

**The Royal Heraldry Society of Canada
La Société royale héraldique du Canada
Annual General Meeting
Held via Zoom
Saturday, May 28th, 2022**

Minutes

Vicken Koundakjian, President of the Royal Heraldry Society of Canada in the Chair

- 1) **Call to Order and Quorum:** Vicken Koundakjian called the meeting to order at 2:00 pm. The President asked the Secretary to declare the Quorum.
- 2) **Declaration of Quorum:** The Secretary, Steve Murray, declared that there were 75 members attending and therefore there is a Quorum.

The Secretary, Steve Murray, declared that there were 4 proxies submitted. Three were held in Vicken Koundakjian's name and 1 proxy held in Steve Murray's name.

- 3) **Announcements:** The Chair asked stated that as this is an online meeting, the Society's 2nd annual meeting held virtually, that all members be patient, keep their microphones off, unless speaking, and raise their hands or use the virtual hand on the Zoom screen if they wish to speak. Also, the Chair asks that all members be brief in their remarks due to time constraints

Secretary, Steve Murray, declared there were no other announcements.

- 4) **Moment of Silence:** Vicken Koundakjian asks those present to observe a moment of silence for those members who have passed away since the last annual meeting. (see attached list for more detail)

Cecil Humphrey-Smith	Seasalter, UK	
Col. Robert Douglas	Coldwater, ON	(Life Member)
Judge Peter Hogan	Montreal, QC	(President, Laurentian Branch)
Jean Matheson	Ottawa, ON	(19th President of the Society)
Gerald McKinnon	Prince George, BC	
Barbara Zaharescu	Ill des Soeurs, QC	
Suzanne Yvon	St Laurent, QC	

- 5) **Agenda:** The Chair asked if there were any additions to the Meeting Agenda? Steve Murray moves, Edward McNabb seconds, that the Agenda be adopted. **Adopted**

- 6) **Adoption of the Minutes of the 2022 Annual Meeting:** The Secretary, Steve Murray, informed the meeting that the minutes of the 2022 Annual Meeting were posted on the website for review. Steve Murray moves, Carl Larsen seconds: The the Minutes of the 2022 Annual Meeting be adopted. **Adopted**
- 7) **President's Report:** The President, Vicken Koundakjian, read his report. (attached) Steve Murray moves, Jason Burgoin seconds, the receipt of the report. **Adopted**
- 8) **Treasurer's Report: Part A:** Ian Steingaszner, the Treasurer, reports that the Society's financial position is in very good shape. The Society has a surplus for fiscal 2021 of \$38,120.00. Revenues have been increasing and for the foreseeable future the Society has the ability to fund many heraldic projects. (see attached) Ian Steingaszner moves, Steve Murray seconds, the receipt of the Treasurer's Report. **Adopted**

Part B: Appointment of the Auditors: Ian Steingaszner moves, Moira Scott seconds, that Williams and Partners be appointed the Auditors of the Society. **Adopted**

- 9) **Old Business:** Steve Murray reports that there is no old business to consider.
- 10) **Committee Reports:**
A) Part 1: Membership Report: Steve Murray, Membership Chair, read his report. (See attached)
He reported that the membership at the end of 2021 stood at 397 and the current renewed membership is 322. The goal for the end of 2022 is 365. These numbers are much higher than in past years he reported.

Steve Murray is recommending the adoption of the proposed By-Law Amendments today. And, if adopted he will prepose a new fee structure for the Society with reduced fees.

Steve Murray moves, Mark Alden seconds, the receipt of the report. **Adopted**

Part 2: Adoption of By-Law Amendments:

1) Ordinary Resolution No. 1: Steve Murray recommends the adoption of the Amendment to the Society's By-Law which would reform both the Fellowship and Licentiates of the Society. The categories of Honourary Fellows and Fellows would be combined into one Fellowship. A list of any living Honourary Fellows would be reviewed and if the Board deems necessary elevate them to the Fellowship category. All others not so elevated would remain as is.

The amendment regarding the Licentiates would lay out the rules for the conducting of the Licentiate Programme of the Society.

Steve Murray moves, Patrick Crocco seconds, that the proposed amendment be adopted.

Discussion.

Jason Burgoin moves, and Steve Murray seconds an amendment to the proposed amendment amending section 3 Part A by adding the words after the word chivalry, “or practiced heraldic crafts”.

The vote was 63 in favour, 4 against. **Adopted**

Jason Burgoin moves, Steve Murray seconds and an amendment to the proposed amendment amending section 8 by changing the limit number of living Fellows to 50. **Adopted**

The Chair then called for a vote on the amendment as revised. Steve Murray noted that this amendment would only require a 50% plus one vote. **Adopted**

2) Ordinary Resolution No. 2: Steve Murray recommends the adoption of this amendment whose purpose is the clean up certain language, remove anomalies, redundancies in the language of the Society’s By-Law.

Steve Murray moves, Don Williamson seconds, that the proposed Amendment to the Society’s By-Law be adopted.

Steve Murray noted that this amendment would only require a 50% plus one vote. **Adopted**

3) Special Resolution No. 1: Steve Murray recommends the adoption of this special amendment to the Society’s By-Law which repeals the section on membership categories and replaces it with a new section which creates new categories of membership. Included in this are the categories of Household/Family and Life Membership.

Steve Murray moves, Patrick Crocco seconds, that this Special Resolution be adopted.

Discussion.

Dr D’Arcy Boulton raised his objections to this amendment due to the changes in the Licentiate category. Steve Murray replied that proper notice was given and this is in line with the policy adopted by the Board of Directors to reform the Society’s Education Programme.

Steve Murray noted that this Special Resolution must receive a 66% vote of the Members present to be adopted. The vote was 70 in favour, 5 against. **Adopted**

2) Education Committee: Rev'd Canon David Bowyer reported that there was much activity in the Education programme with many people signing up. He reported that several theses were submitted. But, he asked that we seek out more people to supervise the theses.

3) Periodical Reports:

a) Heraldry in Canada: John Neill reports that there has been a very slow trickle of articles coming in which makes it very hard to publish regular issues. He appealed to the meeting to make contributions of written work.

b) Gonfanon: John Neill reports the same issue as above for Gonfanon.

c) Alta Studia Heraldica: D'Arcy Boulton reports that the next issue of "ASH" will have 243 pages of work. He is planning to publish it in the Fall of this year.

4) Technology Report: David Cvet reports that the application for the Education programme was hacked. He has corrected this. The website continues to get many hits. He reports that updates are continuing to the website. (see attached)

5) Honours and Awards: Robert Watt reports that the Committee has been busy in 2022. He recommends the following:

a) Certificates of Appreciation: Robert Watt recommended that the following be awarded Certificates of Appreciation for their work on the French Services Committee: Johanna Raso, Gilles Le Vasseur, Guy Larocque.

b) Fellowship: Robert Watt recommended that the following be awarded Fellowships in the Society: Gary Mitchell, Carl Larsen, Jason Burgoin. Robert Watt reported that the Board of Directors adopted these recommendations and awarded the honours.

c) Robert Watt also reports that the Committee will review the Honourary Fellowships over the Summer and make recommendations to the Board for the elevation to the distinction of Fellows.

d) Robert Watt moved, Carl Larsen seconds, that a vote of Thanks be adopted for Dr. D'Arcy Boulton for all his good work on the Committee. **Adopted.**

6) Branch Reports: See Attached.

Several of the Branch President's present reported on the activities of the Branches.

7) Committee and Volunteer Officer's Reports: Steve Murray reports that these reports were included in the Annual Report that was posted on the Website and asked if any member had any questions? None being given. Steve Murray moves, D'Arcy Boulton seconds, that all reports in this section be received. **Adopted'**

11) Approval of the Acts of the Board of Directors for the previous year: Steve Murray moves, Carl Larsen seconds, that the Acts of the Board of Directors for the previous year be approved. **Adopted**

12) Nomination Committee Report:

Vicken Koundakjian leaves the Chair. Edward McNabb, Chair, Nominations Committee assumes the Chair of the Meeting at 2:50 pm EDT.

Edward McNabb reports on the Nominations Committee.

Directors at Large

Edward McNabb reports that: Carl Larsen
George Lucki
Moira Scott

Have been nominated for a 3 year term on the Board. He asks the meeting 3 times if there were any further nominations from the floor. None being given the 3 persons listed are elections.

2nd Vice President

Edward McNabb reports that: Capt. Ian Steingaszner

Has been nominated as 2nd Vice President. He asks 3 times if there are any further nominations from the floor. None being given Capt. Steingaszner is elected.

1st Vice President

Edward McNabb reports that: Capt. Jason Burgoin

Has been nominated as 1st Vice President. He asks 3 times if there are any further nominations from the floor. None being given Capt. Burgoin is elected.

President

Edward McNabb reports that: Vicken Koundakjian

Has been nominated as President. He asks 3 times if there are any further nominations from the floor. None being given Vicken Koundakjian is elected.

Edward McNabb congratulates all those elected and leaves the Chair at 3:02

Vicken Koundakjian resumes the Chair.

12) The Election of a Member to the Following Committees for a one-year term:

- A) **Nominations Committee:** Edward McNabb moves, Steve Murray seconds, that Mr. Allan Bird be elected to the Nominations Committee. **Adopted**
- B) **Honours and Awards Committee:** Robert Watt moves, Steve Murray seconds, that Mr. Rogert Lindsay be elected to the Honours and Awards Committee. **Adopted**
- 13) **Annual Conferences:** Vicken Koundakjian reports that the next Annual Conference will take place in Montreal, Quebec.
- 14) **Other Business:** None to report.
- 15) **Termination of the Meeting:** Vicken Koundakjian thanked all the volunteers for their work. He also thanked the Executive for their support.
Steve Murray moves, Carl Larsen seconds, that the meeting be terminated. **Adopted**

Meeting terminated at 3:17 pm

President

Secretary

Seal of the Society

