



Canadian Federation of Library Associations
Fédération canadienne des associations de bibliothèques

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

12:00 PM – 1:00 PM EST
Friday, February 11, 2022
Virtual Zoom Link

ASSEMBLÉE GÉNÉRALE ANNUELLE

12 h à 13 h HNE
Vendredi 11 février 2022
ICTC, Salle Ontario

Online – En ligne

Please sign in at 11:45AM EST -- Veuillez vous connecter à 11h45 HNE

Minutes of the Annual General Meeting held Friday, February 11, 2022, via Zoom Virtual Conferencing.

Present in person:

Board members: TODD KYLE (CHAIR), MICHAEL ROGOWSKI (OFFICE COORDINATOR - MINUTES), VIVIAN LEWIS (SECRETARY), KIRK MACLEOD (VICE-CHAIR), MARY CHEVREAU (TREASURER), JULIE MCKENNA, GRAEME TENNANT, TODD MUNDLE, ANN SMITH, SHARON RANKIN, HÉLÈNE CARRIER, KATYA BORRÁS, LORISIA MACLEOD.

Voting Members: Eve Lagacé (ABPQ – 1 vote), Pilar Martinez (CULC – 3 votes), Dina Stevens (FOPL – 2 votes), Susan Haugh (CARL – 3 votes), Anita Brooks-Kirkland (Canadian School Libraries – 1 vote), Melanie Sucha (MLA – 1 vote), Shelagh Paterson (OLA – 3 votes), Rina Hadziev (BCLA - 2 votes), Marc Harper (BCLA - 2 votes), Deb Thomas (Ex Libris - 1 vote), Jerrilyn Kirk (BCTLA - 1 vote), Leigh Anne Palmer (ABCPLD- 1 Vote), Treaver Pross (AMPLO - 1 Vote).

Guest: Jason Robinson (Parliamentarian)

1. Welcome and Introductions (Todd Kyle, Chair)

TK (Chair): Called the meeting to order at 12:00 p.m. EST. Read the land acknowledgement and provided an overview of the meeting procedures. TK welcomed Parliamentarian and introduced the head table.

2. Verification of Quorum (Michael Rogowski, Office Coordinator)

A quorum at any meeting of the Members (unless a greater number of members are required to be present by the Act) shall be twenty five percent (25%) of the Members entitled to vote at the meeting. If a quorum is present at the opening of a Meeting of Members, the continued presence of a quorum is presumed unless the chair or a Member notices that a quorum is no longer present.

There are 13 delegates online and 22 votes. Quorum shall be twenty five percent (25%) of the Members which is 7 and quorum has been achieved.

3. Standing Rules of Order

The Standing Rules for Members' Meetings were distributed with the meeting package.

These Standing Rules for Members' Meetings were adopted by the Membership at the 2019 AGM.

A selection of the rules were read by T. Kyle for the benefit of those online.

No questions recorded.

4. Approval of Agenda

The agenda has been distributed with the meeting package. Any proposed changes?

Remove Kirk as Secretary, carry over from last year's agenda..

Motion to approve the agenda by the Chair.

Motion carried. Unanimous.

5. Approval of the minutes of the 2021 Annual General Meeting

Document N° 1

Motion to approve the minutes. Corrections to the meeting : none.

Minutes are approved as distributed.

6. Report from the Chair

T. Kyle provided the Chair's Report.

For CFLA-FCAB, the past year was one of immense challenges that made clear the limitations of both our resourcing and governance models. The COVID-19 pandemic affected the finances of our member associations, which in turn affected our already lean budget. The pandemic also continued to delay the organization of the planned biannual National Forum, which has not taken place since 2018. Member outreach and in-person advocacy were also affected, and when the federation experienced a controversy over the core values of Canadian librarianship, the virtual nature of communications contributed to a more polarizing and impersonal conversation, often taking place over social media.

Beyond the pandemic, though, 2021 exposed a weakness in CFLA's financial model, which is that it is insufficient in resourcing the personnel required to be effective at both leadership and administration. It became obvious as Rebecca Raven ended her contract as Executive Director that there was a need for two distinct paid roles in the organization: one providing leadership, advocacy, and outreach; the other providing support for administrative, financial, communication, and documentation functions. However, the annual budget does not provide adequate resources for both, even in a totally virtual organization with no real estate costs.

For the time being, however, the federation has found a measure of stability by engaging on contract an Office Coordinator (Michael Rogowski) who has provided the administrative backbone and whose role continues to expand as needed. CFLA also utilizes the services of a freelance bookkeeper as well as Impact Public Affairs as a government relations consultant. Going forward, CFLA will need to explore other operational models, including closer partnerships with its major and national members, many of whom already collaborate with us on library issues of national importance. In addition, CFLA may need to revive its efforts in developing a more stable and robust revenue model, which were also put on hold due to the pandemic.

Despite all this, CFLA was still able this year to fulfill its core mission to influence public policy, advance library excellence, and raise the visibility of libraries in Canada. We played a role in several federal government consultation and advocacy opportunities, including the 2022 budget, the 2021 elections platforms, outreach to new Ministers, Internet content regulation, online copyright, CUSMA copyright extension, cuts to CELA/NNELS budgets, and more. We also continued to advocate for a loosening of Crown copyright and to explore a legal framework for Controlled Digital Lending. Other policy areas included artificial intelligence, the Access Copyright decision regarding York University, and cross-country

school librarian cuts. Library standards were advanced through support of the BIBFRAME readiness project, plans for overhauling Indigenous subject headings, and an ongoing review of library technician education. Statements were released regarding discoveries at Indigenous residential schools and concerns over challenges to one book title in particular that attracted national attention.

It is in relation to that last item that I also want to provide a report and look to the future. As many in our community know, there is a growing divide among library professionals as to the best way to approach intellectual freedom in balance with equity and inclusion. Many in our community have openly expressed their disappointment at CFLA's current approach as reflected in statements developed by the Intellectual Freedom Committee, and the Board of one member association has approached us with objections as well. I want to stress that although I have my own strong opinions on the matter, as Chair my role has been to facilitate the decisions of the Board of Directors, and it is the current Board as a group that has continued the established approach to this matter.

From a governance perspective, CFLA can't always strive for consensus but instead relies on the perspectives of the elected directors as to what is in the library community's best interests, and on the expertise of the committees that advise them. This does not mean that future Boards might approach it differently as member associations nominate new directors to serve. Given the level of controversy, it is possible that the issue of intellectual freedom might be one that threatens the unity of the federation, and that efforts in this area may eventually have to be devolved to another member or other body.

As this is the end of my second term on the Board, my responsibilities with the federation are coming to an end. I would like to thank the Boards I've served with, the various staff that have supported us, and the incredibly diverse and inspiring Canadian library community that I work with. It's been an honour to serve.

7. Treasurer's Report (Paul Takala, Treasurer)

M. Chevreau provided the Treasurer's Report.

Due to the pandemic, 2021 presented a number of ongoing challenges to CFLA and our member associations. COVID-19 arrived in early March 2020 which left many of our member associations struggling to provide meaningful service to their members, many of whom were shut down. Library conferences were forced to cancel their events due to travel restrictions, and sources for revenue were severely hampered. However, throughout all of this, our members quickly pivoted and designed new ways to remain relevant through virtual meetings and compelling and meaningful content.

During this period, CFLA-FCAB also experienced an additional set of challenges with the resignation of our Executive Director in June 2021.

In the fiscal year ending August 31, 2021, revenue was at \$163,262, and net revenue was at \$6,287. With the Federation's inability to hold its conference in either 2020 or 2021 due to the pandemic, we anticipate a significant surplus which will be placed in reserve for future years. A public Accountant Review Engagement was completed by Ousley, Hanvey, Clipsham, and Deep, LLP. The review found the books were in good order and that we ended the year with a positive balance of \$57,332.

The CFLA Board's focus on new growth opportunities was also slowed due to COVID; however, it is still the primary goal and mission of this Board, for which we will continue to address.

In conclusion, 2020 and 2021 were years like no other, but still, the CFLA-CFAB Board and Committees have accomplished much and continue to provide meaningful direction to our members. While the past two years have not been “business as usual”, we look toward to a hopeful future where we can once again meet in person to share our stories, ideas, and information.

Presentation of Public Accountant Review Engagement – **Document Number 2022-01**:- That the Membership receives the Public Accountant Review report Dated August 31, 2021, as prepared by Ousley, Harvey, Clipsham, and Deep, LLC.

Appointment of Public Accountant – **Resolution 2022-02**: That the Membership accepts the Board recommendation to select Ousley, Harvey, Clipsham, and Deep, LLC as Public Accountants for the 2022 fiscal year.

7.1 Presentation of Public Accountant Review Engagement

Document N° 2

Resolution 2022-01: The membership acknowledges receipt of the Public Accountant Review Engagement dated August 31, 2021.

Motion: The membership acknowledges receipt of the Public Accountant Review Engagement dated August 31, 2021.

No questions regarding the Review Engagement document.

Mover: S. Paterson (OLA). Seconder: S. Hague (CARL). No discussion.

Motion carried. Unanimous.

7.2 Appointment of Public Accountant

Resolution 2022-02: The membership accepts the Board recommendation to select Ousley, Harvey, Clipsham, Deep, as Public Accountants for the 2020 fiscal year.

Mover: P. Martinez (CULC). Seconder: S. Hague (CARL). No discussion.

Motion carried. Unanimous.

8. Secretary's Report (Norene Erickson, Secretary)As of today, CFLA has 25 members.

The CFLA Board of Directors met approximately every six weeks during 2021, for a total of 9 board meetings and 9 Executive Meetings. All meetings were held virtually using Zoom.

9. Presentation of Slate of Candidates and Call for Nominations from the Floor

Document N° 3

Resolution 2022-03: The membership accepts the slate of candidates nominated in accordance with Bylaw No. 1 to serve on the Board of Directors.

Résolution 2022-03: Les membres acceptent la liste des nominations

proposées conformément au Règlement No. 1 pour siéger au conseil d'administration.

T. Kyle presented the slate of candidates to be elected to the Board at the February 11, 2022 AGM to serve on the Board of Directors for a two-year term commencing today.

Jessica Knoch – LAA

Brett Waytuck – CARL

Mary Chevreux – CULC

Brad Doerksen – MLA/SLA

Further nominations from the members were called. None.

Nominations declared closed.

T. Kyle presented the slate of candidates to be elected to the Board at the February 11, 2022 AGM to serve on the Board of Directors for a two-year term commencing today for OLA. OLA had submitted two nominations for the voting delegates to elect to the board. The names where:

Andrea Cecchetto

Jennifer La Chapelle

Further nominations from the members were called. None.

Jennifer La Chapelle made a short statement.

Voting commenced. 6 for Jennifer La Chapelle, 6 for Andrea Cecchetto, and 8 abstained.

A short discussion was held in determining next steps. A vote was called a second time. Andrea Cecchetto was elected the Central Canada/OLA board member.

10. Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 12:45 p.m. est.