

Youth Science Canada Special General Meeting

Monday, May 16, 2016 @ 10:45am
New Residence Hall, 3625 Av du Parc, McGill University
Montreal, Quebec

MINUTES

Meeting Chair: Malcolm Butler, Chair of Board, Youth Science Canada
Meeting called to order at 10:56am.

1. Chair's Welcome - Malcolm Butler
 - Welcome everyone. Thanks for attending.
 - 4 Board Members are present:
 - Malcolm Butler - Chair
 - Jamie Parsons - Vice-Chair
 - Najib Hayat - Treasurer
 - Brian Le
 - Other members who are on the Board but couldn't be here but send their best regards are:
 - Jennifer Gerritsen - Secretary
 - Gorick Ng
 - Bob Thirsk
 - Alison Thompson
 - Minutes taken by Lori Murray.
 - Board available to chat throughout the week if you have any questions or concerns.
 - Board is policy governance Board, works with ED.
 - Working on financials with ED.
2. Reports
 - Scrutineer - Dan Bowman
 - I wish to table the scrutineers report indicating 105 members present and 12 represented by proxy totaling 117 members. A quorum is present to conduct the business of the Special General Meeting. (15 voting members present in person or by proxy must be in attendance for quorum.)
 - Approval of Minutes
 - **MOTION** to accept: Trevor Maguire, Western Manitoba
2nd by Rhonda Roedler, Central Alberta
Unanimous to accept minutes
CARRIED
 - Treasurer - Najib Hayat
Financial Review Process

- Deloitte Touche Tohmatsu Limited (Deloitte) audited the financial statements for the year-end June 30, 2015 prepared by management.
- The Board received and reviewed the draft financial statements on November 7, 2015.
- Deloitte provided an qualified audit opinion on the financial statements consistent with what many other charitable organization are provided.
- One concern was the deficit, which had increased due to a decrease in revenue, as a result of a reduced sponsorship.
- It is acknowledged that significant strides were taken in addressing this, the auditor is obligated to include this in a section on “Going Concern” and “Emphasis of Matter”.
- Deloitte continued to express their appreciation for Management and the staff’s assistance on the overall audit process.
- Deloitte advised that this continued to be a very smooth audit.

2015 Financial Statements

Bottom Line

- Deficit of \$90,000 for 2015 fiscal year, but carried forward effects of deficit of \$27,000 from 2014 – this is not sustainable.

Impact this Year

- Largest budget component is CWSF, so that is where the impact felt (reduction of prize monies, etc.).
- Continue to actively review all expenses in order to save costs.
- Even board costs, while modest, were significantly reduced – Board members paying own way whenever possible (long history of this).

2016 CWSF Budget - not including travel plan or local host activities

- Approximately \$1 Million (revenue roughly 30% in sponsorship).
- Very few donations not related to sponsorship.

Going Forward

- New to diversify funding.
- Revenue from philanthropy, admissions, event fees, merchandise all needs to be part of the mix.
- **THERE IS A NEED TO EVOLVE.**
- Malcolm noted that we need to find new sources of revenue and this is a major concern to all the Board.

- Nominating Committee – Jamie Parsons on behalf of Jennifer Gerritsen
 - Thanks to the committee: Malcolm Butler, Alison Thompson, Dan Bowman (Bay Area – member at large), Brad McCabe and Jennifer Gerritsen (Chair).
 - The Call for Nominations was sent out on Feb 16, 2016, inviting the membership to nominate individuals for election to 3 available Board position.
 - In total, 10 candidates were contacted and/or considered running for the Board, including 3 incumbent directors who were

eligible for a 2nd term. Response to our targeted recruitment was positive and we soon had 7-8 interested candidates, so at that point we pulled back on recruitment efforts.

- Since we do not have an in-person address at the SGM, the committee recognized the importance of in-person communication in getting an overall sense for a candidate, and we completed short telephone interviews with the new candidates. So far, this has proven useful especially for allowing the Candidates to get a better idea of the commitments and practical experience of being on the YSC Board, and for some informal insight into the Candidate.
- Six candidates committed and completed their written applications by the March 17 deadline. A short factual profile for each candidate was prepared by the Nominating Committee and confirmed by the Nominee. The Nominees provided a statement of up to 150 words and a response to the key skill set being sought for the Board this term. These were provided in the SGM package sent to the YSC membership and in the slides presented at the SGM.
- The nominees for election to the 3 available Board positions are:
 1. Trevor Maguire
 2. Raylene Marchand
 3. Gorick Ng
 4. Shawn Sanderson
 5. Uzma Urooj
 6. Debbie Wang
- The Nominating Committee finds these are all qualified candidates. We are very pleased to present these exceptional nominees to the membership at the 2016 Special General Meeting in Montreal.
- Respectfully submitted, Jennifer Gerritsen, Chair

3. Election of Officers - Malcolm Butler

- Upon arrival at the SGM, each region was given 1 ballot.
- A review of each candidate was presented.
- Please fill out the ballot and put into the box on the table at the front of the room.
- Completed and lead scrutineer took box to count ballots.

4. Other Business - Malcolm Butler

- While ballots are being counted, a few announcements:
 - i. Provincial Meeting today at 2pm, Douglas Hall Cafeteria
 - ii. Always be sure to check emails this week.
 - iii. Lunch today is at McConnell Arena, not Molson Stadium.
- Q&A
 - i. Q: Susan Martin, South Fraser - Prize money to students - is this going to be restored? A: Board wants to back too and this is a very high priority.

- ii. Q: Steve Davis, Zone Rep – With the new Canadian government, would this mean any new funding? A: New discussions are ongoing with ED. ED is meeting with new science MP. Different conversations are happening with different people which is good news.
- iii. Q: Barbara Worth, Toronto – Is the Provincial Meeting this afternoon only for Provincial Reps? A: Yes
- iv. Q: Roger Dumont, Fundy – As a first time delegate, very impressed with the fair so far. A suggestion as never heard of CWSF before this week, is there a video available? Are there available prizes from Top 20 Under 20? Where did these come from – usually CWSF? Never is there a connection from CWSF first. A: Brad – video does exist from Lethbridge and it will be made available. Q: Is there a Montreal video? A: Alumni are coming from Calgary to shoot a video for YSC.
- v. Q: Andrika Tittenberger, MSSS – What is the plan to for the deficit? A: Board plans to increase sponsorship. Looking at where, who to contact, be more active from the Board to help the ED.
- vi. Q: Tara Vanderveer, FLASF – First time delegates, are there other ways to fund prize? Internship? A: Yes we do have Special Awards and some of them give internships as the prize.
- Reni Barlow received the Lifetime Membership Award last July. Malcolm to present his award to him.
 - i. Reni currently is working for NSERC on the national Science Odessey. He’s trying to get all national science organizations to meet. All do great work. Fund as a group. This goes back to regional level. Incredible network across the country.

5. Election Results – Malcolm Butler

- Trevor Maguire
- Gorick Ng
- Shawn Sanderson
 - **MOTION** to accept Trevor Maguire, Gorick Ng and Shawn Sanderson to the Board of Directors for a 3-year term each. Kelly MacAlpine, Thames Valley
2nd by Aidan Leach, Renfrew County
CARRIED
 - **MOTION** to destroy the ballots. Monique Marinier, Yellowknife
2nd by Joe Ciccone, York
CARRIED
- Thank you scrutineers!

6. Board Service Recognition - Malcolm Butler
 - Brian Le and Jamie Parsons - thank you both for your term of service on the YSC Board of Directors. YSC is very grateful. Presented a glass plaque to both.

7. Adjournment - Malcolm Butler
 - **MOTION** to adjourn the 2016 Special General Meeting of Members.
 - Moved: Andy Mikula, Edmonton
 - Adjourned - 11:40am