is retiring from the Board of Directors and presented him with a certificate of thanks.

Rob Black announced other fellow directors who retired from the board of directors as well. Rob Schmeichel, Linda Porter, and Jennifer Bishop will be retiring from the Board of Directors. A certificate of thanks was presented as well.

Rob Black thanked all members for all their hard work and noted their legacy will have an impact for years to come at 4-H and all will be missed.

Announcement of the 2014-2015 Board of Directors

Donna Bridge
Jennifer Christie
Lyndon Stewart
Stan Figley
Leanne Sprung
Blain Hjertaas
David Hovell
Randy Mowat
Valerie Stone

Observers of the board
Valerie Pearson
Cameron Choquette
Kendra Elliott

MOTION: Stan Figley / Rob Schmeichel: “That the nominations report be approved as presented.”

CARRIED

9. Canadian 4-H Foundation Report

Kim McConnell, Chair of the Canadian 4-H Foundation, presented a report and introduced the other Foundation trustees.

Kim McConnell sent out thanks to the planning committee for holding a great event. Thanks also went out to Shannon for a great speech that connects the new brand and new logo that brings Canada, youth, history, and the future forward.

Thank you went out to board of trustees for all their work they have done and that they are a great group to work with.

Thanks also went out to staff, Shannon Benner and Scott Westlake.

The focus of the foundation is to steward the existing funds that have been invested in 4-H Canada. The Foundation is also to work with staff to attract new funds for operating and to provide the resources that we need to support the strategic needs of 4-H Canada and 4-H in Canada.

This past year the trustees managed four million dollars in investments and this was done in a period of volatility. Kim thanked Morley Handford on his hard work with the investments over the past year.

The foundation also helps support funds for programming across Canada. A big thank you went out to all sponsors and supporters for their support over the past year.

Going forward, the foundation will steward the investments and work with the community to attract new funding for 4-H Canada and 4-H in Canada. The board will also further strengthen the provincial foundations and national foundation and how we work together across Canada.

4-H is strong and the foundation is strong and it's great to be a part of this organization at this time.

Valerie Pearson thanked Kim McConnell for his report.

MOTION: Cameron Choquette / Kendra Elliott: "That the foundation report be approved as presented."

CARRIED

10. Special Resolutions Bylaws

Donna Bridge reported on the special resolution process. There was a package sent out previous to the meeting.

Resolutions are a method by which 4-H Canada members can express their opinions on specific issues to others. Resolutions are meant to recommend changes to bylaws or changes to governance policies. Resolutions are a formal process of action which are considered by the membership during the annual meeting then followed up by the board of directors. This year there were three resolutions submitted and the board communicated with the counties that submitted to solve all issues. They have been reviewed and all three were deemed operational.

The three resolutions have been included in the registrations packages.

Valerie Pearson thanked Donna for her report. Valerie also sent out a special thanks to the entire office staff. Thanks also to the team from New Brunswick for hosting. Thanks went out to Trish Hill for working on the annual meeting behind the scenes and doing an amazing job.

11. Date and Place of Next Annual General Meeting

Valerie Pearson called up 4-H Alberta representatives to make a presentation for the 2016 Annual General Meeting to be held in Calgary Alberta.

MOTION: Lyanne Almberg / Jennifer Bishop: "That the next annual meeting be held on June 2-4, 2016 in Calgary Alberta."

CARRIED

Valerie gave some final words about everything 4-H Canada has accomplished over the past couple of years. The accomplishment of the 100th Anniversary was noted as being completed and successful. The launch of the new logo has been a great success and congratulations to all who were involved. She stated that now it's time to move forward and maybe picture things in a new light and to look at the future of 4-H as a thimble list. There are so many day-to-day celebrations happening across Canada and we all need to take the time to celebrate these moments. We are celebrating the youth and the little things that happen in 4-H.

12. Adjournment of Annual General Meeting

MOTION: Cameron Choquette: "That the 2015 Annual Meeting be adjourned."

CARRIED