



THE ROYAL ASTRONOMICAL SOCIETY OF CANADA
LA SOCIÉTÉ ROYALE D'ASTRONOMIE DU CANADA

The Royal Astronomical Society of Canada
La Société Royale d'Astronomie du Canada

Minutes of the Annual General Meeting, Sunday, June 25th, 2023 at 10:00 PDT.

1. Call to Order

Charles Ennis, in the chair, called the meeting to order at 10:06 PDT.

(MOTION AGM2023-1:Ennis/Watson) To approve the agenda with Mr. Ennis's outlined changes from that circulated in the Annual Report 2022. Carried.

Mr. Ennis presented a territorial acknowledgment:

"I am gratefully joining you today from traditional territory of the unceded lands of the Sechelt First Nation where I live and observe the skies. I would like to express my concern and support of the people of Sechelt First Nation who recently learned that unmarked children's graves had been found at a former residential school there. You are joining us from other parts of Canada or beyond, which is home to many diverse First Nations, Inuit, Métis and indigenous peoples from across Turtle Island. I encourage you to learn more about the history of the land and peoples in your area. We recognise the significance of these lands of indigenous peoples past and present and as we engage in astronomy here, we respect, learn from and honour the deep relationship between indigenous peoples, the sky and the earth. Today I am wearing my Syiyaya paddle from the reconciliation movement and is a coast Salish word which means "together". On the back it says "We are in this we journey together and the message is we are all in the same boat, We hope to arrive safely at our destination. We must be a team that paddles together."

Mr. Watson said some members had asked for the voting to be done via Zoom polling. Mr. Ennis asked Ms. Hinds to describe voting procedures, which Ms. Hinds proceeded to do. Mr. Watson and Mr. Ennis agreed to run a poll for the agenda.

Motion AGM2023-1 was carried.

Mr. Ennis introduced the Board members:

Charles Ennis, President
Michael Watson, 1st Vice-President
Brendon Roy, 2nd Vice-President
Catherine Carr, Treasurer
Eric Briggs, Secretary
Betty Robinson, Director
Betty Robinson, Director



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Katherine Dulong, Director

Jenna Hinds, Executive Director

Mr. Ennis referred to his written report submitted as part of the Annual Report 2022. He thanked all the directors for their participation on the Board. He thanked all the centre treasurers for their participation with the national finance committee. He thanked Judy Black, Eric Klazsus and Jim Fairles for their work chairing the National Council.

10:16

Discussion of the State of RASC Finances

Mr. Ennis started the discussion, part of a new process of engagement between the Board, national councillors and centre leadership. He introduced the Treasurer, Ms. Carr. In 2022, she said the Society experienced heavy losses, as reported in the Audited Financial Statements in the Annual Report 2022. The scope of the loss became apparent in December 2022. She said she bore responsibility and apologized, but said the Society had made a lot of progress since December. She invited comments from other Board members. Mr. Watson said he thought it was appropriate to say the entire Board shared the responsibility, including himself. He said the Board had lost focus on core responsibilities and functions of the society, serving members and centres. Some projects such as the Robotic Telescope had drained limited staff time and effort that would have been better spent attending to the core of the Society mandate. Ms. Carr asked if she should proceed with the Audited Financial Statements. Mr. Ennis said that was probably correct, if the discussion was over. He expressed how two-thirds of centres were often represented at National Council meetings and the other third of centres usually did not participate.

David Lane said this was a meeting for members and not for National Council, and that centre councils who were in the picture may not have shared National Council proceedings with their members. He expressed concerns with the state the Society found itself in and how to ensure it would not happen again. In particular he questioned the true nature of the Dorner Telescope Museum and the result of the promise of it that was made at the 2019 General Assembly, when \$1 million of it was not sitting in an account and no income had been reported by it in 2022, and the large size of the new National Office and its 10-year lease, and the Dorner Telescope Museum commitment not to pay rent.

Mr. Ennis said an after-action report was being composed alongside the recovery. He asked Ms. Carr to speak about the Dorner matter. Ms. Carr said she had been in touch with the executor of the estate, which was currently tied up with the Canada Revenue



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Agency. She said Mr. Dorner donated CIBC shares to the Society that would generate dividend income, depending on performance \$35,000 to \$40,000 per annum. Mr. Lane asked if the shares would appear on the Society balance sheet, or if it was a trust that would have an annual income, and was there a donor agreement committing the Society to certain responsibilities. Ms. Carr said it was not expected to be a trust, that the Society would receive the share donation directly on the balance sheet. She said once income from the Museum Fund was being received, she expected a reasonable allocation of the revenue towards the Museum's square footage would be permitted, to the best of her knowledge. She said the Dorner Telescope Museum section in the RASC Policy Manual was the limit of the principles of the Museum. Mr. Ennis said it had been hoped that the Museum could be housed in a monetized space, but that it was an unrealistic expectation, but that there were other options of sharing the space.

Mr. Ennis responded to a question from the chat asking if the Robotic Telescope had not been perceived as serving the membership. He referred to a poll that was circulated to centres at the time of the February 5th National Council meeting asking about options for cutting and the unanimous response of centres was to cut the Robotic Telescope.

Mr. Lane asked if the Society were in touch with the executor, that the Will should identify the RASC as a beneficiary, to make the entitlement legal. He understood that in past years some annual payments were made by Mr. Dorner to start the Museum as a going concern, with the stipulation of no rent.

Ron MacNaughton said Education and Public Outreach Committee had planned to incur some expenses that were curtailed by RASC finances and asked when committee expenses toward RASC goals could continue. Ms. Carr said she thought committee expense requests should be submitted to the Board and Executive Director on a case by case basis to maintain the Society's core operations. Mr. Watson said the Board had spent the first half of the year reducing expenses, specifically by ending SkyNews, the Robotic Telescope and office staff. He described how revenue received from grants and donations had grown in recent years from no more than 17% to close to 40%, and that grant programs required new staff, not always paid for by the grants. He described the at-most three staff positions currently planned: The Executive Director, Finance and Office Administrator, and Membership and Publications Manager. Mr. Ennis thanked Mr. Watson for his comments and mentioned that the Robotic Telescope had been recently sold. Mr. Watson clarified the status of the sale. Ms. Hinds thanked Mr. Watson for his description of the leaner state of the Office, and she thanked the volunteers for their activities which helped to preserve the Society.



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Mr. Ennis responded to a question about the Special Projects Fund being suspended. Mr. Ennis referred to Ms. Carr's comment that requests would be approved on a case-by-case basis.

Mr. Lane asked about SkyNews being a separate corporation to which the RASC had loaned money, had the Society let the magazine's obligations to its creditors not be the RASC's problem? Mr. Ennis said the matter was still developing. Mr. Watson clarified the ownership of SkyNews Inc. as a wholly owned subsidiary of the RASC. The RASC is a without-share-capital charitable corporation, SkyNews is a for-profit corporation with its own Board of directors emplaced by the RASC Board. The SkyNews Board retained their own legal counsel, an expert in insolvency, to advise them. Mr. Watson and Mr. Ennis had met with the SkyNews Board. The Society as shareholder was not legally bound to pay any of the liabilities of SkyNews, as a common element of corporate law in Canada, however as a matter of goodwill Society is paying the printing bill for the last issue of the magazine, although not legally obliged to do that. The magazine subscribers had been offered to take up the Journal of the RASC or a free membership in the Society to use up the remainder of their equity. In short, the RASC chose to pay off the obligations of SkyNews without the legal compulsion to do so, within the wherewithal of the Society. Mr. Lane summarized the situation in his own words and Mr. Watson agreed.

Mr. Lane described the portion of the Membership who really liked SkyNews and asked what was being done to service those members, in terms of the way the Society recognizes deferred revenue of membership fees for the next year. Mr. Ennis said some features of SkyNews were being put into the Journal. Ms. Hinds, Mr. Ennis and Mr. Watson briefly discussed membership numbers.

Mr. Lane asked about the Auditor comment about the lack of balance between the Society's Quickbooks accounting and the numbers from Driven, the online payment and membership management and sales service (Part of Recommendations Arising from the Audit Examination in the Annual Report 2022.) Ms. Hinds said Driven discrepancies were small. Ms. Carr said the dollar value of the discrepancy was less than \$5000, and the interface between Driven and Quickbooks was complex. She said bookkeeping was outsourced to Charity Accounts, and a bookkeeper-finance manager was being sought to take on this responsibility to reduce that expense.

Mr. Ennis responded to a question about membership fees, saying that National Council was being consulted on that matter.



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Mr. Lane said he had been involved in the revitalization of the Journal 15 years earlier, and he was glad to hear that content was being consolidated in the Journal. He suggested dusting off the report to rename the Journal to Polaris. (ref. JRASC Vol.92 pp.51, April 1997, also the National Bulletin of August 1995, also Appendix 4.5.1 to the National Council minutes of November 25th, 1995.)

Mr. Roy said that the Auditor had advised the way the Society reported its finances was overly complex for an organization of this scale. Mr. Ennis described how a proposal to reduce the number of cheque runs to reimburse centres their membership fees from one per month was rejected by centres, some of which could not maintain cash flow with reimbursements at a slower rate.

Mr. Ennis responded to a question from Dr. Ralph Chou asking why the proceeds of the Helm Fund had not been used to fund the operations of David Dunlap Observatory via the Toronto Centre. Mr. Ennis said that the Trustees of the Helm Fund was awaiting advice from legal counsel. Mr. Watson said it was fair to say there was a difference opinion between the Trustees of the Fund and the Toronto Centre that was known to Dr. Chou. Mr. Lane, speaking as one of the Trustees, said that they had just received a draft legal opinion but had not reviewed it yet.

Mr. Watson described the Board's decision to host this discussion before proceeding with the agenda. Mr. Ennis asked members whos question had not been answered to bring their questions back to the Society after the meeting.

11:07

Reports of Officers

Secretary's Report

Mr. Briggs referred to the previously circulated written report in the Annual Report 2022. He briefly described policy changes and by-law amendments during the previous year, and offered condolences to the families of the following members who passed during the reporting period:

Terence Dickinson

Bill Almond, Dave Bennett (Victoria Centre)

Mark Coady (Kingston Centre)

Dr Peggy Dixon (St John's Centre)

Rudolph Dorner (Kitchener-Waterloo Centre)

Rev. Robert O. Evans (Honorary Member)



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Dr. J. Donald Fernie (National President 1974-76)
Prof. Owen Gingerich (Honorary Member)
Dr. David F Gray (Western University)
Hon. Donna Jean Haley, Q.C. (former Solicitor, 1969-82)
Patrick Heinz, Franklin Loehde, Michael Noble (Edmonton Centre)
Carl Jorgenson, Constantine Papacosmas (Montréal Centre)
William Allan McDonald (Winnipeg Centre)
Prof. Jay M. Pasachoff (Honorary Member)
Prof. Judith L. Pipher, Tony dos Santos (Toronto Centre)
Linda Pulliah (Sudbury Centre)
Bjarni Tryggvason (Canadian astronaut)
Stephen B. Sharpe (London Centre)
Geoffrey Cockhill (Ottawa Centre)
Anthony Gucciardo and Michael Burdett (Yukon Centre)

After a moment of silence, Mr. Briggs suggested that because some members of the RASC had passed away after the end of the reporting period, and would be remembered at the Annual Meeting 2024, that members may wish to remember those members in the chat window for the time being.

(MOTION AGM2023-2:Briggs/Lane) To approve the minutes of the Annual Meeting 2022 as published in the Annual Report 2022. Carried.

National Council

Mr. Ennis introduced Judy Black, Chair of National Council. Ms. Black thanked everyone for the opportunity to speak. She referred to the written report on p.56 of the Annual Report 2022. She thanked Jim Fairles and Eric Klazsus who also served as officers of National Council. She also thanked National Councillors who diligently participated in meetings. She thanked the Board for dealing with what was "on fire", specifically Mr. Ennis and Mr. Watson for keeping her "in the loop". She said quarterly financial outlooks would furthermore be provided to National Council by the Board. She thanked Dennis Lyons for stating four phases to the collaborative plan being developed:

- Controlling expenditures
- Realistic budget for the coming year
- Review what happened
- Future operations

Ms. Black invited RASC members to get involved in activities in the coming year. She said the National Council Terms of Reference policy was expected to be redefined



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during the coming months, and invited members to review the circulated National Council minutes on the website (<https://rasc.ca/nc/minutes/2020s>).

Treasurer's Report

Ms. Carr presented an overview of the written report and Finance Committee Report that was presented in the Annual Report 2022. She began with the Statement of Operations on p.26. She commented that there were no huge swings under membership fees or publications. Grants revenue declined from \$230,000 to \$98,000. Donation revenue was lower in the reporting period, even if the large bequest in 2021 from Mr. McDonald was considered an outlier. Ms. Carr said Ms. Hinds was undertaking new initiative to reduce grants and increase donations. Ms. Carr noted a \$17,000 Investment loss, strictly an investment with Scotia McLeod and not reflective of the decision to close SkyNews Magazine. SkyNews was covered at the bottom of the statement in an explicit line, reflecting the impairment of the investment in note 5 to the Financial Statements.

She noted that expenses increased year-over-year, in part due to compensation, as staff grew to unsustainable levels. She said it had been realized too much was being spent on shipping and handling, and fulfilment of shipping of the 2022 Observer's Handbook was problematic. At the end of the day, the Society experienced an operational loss of \$690,000 in 2022. One of the decisions resulting was the winding down of SkyNews. This resulted in what is known as an impairment loss of \$292,000. SkyNews had built up some amounts payable to the RASC. Staff had spent some of their RASC time working on SkyNews matters, and money had been loan and an account receivable balance had accumulated which had to be written off during the year 2022, agreed-upon during the audit process in early 2023. The impairment loss was for receivables to the RASC that could not be repaid and the initial purchase of SkyNews as an investment. The excess of revenue over expenses was \$983,000.

Ms. Carr presented the Statement of Financial Position (the Balance Sheet.) As of December 31st, 2022, the cash position was \$270,000, down from \$1,110,000 at the end of 2021, taking into account the McDonald bequest. The accounts receivable balance was for institutional subscribers to the Journal of the RASC in part. The Public Service Body Rebate Receivable was for HST rebates which the Society was due. The accounts receivable for SkyNews was zero for the end of 2022, down from \$35,000 at the end of 2021, reflecting the impairment. She showed that the Society's long-term investment at Scotia McLeod experienced some loss in 2022 from market activity, not liquidation of assets. The Dorner Telescope Museum assets were listed as Collections, with note 7 to the Financial Statements, as a \$55,079 asset at the end of both 2021 and



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2022. Under liabilities there was a decrease in accounts payable, such a decrease often due to unlucky timing of scheduled expenses. She described the Canada Emergency Business Account loan of \$60,000 interest-free (note 9) on the condition that 2/3rds of it is repaid before the end of 2023. After presenting the Net Assets, she concluded her presentation and encouraged members to read the notes to the Financial Statements. She thanked the Finance Committee members for their work.

Randall Rosenfeld asked about the breakdown of the expense of the Dorner Telescope Museum. Ms. Carr said she would share that with him.

David Lane said he was concerned about the cash situation, because a significant portion of available funds was tied up in restrictions, and asked how long the situation could last. Ms. Carr said that the rest of the calendar year 2023 could be completed without running up against internal restrictions. Mr. Lane asked about the 1st Quarter report for 2023. Ms. Carr said that report was complete up to the end of May and she had just posted it to National Council also on June 25th.

Mr. Ennis recessed the meeting for five minutes. Mr. Watson asked Mr. Ennis to shorten committee reports from five minutes each to two minutes due to running behind schedule. Mr. Ennis agreed.

12:00

Ms. Hinds introduced Stuart Heggie who spoke briefly about the activities of the Astro-imaging Certificate Committee, referring to the written report in the Annual Report 2022.

Ms. Hinds introduced Robyn Foret to speak about the Awards Committee proceedings. Mr. Foret referred to the written report of the committee in the Annual Report 2022.

Ms. Hinds introduced Mr. Watson, who spoke very briefly about the Constitution Committee, which was expected later in the agenda.

Ms. Hinds introduced Lauri Roche, who spoke about the Education Committee activities, and referred to the written report of the committee in the Annual Report 2022.

Ms. Hinds introduced Dr. Chris Gainor, who spoke about the Editorial Board activities, and referred to the written report of the committee in the Annual Report 2022.



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Ms. Hinds said the reports of the Inclusivity and Diversity, Information Technology, Light Pollution Abatement and Next Generation Committees stood by themselves because their chairs were not present.

Mr. Rosenfeld said the Astronomical Landscape of Canada project would go online the next week, and referred to the History Committee's written report in the Annual Report 2022.

Ms. Hinds introduced Mr. Watson on behalf of the Nominating Committee, which is composed of the Board of Directors as a Committee of the Whole. Mr. Watson spoke about the contested election for the incoming three directors.

Ms. Hinds introduced Blake Nancarrow, to speak about the Observing Committee report. Mr. Nancarrow described the Observing Certificate programs and referred to the written committee report in the Annual Report 2022.

Ms. Hinds introduced Mr. Rosenfeld to speak about the Dornier Telescope Museum. Mr. Rosenfeld invited e-mail inquiries from members interested in visiting the Museum.

Ms. Hinds thanked Gary Fairfoul and Stuart Heggie for their assistance in closing the Robotic Telescope project.

Ms. Hinds introduced Randy Attwood, who spoke about the Solar Eclipse Taskforce activities, which were not described in the Annual Report. He described the preparations for the Total Solar Eclipse of April 8th, 2024 including procurement of safe solar viewers, and planned meetings with centre representatives from along the path of totality. He thanked Victoria Krankowski and Ms. Hinds and the Education Committee for their activities in this area, and also Julie Bolduc-Duval.

Mr. Attwood also spoke briefly about the Upcoming General Assemblies initiative.

Mr. Nancarrow also spoke about ongoing astronomy software training for members using Stellarium. (<https://rasc.ca/astronomy-software-training>) He thanked Kersti Meema, Ian Bain and Al McCue for participating as trainers. Ms. Hinds thanked him for this program.

12:24

Approval of Audited Financial Statements

Ms. Carr described discussion in the chat window about Note 3 to the Financial Statements concerning the Helm Fund. She suggested Dr. Chou or Mr. Lane suggest



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alternative wording. Mr. Watson said it was unusual for the statements to be amended by the membership at the annual meeting, after the auditor had signed off on them. Ms. Carr said an amendment like this would not have an impact on the audited statements, because it was only a note or description that would be changed, and not a number. She said the auditor should be approached to sign off on the change. Mr. Watson suggested "The trustees of the fund are taking legal advice with respect to the administration of the fund". Mr. Lane suggested a subsequent motion to request that the auditors correct note 3 after consultation with the Trustees. Ms. Carr said the draft audit took a little longer this year due to staff turnover. Mr. Watson said Dr. Chou had written that he didn't think the membership could amend the auditor's report, and he tended to agree with that and recommended voting on the report as presented. After withdrawing her original motion, Ms. Carr resubmitted the motion.

(MOTION AGM2023-3:Carr/Black) That the members approve the auditors' report and the audited financial statements for 2022 as presented. CARRIED.

12:34

By-law Amendments

Mr. Ennis asked Mr. Watson to describe the By-law Amendments for ratification. Mr. Watson presented the first amendment, with an unusual request to add three words to the amendment.

8.5 The chair and vice-chair {and council recorder} of the National Council for the forthcoming year will be elected by the National Council Representatives from among their number at the meeting of the National Council before June 30 in each year. Any vacancy in the position of chair or vice-chair may be filled by election of the National Council Representatives at any meeting of the National Council.

(MOTION AGM2023-4:Lyons/Wallace) To amend the by-law amendment No.1 concerning Section 8.5 to add the words "and council recorder". Carried.

Mr. Lane and Mr. Watson agreed that the amendment is required to pass by special resolution.

(MOTION AGM2023-5:The Board) To amend Section 8.5 of By-law No.1 as above. Carried by special resolution.

5.3 The agenda for the AGM shall be set by the Board of Directors, and shall include the following matters, in such order as may be appropriate:



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- (a) approval, or amendment and approval, of the agenda for the AGM;
- (b) consideration and approval of the minutes of the last AGM and of any special meeting and meeting by requisition held since the last AGM;
- (c) consideration and approval of the reports of the Board, the officers of the Society, and any committees;
- (d) presentation of the audited financial statements;
- (e) consideration of any matter, including any amendment to this By-Law, proposed to be adopted by special resolution of the Society;
- (f) election of Directors of the Society;
- (g) election of the auditor of the Society;
- (h) consideration of any member proposal made under section 163 of the Act and section 5.2 of this By-Law; and
- (i) other business.

(MOTION AGM2023-6:The Board) To amend Section 5.3 of By-law No.1 as above. Carried by special resolution.

3.6.3 Any member who has been expelled or suspended from membership in the Society is prohibited from attending any meeting or event that is organized or held by the Society or by any Centre of the Society, including the Society's General Assembly and Annual General Meeting, whether the meeting or event is held in person or virtually and whether or not the event is open to the public.

Patrick Kelly said he felt this article was unenforceable. Mr. Watson said the ease of enforcement of the by-law was not a consideration, that the rules stand to be justified. Mr. Foret said that when the Calgary Centre holds a public event, they reserve the right to not admit any person, and they had law enforcement support. Mr. Lane also briefly discussed the proposal with Mr. Watson and Mr. Ennis. Ms Black asked if the membership would be apprised in future of people not to be admitted. Mr. Watson said that idea was worthy of further discussion later.

(MOTION AGM2023-7:The Board) To amend Section 3.6.3 of By-law No.1 as above. Carried by special resolution.

Mr. Ennis briefly spoke about the Trespass Act based on his experience working with police.

Mr. Watson spoke about the proposed amendment to the By-law concerning the Treasurer role. The intent was to remove the requirement that the Treasurer be a



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Director of the Society, while retaining the requirement that the Treasurer be a member of the Society, for the following reasons:

1. The Treasurer, alone among the listed officers, must have a special set of skills (in this case, of course, financial skills) in order properly to discharge the Treasurer's duties in order to keep the Society in the best financial condition possible. Holders of the other offices do not require the same specific skills in order to discharge their responsibilities properly.
2. The Board has had extreme difficulty over the years in finding suitable members who (i) are prepared to put their names forward for election as Directors, (ii) are prepared to take on the heavy responsibilities of Treasurer, and (iii) have the necessary skills and experience to perform the Treasurer's role properly.
3. The Society would benefit immensely by having a much wider universe of potential candidates for Treasurer (the approximately 4,500 members of the Society) than only the nine members of the Board, none of whom may have either the desire or the skills to take on this position.
4. The Board is of the view that the person filling this one officer role does not have to be a Director. The Treasurer would, however, usually be invited to attend all or part of every Board meeting, in the same way as the Executive Director has always done.

All officers of the Society, just as all Directors, are covered by the Society's Directors and Officers insurance policy. The Board has also passed an amendment (section 9.4.14) that would extend the prohibition on Directors receiving remuneration for their services to officers as well, which would then cover any Treasurer who was not also a Director.

9.10.6 Treasurer - The Treasurer shall be a member of the Society, but need not be a Director,. The Treasurer shall have the custody of the funds and securities of the Society, shall oversee the financial operations of the Society to ensure that full and accurate accounts of all assets, liabilities, receipts, and disbursements of the Society are kept in the books belonging to the Society, and shall deposit all monies, securities, and other valuable effects in the name and to the credit of the Society in such chartered bank or trust company, or, in the case of securities, in such registered dealer in securities as may be designated by the Board from time to time. The Treasurer shall disburse the funds of the Society as may be directed by proper authority taking proper vouchers for such disbursements,. At the request of the President or the Board, the Treasurer shall present to the President and the Board at meetings of the Board, or



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whenever they may require it, an accounting of all the transactions and a statement of the financial position of the Society. The Treasurer shall also perform such other duties as may from time to time be directed by the Board.

9.4.14 Directors and officers shall serve without remuneration, and no director shall directly or indirectly receive any profit from his or her position as such, provided that a Director or officer may be reimbursed for reasonable expenses incurred in the performance of his or her duties. A Director or officer shall not be prohibited from receiving compensation for services provided to the Society in another capacity.

(MOTION AGM2023-8:The Board) To amend Sections 9.10.6 and 9.4.14 of By-law No.1 as above. Carried by special resolution.

13:00

Election of Directors

(MOTION AGM2023-9:Ennis/Chou) To appoint Judy Black as chair of the meeting for the duration of the election of directors. Carried.

Ms. Black presented two slides describing the election process. The candidates' statements had been previously circulated. The five nominees for the three positions available for a term of three years and one position for a one-year term completing the term of a director who resigned during the year were as follows:

- Randy Attwood
- Andrew Bennett
- Stuart Heggie
- Shay Pomeroy
- Brendon Roy

Members in attendance were permitted to vote for up to four candidates. Ms. Hinds conducted the voting by a Zoom poll.

The following candidates were elected:

- Randy Attwood
- Andrew Bennett
- Stuart Heggie
- Brendon Roy



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Ms. Black and Mr. Ennis thanked all the candidates. Ms. Black returned the chair to Mr. Ennis.

13:12

Appointment of the Auditor

Mr. Ennis asked Ms. Carr to make the motion.

(MOTION AGM2023-10:Carr/Deschamps) that Tinkham LLP be appointed as auditor for 2023. Carried.

Mr. Ennis asked for any other business to be considered. Dennis Lyons asked how long Tinkham had been the auditor, considering the practice of not-for-profit corporations to change auditors every three to five years. Mr. Ennis was not sure how long Tinkham had served. Mr. Briggs noted that Tinkham was also the auditor for the Toronto Centre and also the Royal Canadian Institute for Science, and that he would check how long they had served in that role for the Society. He later found that Tinkham's first year acting as auditor for the Society was in 1983. Mr. Ennis said the Finance Committee would look into the matter.

Mr. Watson said great thanks were due to the retiring directors, Mr. Ennis and Ms. Carr, for their work through the years, despite the troubles of the year just completed. Ms. Carr and Mr. Ennis expressed their thanks.

Mr. Watson said the Board would meet briefly after the adjournment, before their first proper meeting in a couple of weeks. He said the search for a new treasurer would be considered as the year continued.

13:22

Adjournment

(MOTION AGM2023-11:Poole/Weir) to adjourn the meeting. Carried.

The meeting was adjourned at 13:23 PDT.

Respectfully Submitted,

Eric Briggs

Secretary

The meeting was adjourned at 20:29.

Respectfully submitted,

Eric Briggs

Secretary