

**Canadian Worker Co-op Federation
2016 Annual General Meeting, November 4-5, 2016 in Vancouver, B.C.**

Alain Bridault, chair
Kaye Grant, recording secretary
Marty Frost, parliamentarian

Minutes - DRAFT

Part I: Friday, November 4th, 10:00am

1. Call to Order

Alain Bridault called the meeting to order and welcomed everyone.

2. Verify Quorum

CWCF Executive Director Hazel Corcoran verified that there was quorum.

3. Introduction of guests

Alain welcomed guests including:

- *Denyse Guy – ED of CMC*
- *Louis Campagna, The Co-operators*
- *Rebecca Kemble, City Council, City of Madison*
- *Jessica Gordon-Nembhard, City University of New York*

4. Approve Agenda

Alain presented the Agenda as proposed. Moved to accept this agenda by Marty Frost, seconded by Isabel Faubert, Carried.

5. Approve 2015 AGM Minutes

A motion to approve the previous 2015 AGM minutes was moved by Isabel Martins and seconded by Isabel Faubert, carried.

6. Business Arising (Alain)

Hazel noted that members have asked us to report back on our activities pertaining to our procurement policy. She reported on what goods & services we've purchased from worker co-ops or other types of co-ops:

- We rented meeting space at Neechi for the spring CWCF board meeting.*
- We use Left-hand Media Co-op for our web maintenance.*
- We purchased breakfast food at the East End Food Co-op.*
- We use two different Credit Unions*

--We buy all our insurance from The Co-operators.

7. Reports: President, and Executive Director

Alain and Hazel provided an update based on the Annual report. In addition Hazel, reported on commitments over the next year:

- *Work with CCIF to meet the financing needs of worker co-ops*
- *Seek resources to offer a worker co-op management clinic*
- *Place 6 – 10 micro-grants for technical assistance*
- *Offer four webinars including one focused on The Co-operators' insurance programs*
- *Conduct a member survey*
- *Have an in-person member tour - in Ontario*

Reba provided information regarding the grant to OnCo-op that was secured for three years to assist Ontario co-ops.

Questions:

- *Why did we choose Ontario for our in-person tour? Answer: This was because of our conference being their next year.*
- *What are the micro-grants; what are they for? Answer: They are used by the worker co-op to hire a co-op developer to provide technical support either for start-up, or for further development of an existing co-op.*

Hazel thanked all our sponsors for their support of this Conference / AGM.

Denyse Guy then provided a report on Co-operatives and Mutuals Canada (CMC).

Part II: Friday, November 4th, 2:30pm

8. Financial Report

- *Hazel presented the 2016 financial report. She reviewed the qualified opinion statement on the financials, which is due to the nature of donations and dues. It's a clean audit report.*
- *She then explained the Income Statement; our net income was just under \$8,000.*
- *She then reviewed the balance sheet. Note that we have a new item; the Mark Goldblatt Fund, further explaining that this is to be used for cultural focused co-operative projects.*
- *The trust fund is money held in trust and is not CWCF money.*
- *Regarding retained earnings; our target is \$130,000 and right now we have more at \$164,700.*

Moved by Denyse Guy, seconded by Ian Marsh, Carried.

9. Appointment of Auditor

Hazel made a recommendation to appoint AC Bishop & Co., as auditor again for this next year, Moved by Lee Fuge, seconded by Denyse Guy, carried.

10. Budget 2016-2017

Hazel presented the proposed 2016-2017 budget.

- *We are showing a slight increase in our RRSP revenues.*
- *We are projecting a slightly lower Loyalty Payment from the Co-operators. This payment depends on the type of year that the Co-operators has.*
- *Note that wages are allocated to various other expense items so what is in this line item isn't the full amount.*

Questions:

1- Why are we projecting a deficit? Answer: Due to having accumulated more in retained earnings than required by our policy, we have room to budget for a deficit; in effect we are looking at budgetary balance over multiple years by using up prior year's surpluses.

2- What would be the largest increase in expenses from last year? Answer: We have actually cut expenses out of the budget rather than had increases. We reduced the technical grant total because uptake has been low. However, rent has increased because we opened an office in Kentville for our RRSP/TSFA and bookkeeping staff.

Acceptance of the budget was moved by Eric Tusz-King, seconded by Rob Baxter, carried.

Part III: Saturday, November 5th, 11:00 am

11. Resolutions

Eric moved and Jamie seconded, to accept this late resolution regarding Worker Co-op Dues as a late resolution; carried.

Submitted from the Ontario region (Reba Plummer). We had a dues task force (as convened at our AGM last year). The dues task force felt that the CWCF needed to leave the dues level as it was because of the income being needed. The main substantive change is the hardship provision.

Late Resolution re: Worker Co-op Dues

Whereas a task force was convened to consider CWCF's dues formula, and

Whereas the task force focused on making improvements to the dues process which could make it both easier to administer and fairer, and

Whereas the task force found that CWCF's dues are in line with other worker co-op federations; therefore:

Be it resolved that the new-member dues of \$50 be kept in effect for 2 years, if requested, and

Be it resolved that a system be put in place that would streamline the calculation and invoicing of dues, and

Be it resolved that a system be put in place to allow co-ops to pay their dues on a monthly or yearly basis, and

Be it resolved that members who are experiencing financial hardship are able to request a dues reduction, and

Be it resolved that members could make voluntary donations to CWCF for specific projects as part of the dues process.

Moved by Reba Plummer/seconded by Ian Marsh- carried.

Eric next presented the Regional Federation dues resolution.

Late Resolution re: Regional Federation Dues

Submitted by the CWCF Board of Directors

Moved by Eric that this be accepted as a late resolution seconded by Lee Fuge, carried.

To CWCF's AGM, to be held November 4th and 5th in Vancouver, B.C.

WHEREAS the current Regional Federation dues level is modest and does not cover the cost of maintaining relationships with Regional Federation Members;

AND WHEREAS periodic increases to the Regional Federation dues have been foreseen by the CWCF board, with approval by members required, therefore:

BE IT RESOLVED that CWCF increase its annual dues level from \$450 to \$500 for Regional Federation Members.

The resolution was moved by Eric; seconded by Lee Fuge, carried.

12. Director Elections

- a) Explain process
- b) Facilitate Election or Acclamation of Directors

Jamie Campbell explained the election process. He then noted that we have the following nominations: Tommy Allen for the Prairie region seat, and Yuill Hebert for the at-large seat. There was a call for nominations three times for the Prairie seat with no additional nominations presented; Jamie announced Tommy Allen for the Prairie seat by acclamation. There was a call for nominations for the at-large seat three times with no additional nominations presented; Jamie announced Yuill Hebert acclaimed for the at-large seat.

Yuill and Tommy are the new board members.

13. Seek volunteers for 2017/ 2018 nominating committee

We are seeking volunteers for our nominating committee next year. Note that Eric Tusz-King for the Atlantic seat will finish his term this year as well as Alain Bridault for the at-large seat.

14. Announce Place and Date of next AGM: Ontario, exact location & date TBC

Hazel announced the location in Ontario with details to be confirmed. It will most likely be in Ottawa and we are looking at the first week in November.

15. Seek suggestions for location for 2018 AGM

Winnipeg was suggested as a possible location for the 2018 AGM/Conference.

16. Other Business / (Alain)

Alain – announced his intention not to run for president of the Board again; it's time to get younger people. He feels that he has met all of his goals.

17. Adjourn