



The Royal Society of Canada - 136th Annual Business Meeting
Fairmont Winnipeg, Winnipeg MB – West Ballroom
November 24th, 2017, 13h:30 p.m. – 15h:00 p.m.

DRAFT MINUTES/PROCÈS VERBAL

RSC Executive:

Maryse Lassonde	President
Chad Gaffield	President - Elect
Sheila Embleton	Honorary Secretary
Jean-Marie Toulouse	Honorary Treasurer
Irving Abella	President, Academy I: Academy of the Arts & Humanities
Constance Backhouse	President, Academy II: Academy of Social Sciences
Jamal Deen	President, Academy III: Academy of Science
Cynthia Milton	President, College of New Scholars
Chris Loreto	External Representative

RSC Secretariat:

Darren Gilmour Executive Director, Royal Society of Canada

Members:

Irving Abella; Tracie Afifi, Alice Aiken, Sally Aitken, Grame Auld, Constance backhouse, Jennifer Baltzer, David Barnard, Catherine Beauchemin, Marie Beaulieu; Graham Bell, Daniel Bernstein, Robert Boiky, Diana Brydon, Claudio Canizares, Kaii Chan, Kendra Coulter, Mark Crowther, Marie D'Iorio, Ken Davey, Gwendolyn Davies, Michael Dawson, Jamal Deen, Sheila Embleton, Tony Embleton, Anver Emon, Geoffrey Fong, Chad Gaffiel, Alain Gagnon, Carole Gerson, Shohini Ghose, Jean Grondin, Edith Hamel, Carolyn Hansson, John Harriss, Gary Hinshaw, Keith Hipel, Lucie Hotte, Leslie Howsam, Lesley Jacobs, Carl James, Gonia Jarema, Gregory Kealey, Ute Kothe, Sylvie Lamoureux, Anne Lancashire, Paul Lasko, Maryse Lassonde, Louis Patrick eroux, Gary Libben, Dominic McIver Lopes, David MaGee, Marcel Martel, Ed McCauley, Susan McDaniel, Jeremy McNeil, Anne-Marie Mes-Masson, Cunthia Milton, Stuart Murray, Lawrence Mysak, Adele Perry, Robert Proulx, Joanna Quinn, Vijaya Raghavan, Nigel Raine, Nat Rutter, Barry Sanders, Gary Slater, John Smol, Marcia Spetch, Dawn Stacey, Alan Steele, Batia Stolar, Mark Sutton, William Sweet,



Jean-Marie Toulouse, Christl Verduyn, Craig Walker, Cheryl Walsh, Dan Wayner, Julia Wright, Paul R. Young, Waldemar Zacharasiewicz

1. Introductions / Opening Remarks

The meeting was officially called to order at 1:30 MT. President Maryse Lassonde opened the meeting by welcoming members to the 136th Annual meeting. Each member of the head table introduced him/herself. S. Embleton directed the membership to access materials online as well as to ensure Members picked up their voting cards

2. Approval of the Agenda

MOTION (G. Kealey / R. Proulx)
That the agenda be accepted as presented.
Carried

3. Approval of the minutes of the 2016 Annual Business Meeting

MOTION (G. Slater / G. Laforest)
That the minutes of the 2016 Annual Business Meeting Minutes be accepted as presented.
Carried

4. Business arising from the 2016 Annual Business meeting minutes

5. Board of Directors

S. Embleton presented the members of the Executive Committee for election to the RSC Board of Directors for the period of November 17, 2017 to November 25, 2018 and that Chad Gaffield will serve as Chair.

MOTION (J. McNeil/ G. Kealey)
Carried

Chad Gaffield, RSC President
Maryse Lassonde, Past -President
Jean Grondin, President, Academy I



Alain G. Gagnon, President, Academy II
Vijaya Raghavan, President, Academy III
Cynthia Milton, President, College of New Scholars
Sheila Embleton, Honorary Secretary
Jean-Marie Toulouse, Honorary Treasurer
David Barnard, Institutional Member Representatives
Chris Loreto, External Member

6. RSC President's Report (M. Lassonde)

M. Lassonde presented her report grouped in four categories.

RSC Current Affairs:

Over the last year President Lassonde collaborated with Jeremy McNeil (International Affairs); Chad Gaffield (Strategic plan); Darren Gilmour (strategic plan, Winnipeg Celebration of excellence, etc.). New activities undertaken were, the Alice Wilson ceremony awards, at the Gender Summit, November 6, 2017, GS11, Special board meeting on strategic plan, October 31, 2017.

M. Lassonde thanked the Chairs of the three Standing Committees for their work during the year. Jean-Marie Toulouse, Finance & Audit Committee; David Barnard, Human Resources Committee and Yvan Guindon, Governance & Ethics Committee. Throughout the year, President Lassonde attended all the meetings of these committees.

RSC Presidential Representation, Canada & International:

Science and Technology for Society (STS) meeting in Kyoto, Japan; G20 Science statement meetings in Halle Germany & G7 statement meetings in Rome Italy, accompanied by Jeremy McNeil; RSC New Zealand 150th anniversary; INGS meeting in Auckland; RSC Australia for Women in Science review; Meetings with the Mexican Academy of Science, RSC London, and Palestine Academy of Science.

- President Lassonde thanked Graham Bell for representing RSC on her behalf at the meeting of the Norwegian Academy of Science on what politicians and decision-makers need of science input in connection with the climate and environment issues facing us today.

- Meetings with Institutional Members: McGill University, U Montreal, Manitoba, Calgary.

-Meetings with Universities Canada, Canada's Brain Trust, NSERC award ceremonies.

CCA Related Activities:



Board meeting, Ottawa, September 13, 2017; HR Committee tele-conference November 10, 2017; Governance Committee, November 17, 2017

Governor General Related Activities:

Canadian Honorific Awards, Rideau Hall, June 19, 2017; Order of Canada Ceremony, Rideau Hall, August 25, 2017; Meeting of the Advisory Council of the Order of Canada, November 16, 2017; Order of Canada Ceremony, Rideau Hall, November 17, 2017

MOTION (R. Proulx / G. Jarema)

That the report of the President be accepted as presented.

Carried

7. Report of the Executive Director

D. Gilmour presented the priorities worked on over the year.

1. The consultation process toward strategic plan 2018-2022 by holding 35 engagement sessions coast to coast with Universities and Members to discuss “What does excellence looks like” for input on focus for the new plan. Recognition and mobilization of the membership are key inputs from the sessions. D. Gilmour thanked Chris Loreto for his work on developing the strategic plan. He also thanked Constance Backhouse for her leadership in the Equity & Diversity Task Force and Irving Abella for his leadership in the Intervention Committee whose past work will strengthen the Society’s strategic plan of the next five years. The strategic plan will be launched in January 2018.

2. The RSC has also been working on a new HR Policy Manual that will be in force in January along with updated job descriptions for staff that will complement the new strategic plan. D. Gilmour thanked President Lassonde for her leadership and support of the secretariat staff and of the initiatives worked throughout the year.

In closing, D. Gilmour encouraged the Members to visit their “home”, the office of the RSC, Walter House at 282 Somerset Street West of the in Ottawa.

8. Report of the Honorary Secretary

a. New Fellows/New College Members – Class of 2017

S. Embleton noted a total of 87 New Fellows, 1 Foreign Fellow, 2 Specially Elected Fellows and 70 new Members of the College for the Class of 2016.

b. Moment of Silence for deceased Fellows

S. Embleton led the assembly in a moment of silence in memory of deceased Fellows during the past year. A list was presented to all attendees for those who have passed prior to November 1, 2017.

c. Working Group on the Electoral Process

S. Embleton presented work being done over the last year such as the academies' operational manuals that will be circulated at the Academy meetings for feedback.

S. Embleton provided an update that the three additional slots for the Academy of Social Sciences that were added last year will continue this year until a review of long-term changes of slots available for election are determined.

S. Embleton invited Chad Gaffield, the Chair of the Working Group on the Electoral Process to present work done by that committee.

C. Gaffield spoke about the electoral process work such as academic selection and the complexities of academic selection in keeping with the highest level of standard, transparency and clarity. A working group was struck with experts in Canada and 1 international representative to review the selection process. The working group developed 12 recommendations that were endorsed by Council. A new guide will be developed based on these recommendations and implemented next summer for the next election period.

The working group report was circulated at the meeting.

MOTION (G. Laforest/ G. Slater)

That the Honorary Secretary's report be received as presented.

Carried

9. Report of the Honorary Treasurer

J. M. Toulouse notified the Members that the external auditor, Deloitte was joining the meeting to be able to address any questions the Members may have. D. Hume of Deloitte joined the meeting via teleconference.

a. 2016-2017 audited financial statements



The audited Financial Statements as of June 30, 2017 were included in the meeting materials. The Honorary Treasurer dispensed of the reading of the statements but underlined the following points:

The Society finished the fiscal year better than expected with a surplus. Our auditors are satisfied with their findings of the audit and RSC's financial management.

MOTION (M. Sutton / G. Kealey)

That the audited Financial Statements be approved as presented.

Carried

b. Resolution for the appointment of auditors

MOTION (R. Proulx / J. McNeil)

That Deloitte be re-appointed as auditors for 2017.

Carried

c. Appointment of signing authorities

The following signing authorities for banking purposes and contracts were reviewed:

\$0 -\$5,000.00: The Executive Director and the Comptroller

\$5000.01 - \$25,000.00: Requires a 3rd approval and signature of the Honorary Treasurer or President.

\$25,000.01 +: Requires submission to the Audit Committee for review and then they would recommend to the Board for approval

All Payments made to the ED must be authorized and signed by the President of the Board of Directors of the RSC and the Honorary Treasurer.

For Employment Agreement Purposes:

For the hiring of the ED: The Council of the RSC. For the hiring of staff: the ED shall make recommendations to the Human Resources Committee.

MOTION (G. Kealey/ M. Sutton)

That the signing authorities be approved as presented.

Carried

d. Report on budget

J. M. Toulouse reported that we expect that the results of the upcoming financial year will be on par with this year as revenues and expenses are stable. With that in mind, work will be focused on increasing revenues over the next financial year.

Members were asked to ask questions. No questions were presented.

J. M Toulouse thanked D. Hume of Deloitte joining the teleconference for Members' questions.

MOTION (C. Verduyn/G. Jarema)

That the Honorary Treasurer's report be approved as presented.

Carried

10. Remarks of the RSC President (C. Gaffield)

a. Recognition of outgoing officers

C. Gaffield extended the gratitude of the Council and the Membership will personally with plaques thanking them for their service.

Maryse Lassonde, President

Irving Abella, President, Academy of Arts & Humanities

Constance Backhouse, President, Academy of Social Sciences

Jamal Deen, President, Academy of Science

Robert Proulx, Institutional Member

Laura Loewen, Secretary, College of New Scholars

Jeremy McNeil, Foreign Secretary

b. 10.2. Strategic Plan 2018-2022

11. Other Business

M. Lassonde thanked the Council and the Chairs of the Standing Committees for their support during her term as President of the Royal Society. She also thanked the Secretariat staff for their efforts and dedication. M. Lassonde then introduced C. Gaffield as RSC's new President.



C. Gaffield thanked M. Lassonde for her service to the RSC. He also thanked the Membership for the honor of electing him as the President.

12. Adjournment

MOTION (L. Mysak/ L. Loewen)

That the meeting be adjourned

CARRIED

The meeting officially adjourned at 14h:51pm

DRAFT