

# Youth Science Canada Special General Meeting

Thursday, May 14, 2015 @ 1:15pm  
Tilley Hall, Auditorium Room 102, University of New Brunswick  
Fredericton, New Brunswick

## MINUTES

Meeting Chair: Malcolm Butler, Chair of Board, Youth Science Canada  
Meeting called to order at 1:17pm.

1. Chair's Welcome - Malcolm Butler
  - Thanks to the local host committee and YSC group for a great CWSF.
  - Minutes taken by Caroline Whippey.
  - Board working with YSC team.
  - New Treasurer - Najib Hayat - not able to be here this week. Accountant, working with Brad & Board.
  - Board is policy governance Board, works with ED.
  - Thanks to all those on the Board for their assistance: Jamie Parsons (Vice Chair), Jennifer Gerritsen (Secretary), Len Reimer (Past Chair), Bob Thirsk, Brian Le, (absent: Alison Thompson, Gorick Ng, Najib Hayat).
  
2. Reports
  - Scrutineer - Jeff Carragher
    - I wish to table the scrutineers report indicating 90 members present and 18 represented by proxy totaling 108 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.
  - **MOTION** to accept the Agenda.
    - Moved by Scott Berry, Quinte  
2<sup>nd</sup> by Chuck Buckley, Calgary Youth  
Unanimous to accept the agenda  
CARRIED
  - Approval of Minutes
    - **MOTION** to accept: Kelly MacAlpine, Thames Valley  
2<sup>nd</sup> by Dan Bowman, Bay Area  
Unanimous to accept minutes  
CARRIED
  - Treasurer - given on behalf of Najib Hayat by Malcolm Butler
    - Deloitte audited the financial statements for year-end June 30, 2014. (prepped by management of YSC).
    - Board receives & reviews the draft, done on November 8, 2014. Accepted and approved and passed at Annual General Meeting.

- Deloitte provides qualified audit opinion – consistent with other charitable organizations.
- Concern: deficit for two consecutive years.
- Auditor was obligated to include this in “Going Concern and Emphasis of Matter” sections of financial statements.
- Deloitte pleased with interactions with management and audit process.
- Deficit of \$27K for 2014 fiscal year, but carried forward effects of deficit of 329K from 2014 – this is not sustainable.
- This is our first year of concern.
- Youth Science Canada does not have consistency funding – this has been exhausted due to a cycle of deficit and surplus.
- Moving forward: Board trying to ensure there is stable profile of how money will move going forward to ensure financial stability.
- We have been managing cash flow through accounts payable.
- Impact this year: largest component of budget is CWSF – impact is felt here (e.g. reduction of prize monies).
- Looking at all avenues to save costs – thank you to Trevor Maguire for his creative approach for sign re-usage!
- Board also reducing expenses – cutting back two meetings; paying for own travel.
- Problem around sponsorship – approx. 1.15M (60% met via sponsorship, most of rest is registration); very little in donations not related to sponsorship.
- Going forward: need to diversify funding – challenge to get corporate sponsorship.
- Also need revenue from philanthropy (e.g. Endowment – but need large funds here before you see a significant benefit), admissions, event fees, merchandise, etc.
- Strong need to evolve.
  - Devon Ross, Greater Vancouver: could we diversify the board?
- Have been discussion to changing Board to diversify skill set for fundraising.
- There is some room to pilot via appointments.
- Deficit has not been neutralized; this year’s operating should look better, but will “be able to eat into it”
- Do not work on a loan model – working with our accountant.
- Suggestion: Board may want to have Administration prepare communication plan for communication to the membership to keep them apprised of the situation, members could provide support and would be aware.
- Town hall meetings were found effective – one member thankful.
  - Jeff Borisko, North Bay – looking at identifying money/input – discussion of changes to the product and output?
- Festival model (from delegates meeting) – wrapping events/additional activities around the fair.

- Jane Berrigan, South Shore - likes the Townhall meeting idea, but problem is that many members do different things so could not attend; also many delegates here for the first time; signifies change.
    - Delegates meetings gave the opportunity for delegates/regions to have time to talk and discuss. Don't lose sight of this idea.
    - Peter Poole, Canadian Rockies - YSC community has asset - goodwill of regions/volunteers. Another organization he works with is looking at how they go forward - thrust of it is around youth - if YSC can align some of the grant-making-request in line with 2017 missions of Community Foundations of Canada you may find more funds than you expect.
    - <http://www.cfc-fcc.ca/home.cfm>
    - May open new venues of funding beyond individual asks to sponsors.
    - Thinks we do have potential for philanthropy.
  - Nominating Committee - Jamie Parsons
    - Thanks to Brian Le, Alison Thompson, Dan Bowman (Bay Area - member at large).
3. Election of Officers - Jamie Parsons
- Review of Nominees
    - Two nominations for one position: Jennifer Gerritsen & Roland Grand-Maison (bios in materials sent before meeting).
  - Election of Officers
    - Roland Grand-Maison announced he has stepped back from his candidacy - withdrawn.
    - **MOTION** to acclaim Jennifer Gerritsen to the Board position, seeing as she is the remaining candidate.  
Matt Peddle, Central Newfoundland  
2<sup>nd</sup> by Laurie Kraftcheck, Avon Maitland Huron Perth  
Call the Question: Unanimous - CARRIED
    - **MOTION** to destroy the ballots.  
Andy Mikula, Edmonton  
2<sup>nd</sup> by Scott Berry, Quinte  
Unanimous - CARRIED
4. Board Service Recognition - Malcolm Butler
- Len Reimer - thank you for two terms of service and your time as Chair of the Board. Presented plaque.
5. Other Business - Malcolm Butler
- Member's feedback
    - None
  - Announcements
    - Future Host Social - third floor SUB - Ballroom, right after this meeting.

- Alastair Komus - NSFC
  - Saturday - Teardown starts at noon. Please do it either before or right after lunch.
  - Headerboards will be given to students.
  - Departures - two hours before your flight you should come to McConnell Hall with all luggage. There will be buses to the airport. More details in a brochure passed under your door.
  
- 6. Adjournment - Malcolm Butler
  - **MOTION** to adjourn the 2015 Special General Meeting of Members.
    - Moved: Angela Corbin, Central Interior BC
    - Adjourned - 2:15pm