



**CWCF
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**CANADIAN
WORKER
CO-OP
FEDERATION**

**FÉDÉRATION
CANADIENNE DES
COOPÉRATIVES
DE TRAVAIL**

2024 Annual General Meeting Minutes virtual on Zoom

Tuesday, November 19th at 4:00 pm ET (board nominations) and Wednesday, November 20, 2024, 1:30 pm Eastern Time for the remaining portion of the AGM.

NOTE: there is one delegate per each member worker co-op, to a maximum of 10/region. The Developers' Network member class has a maximum of 5 delegates, as do the Regional WC Federation & Associate Member classes. Voting delegates confirmed before AGM by Parliamentarian & Executive Committee members not up for election-Evan & Kelly

Minutes

Chair: Reba Plummer

Parliamentarian: David Daughton (past CWCF Atlantic Director, also founding board president of CoopZone)

Minutes: Chloë Williams

Tuesday, November 19th, 4 – 4:30 pm ET

1. Call to Order (Reba)
Reba called the meeting to order at 3:57 pm ET.
2. Director Elections – Nominations (Evan Proven, Director)
 - a) Review process, and announce nominees and URL for current candidate biographies and statements. *Evan noted that prior to the AGM, the candidates that had been nominated are: Martin Van Den Borre (Quebec), Reba Plummer (Ontario), and Chris Nichols and Daphane Nelson (BC)*
 - b) Call for nominations: BC, Ont., & QC directors.
Evan called three times for nominations, there were no additional nominations. Evan, then declared nominations closed.
 - c) Candidate speeches (up to 2 minutes each, maximum)
The candidates were then each offered time for a 2-minute speech.
 - d) Contact information was provided to member representatives and voting delegates who wish to contact candidates before electronic voting closed on the following day.
3. Announce the requested deadline for resolution was on November 18 at 6pm.
Reba announced the resolution deadline.

Wednesday, November 20th, 2:30 pm ET

Part I: Reports

4. Reopen the AGM (Reba)
Reba reopened the AGM at 2:36 pm ET
5. Verify Quorum (Hazel Corcoran, Executive Director)
Hazel noted that quorum is 10 members. She then declared a quorum with 32 voting members in attendance.
6. Approve Agenda (Reba)
Leslie Brown moved and Juliet 'Kego seconded. No discussion. Carried.
7. Approve 2023 AGM Minutes / Business Arising if needed (Reba)
Evan Proven moved and Jennifer Tan seconded. Carried.
8. Announce annual record re: CWCF (worker/other) co-op procurement policy (Hazel)
Hazel explained that CWCF has a policy to commit as much as possible to purchasing our goods and services from worker co-ops, and when this is not possible, we source from other types of co-ops.
9. Reports: President, and Executive Director (Reba/ Hazel)
Highlights from the report included: Hazel Corcoran noted the significant win by CWCF with CMC support on the Capital Gains Tax Exemption. Launching the third cohort of the CWCF Co-op Academy. The successful Stronger Together Conference, which was held in November 2023 in Quebec City. The various co-op mixers held across Canada, including those in conjunction with the Conference. Looking forward, we are committed to prioritizing work-life balance for staff, growing the Tenacity Works Fund, and focusing on co-op conversions, with the launch of the Capital Gains Tax Exemption. (see Annual report provided for more)
Highlights from the Report included: Reba Plummer thanked the board for their work and noted the new Rewards Package that benefits CWCF staff. She commented about CWCF's work on co-op conversions, CWCF's webinars, including the 101 series and "What is a Worker Co-op?" which were held in the spring and fall. She also noted the CWCF intern Simon Kinsey, who completed an excellent video on the importance of Home Care Co-operatives in Ontario.
Motion to approve the President and Executive Directors' Report:
Andi Argast moved. Joy Emmanuel seconded. Carried.

Part II: Financial Statements and Budget

10. Financial Report: Presentation of audited financial statements (Kelly Storie, Treasurer)
Kelly presented the Financial Statements. (See Audited Financial Statements for details.)
There was a question about the fact that CWCF wrote off about one-third of the loan portfolio, and how much was actual loss, and how much was for provisions.

Hazel noted that a portion of the loss was due to the closure of one co-op with a CEBA repayment loan, one of six that were lent to worker co-ops. The losses were all unique circumstances; one co-op declared bankruptcy due to a lack of financial structures and oversight. Two other co-ops weren't producing financial statements, contributing to the amount in the write-off.

It is noted that another reason for loss has been the decline in interest on the CCIF investments.

Another question was regarding CWCF loan policy and if there are any proposed changes in light of the major loss.

Recognition that some of the CEBA loans may have been too risky, but in general, the desire is to continue to approve high-risk loans, as this is a vital resource to the worker co-op sector. Noting that the CEBA repayment loans were made under exceptional circumstances.

Kelly noted that the due diligence process in place for the investments is very good. We have a strong committee. The struggle is that a lot of co-ops have fast-shifting realities.

11. Appointment of Auditor (Kelly)

Kelly asked for a motion to reappoint Bishops & Company as the Auditor for the 2024-25 year

Evan Proven moved, and Denyse Guy seconded. Carried.

12. Budget 2024-2025 (Hazel/ Kelly)

Hazel presented the Budget – see slides for summary version of the budget.

Part III: Resolutions and Elections

13. Resolutions (Evan Proven, Vice President, and Hazel)

There were no resolutions.

14. Director Elections, continued (Evan)

a) Facilitate Board Election/Acclamation (scrutineers: Kaye Grant, Ven Drake)

Quebec, Ontario and BC region directors.

Evan opened the elections, noting the candidates. The “Simply Voting” platform was used for this remote election. Each registered delegate was emailed a confidential link for voting.

Part IV: Other Business

15. Appreciation for departing director(s). (Reba)

Reba provided appreciation for Jessica Provencher. She acknowledged all the connections that Jessica Provencher brought to the board, highlighting her connection to the Réseau COOP in Quebec. Reba thanked her for 12 years on the CWCF Board of Directors.

16. Seek volunteers for 2024-25 Nominating Committee, JEDDI Committee, and Conference Planning Committee –*Reba noted that people can submit names to Kaye Grant.*

17. Announce next AGM –Edmonton on November 18-20th 2025 – including special International Solidarity Day, for the 2nd International Year of Co-ops (Reba/Hazel)
18. Announce new directors and that the current board officers (Pres, VP & Treasurer) are expected to remain in place until the Dec board reorganization meeting.

The election results were as follows:

Ontario Regional Director, Reba Plummer, was elected by acclamation.

Quebec Regional Director, Martin Van Den Borre, was elected by acclamation.

BC Regional Director, there were two candidates, Chris Nichols and Daphane Nelson. Daphane Nelson was elected.

2:30 pm: PRESENTATIONS by ALLIED ORGANIZATIONS & AWARDS

Greetings from John Kay, president of [Co-ops and Mutuals Canada \(CMC\)](#), John spoke to the co-op sector in general and the current work that CMC is doing. (Note- John presented earlier in the AGM prior to the President and ED Reports.)

Greetings from [Co-operators](#), Nicole Waldron, Ontario Board member (from CHF Canada). She provided some insights to the sustainable investing that Co-operators are doing and their inclusion, diversity, equity and accessibility. Noting the reconciliation work that Co-operators is currently doing with indigenous folks and communities across the country.

Announce greetings from [CoopZone](#) board and CZ-CWCF collaboration, Nov. 20th,
8:30–9 pm Award Presentations, to:

-Kelly Storie presented the Best Practices Award to [Sustainability Solutions Group](#) (Best Practices Award), SSG received the award and gave an acceptance speech.

-Reba Plummer presented the Mark Goldblatt Merit Award to [Juliet 'Kego Ume-Onyido](#). Juliet gave an acceptance speech.

19. Other Business / Question and Answer period / (Reba)
There were no other questions.

20. ADJOURN
AGM was adjourned at 4:21 pm ET