

**Canadian Worker Co-op Federation
2017 Annual General Meeting, November 3-4, 2017 in Gatineau, QC**

**Reba Plummer: Chair
Kaye Grant: Recording Secretary
Peter Hough: Parliamentarian**

Minutes: DRAFT

Part I: Friday, November 3th, 11:53 am

1. Call to Order

Reba Plummer called the meeting to order and welcomed everyone.

2. Verify Quorum (Hazel Corcoran)

CWCF Executive Director Hazel Corcoran verified that there was quorum.

3. Introduction of guests

Reba welcomed guests including:

- *Mitch Veitch, Australian MP*
- *Lucie Moncion, Senator*
- *Dan Burns, Director, The Co-operators*
- *Denyse Guy, Co-operatives and Mutuals Canada*
- *Audra Krueger, Co-operatives First*

4. Approve Agenda

Reba presented the Agenda as proposed. Moved to accept this agenda by Denyse Guy, seconded by Ian Marsh, Carried.

5. Approve 2016 AGM Minutes

A motion to approve the previous 2016 AGM minutes was moved by Eric Tusz-King and seconded by Peter Hough, carried.

6. Business Arising

Hazel gave a report on co-op procurements.

7. Reports: President, and Executive Director

Reba and Hazel provided an update based on the Annual Report / Accountability Report posted on our website.

Reba spoke to the strategic plan and the workshop session during the conference to engage members in attendance for new ideas and directions to guide the process forward. She noted

the addition of the Intensive workshops at this year's conference (Worker Co-op Intensive and the CoopZone Developers day).

Hazel spoke to the Objectives presented to members in 2016 AGM as follow:

- Offer four webinars including at least one focused on The Co-operators' insurance programs*
- Conduct a member survey*
- Offer a face-to-face member tour – Ontario*
- Work with CCIF to meet the needs of worker co-ops*
- Offer a cluster management exchange*

She also noted some things we will continue to focus on:

- Website updates and improvements*
- RRSP program*
- Membership recruitment and support*
- Tenacity Works Fund*

She gave an update on the objectives, and noted that most of what she presented is documented in our Annual Plan and in our Accountability report now posted on the CWCF website under the 2017 Conference/AGM.

8. Board candidate speeches

The two board candidates, Chris Nichols and Alexandre Banville each gave their speeches.

Part II: Saturday, November 4th, 10:15am

9. Financial Report

Hazel presented the financial report, and explained the layout of the financial statements with the comparison of last year to this year and the separation of the Federation from the Fund.

She highlighted the key changes.

Member dues are lower than last year. We have instituted a hardship option for members. The Co-operators amount is like a patronage dividend. This was a good financial year so we received \$77,000 but this is a totally unpredictable number with significant variations from year to year.

We are under-resourced in staff; The RRSP program needs 2 full-time and beyond this, we need 3 FT but the staff complement is lower.

The \$17,000+ in write-downs in the Fund, this is not money we have lost but money at risk.

It was a good financial year. The reason is the RRSP program and a good year with The Co-operators. Fortunately, CWCF does not have cash flow issues.

Questions:

Explain how the dividend from The Co-operators works.

Answer: It is based on promotion of the services and participation at meetings as delegates.

How do we promote the RRSP program to grow it?

Answer: If we were to grow it faster we would need more staff. It is growing at a healthy rate. The board was cautioned to not be too dependent on that revenue from the RRSP program.

Acceptance of the financials as presented was moved by Even Proven, seconded by Peter Hough, Carried.

10. Appointment of Auditor

Eric Tusz-King moved that we retain Bishop and Company as our auditor for 2017-18, Seconded by Jocelyn Lessard, carried.

11. Budget 2017-2018

Hazel presented the budget.

We have amended this in the past week.

Revenues mostly consistent with the prior year.

Strategic Planning project: The board made a decision to take \$10,000 from reserves related to fees for a contract to a consultant for the strategic planning process.

Expenses are mostly comparable to previous years.

TSFA – that part of our envelope is losing money. It is small and not growing that fast. Our TSFA program started as a result of someone suggesting they would want to use it more.

Acceptance of the budget as presented was moved by Ben Wells, seconded by Shawn Hyam. Carried.

A member raised the concern that the members should not vote on the budget. There is more flexibility if decided at the Board level.

Part III: Saturday, November 4th, 11:05

12. Resolutions

The following late resolution was presented.

- Whereas the Board acted on the mandate to develop a three year Strategic Plan 2018-2021, and
- Whereas the consultation with the members and Board resulted initially in a draft plan that represented the wishes of those consulted, and
- Whereas the Board upon reviewing the draft plan felt that it did not include sufficient innovative commitments that met the challenges and opportunities before CWCF

Therefore, the Board recommends that the draft Strategic Plan be considered a one-year plan, and that CWCF conduct a more substantial strategic planning process that will serve to move CWCF to a higher level of commitments and courage to strengthen the worker co-operative movement in Canada.

Moved to consider this as a late resolution made by Eric Tusz-King seconded by Ben Wells, Carried.

Moved to accept this resolution by Alain Bridault, seconded by Peter Hough, Carried.

13. Director Elections

a) Explain process

Jessica explained the election process.

b) Facilitate Election or Acclamation of Directors

Tommy called for nominations for the Atlantic province three times no further nominations. Eric Tusz-King elected by acclamation.

Jessica announced the nominations for a Member-at-Large and called three times for further nominations. There were no further nominations. Those nominated include Chris Nichols and Alexandre Banville.

Vote was done by secret ballot, Alexandre was elected to the board of CWCF.

Chis moved and Ben wells seconded to welcome Alexandre

Shawn Hyam moved to destroy the ballots, seconded by Rejean LaFlemme, carried.

14. Seek volunteers for 2017/18 Nominating Committee, and Strategic Planning Committee

Reba called for volunteers for the nominating Committee and Strategic Planning Committee.

15. Announce Place and Date of next AGM: Winnipeg, Manitoba November 1-3, 2018

Reba announced the 2018 AGM

16. Other Business / Question and Answer period

No other business

17. Adjourned at 11:25 ET

Moved to adjourn