

Nova Scotia Debating Society

MINUTES of 2014 ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

Date: Saturday, October 4th, 2014. Time: Commenced at about ____ p.m. A.D.S.T.

Place: Halifax West High School, 283 Thomas Raddall Drive, Halifax, Nova Scotia.

Provincial Co-ordinator Patricia Donnelly called the meeting to order and presided in the chair for its duration. Stephanie Blucher and Secretary John Filliter took minutes of the Meeting. Ms. Donnelly reported that a **Notice** of the Meeting had been mailed to all members at least two weeks prior to the meeting as required by Article 5, Paragraph 3 of the By-Laws of the Society.

The Chairman conducted the **Roll Call** with the following members present at the outset or at some time during the meeting (voting representatives listed):

Sydney Academy – Harold Kyte (coach) and Ainsley Pierryskovski (student)
Middleton Regional High School – Bonny Hubley (coach) and John Weston(student)
Amherst Regional High School –
King’s-Edgehill School -
Truro Junior High School – Martha Shephard Duguay (coach) and Cecelia White (student)
North Nova Education Centre -
Cobequid Educational Centre – Steven Dukeshire (coach) and Brie Dukeshire (student)
Sacred Heart School of Halifax – Meghan Carlson (coach) and Rory Flynn (student)
Fountain Academy of the Sacred Heart – Maya Churbiji (coach) and Aristides Milios or
Andrew Mayo (student)
Halifax Grammar School – Myrna Gillis (coach) and Caraid McGinty (student)
Dr. J. H. Gillis Regional High School – Effie Boutilier (coach) and Will Fraser (student)
Gorsebrook Junior High School – Hugh Williamson (coach) and Daniel Cleary (student)
Halifax West High School – Andrei Dezsi (coach) and Lamia Chowdhury (student).
Cobequid Educational Centre – Paul Millman (coach) and Brie Dukeshire (student)
Middleton Junior High School – David Stewart (coach) and Danielle Stewart (student)
Charles P. Allen High School – Todd Poweers (coach) and William Taylor or Jack Ingram
(student).

A number of observers were present.

Mr. Casey calculated that since 16 schools and no individuals had affiliated with the Society as of the time of the meeting, seven voting representatives of Institutional Members would have to be present in person or by proxy in order to attain the 20% **Quorum** required by Article 5, Paragraph 5 of the By-Laws. On the basis of the above attendance, the Chairman calculated that a quorum existed and so declared the meeting to be duly constituted for the transaction of business.

The Chairman then asked if there were any objections to the proposed **Agenda** that had been circulated by mail. UPON MOTION duly moved by Mr. _____, seconded by Ms. _____ and unanimously carried, it was resolved to adopt the Agenda as circulated.

The Chairman then asked if there were any errors in or omissions from the **Minutes** of the 2013 Annual General Meeting which had been circulated to members by e-mail, but none were pointed out. UPON MOTION duly moved by Ms. _____, seconded by Mr. _____ and unanimously carried, it was resolved to approve of the Minutes as circulated.

The Chairman then presented the 2013-2014 **Financial Statement** of the Society to the meeting, which had been audited by her and _____. The Chairman asked if anybody had any questions about the finances. UPON MOTION duly moved by Mr. _____, seconded by Mr. _____ and carried unanimously, it was resolved to adopt the Financial Statement as presented.

The Chairman then presented the Proposed **Budget** for 2014-2015, which had previously been circulated to members. The Chairman asked whether anybody wished to propose any changes to the proposed Budget but none were offered. UPON MOTION duly moved by Mr. _____, seconded by Mr. _____, and carried unanimously, it was resolved to adopt the following:

Budget for the 2014-2015 Society Year

REVENUES

School Affiliation Fees	\$600.00
Tournament Registration Fees	2,000.00
Workshops and Sales	50.00
Charitable Donations	400.00
Grant from McLeese Foundation	<u>1,000.00</u>
Total:	\$4,050.00

EXPENSES

Administration and Communications	\$350.00
Travel (Seminar and Junior High Nationals)	1,500.00
Instruction Clinics and Materials	500.00
Facilities	Nil
Printing	600.00
Publicity	Nil
Equipment and Office Supplies	100.00
C.S.D.F. Affiliation	100.00
National Seminar Adult Registration Fee & Travel	450.00
Junior High Nationals Adult Registration Fee& Travel	<u>450.00</u>
Total:	\$4,050.00

The Chairman then explained that any proposed amendment to the By-Laws of the Society had to be adopted by a **Special Resolution** supported by at least three-quarters of the members present at a duly constituted general meeting of the Society, of which proper notice had been given, in order to be valid. She reported that notice had been given of no

proposed Special Resolution to amend the By-Laws of the Society and that it would require a three-quarters majority in order to pass.

The Chairman asked if there were any proposed amendments to the existing **System of Regional Representation**, which had previously been approved by the C.S.D.F. Board of Directors, or Nova Scotia **Rules of Debating** but none were raised.

Because student delegates would have to leave shortly to prepare for the fifth and sixth rounds of debating, it was agreed to postpone debate on proposed changes to the Society's **Policies on Coaching, Judging Debates and Conducting Tournaments** until the meeting resumed after the sixth round.

There was a brief discussion of the proposed **Tentative Schedule** for 2014-2015 and the Chairman invited schools to offer to host events after the adjournment.

The Chairman then called for **nominations for the Executive Committee** for the 2014-2015 Society Year.

Harold Kyte was nominated to be **Cape Breton Regional Representative**. No further nominations were forthcoming, so after calling three times for further nominations, the Chairman declared Mr. Kyte to have been elected.

Andrei Dezsi was nominated to be **Metro Regional Representative**. Myrna Gillis declined a nomination. No further nominations were forthcoming, so after calling three times for further nominations, the Chairman declared Mr. Dezsi to have been elected.

Bonny Hubley was nominated to be **Rural Mainland Regional Representative**. After David Stewart and Effie Boutilier had declined and Martha Shephard Duguay had withdrawn. No further nominations were forthcoming, so after calling three times for further nominations, the Chairman declared Ms. Hubley to have been elected.

Gabriel Duguay was nominated to be **Junior High Student Representative**. No further nominations were forthcoming, so after calling three times for further nominations, the Chairman declared Mr. Duguay to have been elected.

Ainsley Pierryskovski, Caraid McGinty, Will Fraser, Rory Flynn, Brie Dukeshire, Mattea Roach, Lamia Chowdhury and Jack deGooyer were nominated to be **Senior High Student Representative**. No further nominations were forthcoming, so after conducting two "ostrich votes", the Chairman declared Ms. Flynn to have been elected.

Clarissa Brisseau and Matt Edmonds were nominated to be **University and/or Alumni Representative**. No further nominations were forthcoming, but after hearing Clarissa's speech, Mr. Edmonds withdrew, so the Chairman declared Ms. Brisseau to have been elected.

Martha Shephard Duguay was nominated to be **French and Bilingual Coordinator**. No further nominations were forthcoming, so after calling three times for

further nominations, the Chairman declared Ms. Shephard Duguay to have been elected by acclamation.

Brian Casey and David Stewart were nominated to be **Director at Large/CSDF Liaison Officer** but Mr. Casey withdrew once Mr. Stewart was nominated. No further nominations were forthcoming, so after calling three times for further nominations, the Chairman declared Mr. Stewart to have been elected by acclamation.

Patricia Donnelly was nominated to be **Provincial Co-ordinator**. No further nominations were forthcoming, so after calling three times for further nominations, the Chairman declared Ms. Donnelly to have been elected by acclamation.

The meeting was adjourned at about 1:30 p.m., to resume after the sixth round.

The meeting was reconvened at about 5:05 p.m. and Roll Call was taken. A quorum being present, the meeting continued. It was agreed to decide whether hybrid teams may qualify to represent Nova Scotia at the 2014-2015 Senior High Nationals and Oxford Cup, and that the Executive Committee would draft a more detailed policy for future years and submit it to the membership for approval. Two students who had been put on a co-ordinate team without going through the process of a draw both spoke, indicating that they had gone through the proper channels and been assured that they would be eligible for positions on the Senior High Nationals and Oxford Cup delegations. Coaches pointed out that other students would lose the opportunity if such a hybrid team won a position and were allowed to go, and that some schools had not brought students to the tournament because there was no guarantee that they would be drawn for a hybrid team. After debate concluded, a secret ballot was conducted and the motion carried 14 to 10.

Truro Junior High School offered to host the 2015 Provincial Junior High Championships in late February and its offer was gratefully accepted.

There was discussion about the length of the Impromptu Championships and whether it was feasible to hold six rounds. One proposal was to hold four regular rounds, semi-finals and finals, another to hold five rounds and such playoffs. Matt Edmonds offered to prepare a demo computer programme to assign judges more quickly.

The Chairman asked whether anybody had any **Other or New Business** to raise but there was none.

At about 6:01 p.m. A.D.S.T. the meeting was terminated.

Verified and Approved by:

Respectfully submitted by:

Provincial Co-ordinator

Society Secretary