

FEDERATION OF CANADIAN ARTISTS
MINUTES OF THE 2006 ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

Held at Federation Gallery, 1241 Cartwright Street, Vancouver, BC on March 26, 2006.
Notice of the AGM was posted in the March-April 2006 issue of *Art Avenue* magazine

Sixteen members were present including Board members Marjorie Turnbull, AFCA and Bob McMurray, AFCA;
Staff members present: Susan Foster, Executive Director and Rosalind Rorke, Gallery Manager.

A. CALL THE MEETING TO ORDER

President Marjorie Turnbull established that there was a quorum and called the meeting to order at 1:07 pm.

B. APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA

Motion: Moved by Faye Takeuchi that the Agenda be approved. Carried.

C. NOTICE OF MEETING

Motion: Moved by Barrie Chadwick that the meeting had been properly constituted by notice in advance. Carried.

D. WELCOME GUESTS

Marjorie Turnbull welcomed members who had come from the Chapters. Kathie Selinger from Fraser Valley Chapter, Debbie Milner from TNS Chapter, and Rosemary Bennett from Calgary Chapter.

E. INTRODUCTION OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Marjorie Turnbull introduced Board members present: Bob McMurray, AFCA Past President and Dianna Ponting, SFCA 1st Vice-President.

F. APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING DATED APRIL 3, 2005

Motion: Moved by Martine Gourbault that the minutes of the April 3, 2005 Annual General meeting be approved as circulated. Carried.

G. SPECIAL RESOLUTION

Susan Foster explained Special Resolution 1.

Susan Foster read the **SPECIAL RESOLUTION:**

WHEREAS Article 1.6 (c) of the Bylaws states that a person ceases to be a member of the Federation on having been a member not in good standing for **six** consecutive months; and

WHEREAS it is Federation Policy to lapse the membership of those who have not paid their annual dues by the end of the **fourth** month of the calendar year,

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT:

Article 1.6 (c) of the Bylaws be deleted and replaced with the following:

"on having been a member not in good standing for four consecutive months."

Motion: Bob McMurray Moved the Special Resolution be adopted as read. Carried.

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Susan Foster explained Special Resolution 2.

Susan Foster read the **SPECIAL RESOLUTION**:

WHEREAS, from time to time, due to reason of unethical conduct or behaviour unacceptable to, or not in keeping with the standards of the Federation of Canadian Artists, membership privileges may need to be withdrawn from certain individuals; and

WHEREAS it is more efficient to deal with such matters as they arise rather than once a year at the annual general meeting,

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT:

Article 1.7 of the Bylaws be deleted and replaced with the following:

"A member may be expelled by a motion of the directors passed at a meeting of the Board of Directors. The motion shall include a brief statement of the reason for the proposed expulsion. The person who is the subject of the Motion for expulsion shall be advised in writing by the Board of Directors prior to the meeting and shall be given the opportunity to be heard at the meeting before the motion is put to a vote."

Motion: Bob Rennie Moved that Special Resolution 2 be adopted as read. Carried.

H. REPORTS

A. President's Report - by Marjorie Turnbull

First of all, I would like to thank the Directors Bob McMurray and Rose Zivot, who are retiring from the Board. Bob has been a hard worker on the Board for several years and is still on some of our committees. Rose, who made time to come to our meetings from Calgary, was our 2nd Vice President.

I would also like to thank Susan Foster for her nine years of hard work for the Federation. She has helped to set us on the road to success. She is leaving us the end of May and we will miss her very much.

This is my last year as President, having been in the job for three years. This past year was one of my quieter years with Chapter visits. I had help from Dianna Ponting and Bob McMurray.

I was in Calgary last May for the Calgary Chapter's "Art Fusion" Opening at the Gainsborough Gallery and again in September for a Chapter visit. In June I was in Nanaimo for the opening of the Vancouver Island Chapters' show "Island Perspectives". Both Calgary and the Island were wonderful hosts. In October I made my last Chapter visit of the year to the South Okanagan/Similkameen Chapter in Penticton.

The Chapters now have a new Hand Book as a guide. Also, with "digital" entries coming in to our shows more and more, we now have a new problem – how to take the Success Show images to the Chapters on the Chapter visits.

In conclusion, I have enjoyed my term as President, which has been made very easy by our wonderful Staff.

Respectfully submitted, Marjorie Turnbull, AFCA, President

Motion: Moved by Martine Goubault to accept the President's Report. Carried.

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B. Standards Committee Report - by Rosalind Rorke

At this year's Board of Governors meeting 21 jurors were present to review 37 applications for Signature status from FCA members. The successful new signature members are:

for AFCA

*Mickie Acierno, Nanaimo, BC
Stephen Cheng, Port Moody, BC
Gail Johnson, Cassidy, BC
Therese Johnston, Parksville, BC
Sarah Kidner, Canmore, AB
Debbie Milner, Kamloops, BC
Pam Weber, Calgary, AB*

for SFCA

*Barrie Chadwick, West Vancouver, BC
Andy McDermott, Vancouver, BC*

Motion: Moved by Faye Takeuchi that the report be accepted. Carried.

C. Gallery Manager's Report - by Rosalind Rorke

Each year that I have worked for the FCA I have written a short speech for the Annual General Meeting which outlined successful past activities and pointed to future endeavours. Typically, I use this speech to enumerate and thank the many volunteers who participated in events such as gallery sitting, magazine mail outs, jurying, and hanging the shows.

This year I would like to speak about serving the membership. This society has 2,200 members and there are just about that many different ideas for the future of the FCA. Shortly after the beginning of my time here, four years ago, I realized that not everything that everyone said they wanted could actually be provided. It became also became apparent that while 8 hours a day may sound like enough time to get everything accomplished, it's not and help is required. My strategy has been to direct energy toward projects that help as many members as much of the time as possible. Other people here also share this perspective and have chosen to donate their time in service of building the Federation. This year's Gallery Manager Report will focus on several folks who have cheerfully volunteered a lot more than was asked of them to make the FCA stronger.

Another part of this meeting will recognize members who have made a large contribution in the past but at this time, I would like to draw your attention to four people who have made significant contributions to the Federation of Canadian Artists which have not won them any awards, have probably eroded the precious time they might prefer to use painting and may even keep them up at night thinking.

The first person is Larry Achtemichuk who, with the help of his son David, is largely responsible for the launch of federationgallery.ca. Larry arrived at the Gallery one day last winter, a little earlier than this, sat down with me and showed me how nicely David's image management program worked for the West Vancouver Sketch Club. Over a few visits he taught me how to operate it, asked David to modify it slightly for the FCA's use, and even did the early slide scanning from his home so no one would be left out of a show. It was immediately apparent how useful this site could be and as soon as it was up and running we wished we'd started it sooner. The on-line gallery now contains almost every image which has hung in Federation Gallery since April 2005, is easy to navigate, is accessible to every member of the FCA 24 hours a day. Both FCA members and the shopping public can now see a show, see the award winners and the sales any time from anywhere in the world.

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A few months after federationgallery.ca was running smoothly Larry arrived one morning with a big shiny cardboard box and said "This is for you". The box contained a brand new scanner and we no longer have to impose on his seemingly inexhaustible goodwill to get the images which come to me as slides onto the site. Larry's approach to volunteering epitomizes the idea of seeing a project through from start to finish to benefit the group as a whole.

The next person whose contribution I want to draw your attention to is Linda Kalman. Last year she agreed to Chair a fund raising project which could only be accurately characterized as an experiment. This experiment, the first Annual FCA Art-Related Garage Sale, was very successful in spite of its cumbersome name and we managed to raise over \$2,000 one rainy day in April by selling old paint brushes, books, magazines, frames and old paintings donated from the personal collection of Ellen Poole. As well as raising money, I am personally extremely happy to report that we only made one trip to the dumpster after it was all over and boxes and boxes of stuff was recycled into good homes instead of ending up in a landfill near you. The most commonly asked question that day from those in attendance was "Are you going to do this again next year? My basement/closet/ garage is just full of stuff..." Linda co-ordinated the advertising, figured out pricing details, provided moral support and did not flinch when she saw the dust clouds which accompanied the well aged items from the FCA's storage locker. This year, back by popular demand, is the 2nd Annual garage sale. The stuff is already piling up in the back so don't forget to come back on April 29th and shop.

In the Garage sale off-season Linda has also agree to take a seat on the Board of Directors and is currently engaged in the difficult task of trying to find a new space for the FCA Education program. Linda understands that there really is no substitute for hard work when that's what's needed.

The next person I want to draw your attention to is the Art Avenue volunteer reporter Fran Bourassa. Fran answered our ad for a volunteer arts reporter two years ago and has become an integral part of our bi-monthly magazine ever since. Her articles have covered a variety of subjects from nurturing the creative process, interviewing artists, reviewing FCA workshops to a very clever investigation of studio spaces. One of my favourite things about the way Fran's mind works is the interest and compassion with which she approaches her subjects. When you finish reading her words you invariably feel like you have learned something which adds a new dimension to whatever you knew about that subject before. Fran draws out the nuances and subtleties of her subjects enriching her readers instead of simply providing information to them. She combines curiosity, patience and facility with language to produce charming and engaging articles which delight our readers issue after issue. Fran's enthusiasm for writing is matched only by our desire for her to continue what she's already doing.

The last person I want to mention is Kathy Young who continued as Volunteer Co-ordinator even after her time on the Board of Director was over. Kathy has been making lists and telephone calls, asking people to help in the gallery or with mail outs or special events for at least 5 years. She has a sunny disposition, a kind manner and feels personally responsible for finding people to help out. Kathy remembers everything about the volunteers, when they are free, when they are busy, who's interested in helping again and who's just gone on vacation. She keeps the wheels turning in a very concrete sense, without her diligent efforts neither my workmates nor myself would be able to do provide the services that the membership and the public expects at Federation Gallery.

These four people, Larry, Linda, Fran and Kathy, contribute to the entire membership and gain nothing for themselves except possibly the satisfaction of knowing that they helped. I hope they realize that we appreciate them and that the FCA works a bit better because they took the time to make a real difference.

Respectfully submitted, Rosalind Rorke, Federation Gallery Manager

Motion: Moved by Debbie Milner that the Gallery Manager's Report be accepted. Carried.

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D. Executive Director's Report by Susan Foster

I will give a very brief "state of the FCA" address today. My apologies to those who heard almost exactly the same talk at the Board of Governors meeting two weeks ago.

- *We currently have 2288 members in the data base. Nine years ago that number was under 1000*
- *Education has blossomed. The Committee and Staff work hard to come up with a blend of new and innovative with tried and true. It has worked well and contributes largely to the FCA bottom the line*
- *Federation Gallery continues to exhibit beautiful works in shows changing every 2 to 3 weeks. Regular juried shows along with collaborative shows and *Painting On The Edge* ensure an ever changing look for members and tourists.*
- *Speaking of *Painting on the Edge*, it is something I'm really proud of. This year marks the 4th annual. The goal was to have an open, international juried show which the staff could sustain offering substantial prize money and we've done it with the help of many but especially our main sponsor - Opus Framing & Art Supplies*
- *Art Avenue gets better and better. It has a new look and informative, consistently well written articles and technical columns - no more filler. Ros has mentioned Fran Bourassa. We also get great input from David Langevin and Bob Genn on technical issues and most recently the six part series Ellen is writing on the history of the FCA. Art Avenue helps deliver the FCA message to all art lovers and is especially valuable for members outside the lower mainland.*
- *The next section I call Archives and Answers. This service is provided to us by Ellen Poole. Each AGM she provides me with a report on her activities for the prior year.*

With regard to enquiries by and of artists, Ellen answered 66 questions during 2005. The most popular artist is Dorothy Oxborough. Enquiries were made directly to the writer, some via the Vancouver Art Gallery via the FCA Office or Gallery the majority came from the FCA website Guest Book

Concerning Archival Records Ellen writes:

"General records from the original 1941 founding data to current date, continues to be expanded. A great deal of research was done during 2005, with additional FCA documents added to our archives especially from the Hunter Lewis (a former FCA President) Family Fonds, UBC Archives Special Collections.

"During 2005, about 800 previously missing names of early members were added to the overall membership list since founding. Where possible, biographical data on these persons was collected from various sources.

"Collection of written BIOs for all members, 1941 to current date, is ongoing. Where possible, each member's record contains a short Bio, photo and sample image of their work. This reference material should be valuable to not only staff and volunteers, but all who seek information."

Many thanks Ellen!

- *artists.ca is awesome. We owe many thanks to Glenn Marcus. One third of our registrations for education now come from the site. All information about the FCA is posted online including bylaws, constitution, policy manual, financial statements, education, PBN, POTE, membership information and the great art in Studios 1 and 2.*
- *Another big event we do around is our annual fundraiser, *Paintings, by numbers*. PBN really has legs of its own now. This fall will be the 6th annual and it is going to be great. 60 artists have committed*

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to donate and from the first peek I think it will be the best collection ever. September 21st is the big day so if you want a great painting for \$500 you better set a ticket aside early.

Of course along with our accomplishments, we continue to have our challenges.

- *We are desperate for new education space. Loomis studio is being lost to condo development. There is a possibility we will go with Loomis to their new space. If not it will be a financial challenge. Linda Kalman, a new member of the Board will be working on this.*
- *We have under two years left on the lease on Granville Island. We need to think about moving. Tourism has never fully recovered since 9/11, parking remains atrocious, CMHC is not a proactive Landlord.*
- *We need to attract more serious, professional painters. If they have not come up through the system they don't see the benefits of the FCA. What can we offer them? It's a catch 22. We need to raise our profile to attract them. We need them to raise our profile.*
- *We need to attract, young, emerging artists. We need to be more relevant in their daily lives and struggles. It is imperative we reach out to the younger generation as the current group ages.*
- *Financially we are reasonably sound. Over the past 4 years we have managed to set aside \$50,000 in a business savings account - our rainy day fund, and still maintain sufficient cash in the operating account to manage our daily affairs. However it doesn't take a rocket scientist to realize that if you are only achieving balanced budgets, it is very difficult to actually "save" money. In order to keep this money in the savings account we have to be especially adept at cash flow management. Everything must happen on time. And if a grant doesn't arrive when it should, or tickets don't sell on time or there is one semester of the education program that doesn't do well, we would have to dip into this reserve in short order.*
- *Finally, I think the greatest challenge that can face any organization is creeping apathy and complacency. When an organization becomes "stable" which is how I would currently describe the FCA, there are only two ways to go. I sincerely hope that upwards is the path the FCA chooses.*

So there you have it.

As a few of you know, but I'm sure some don't, you will meet those challenges with the help of a new Executive Director as I have tendered my resignation to the Board. The time has come for a change. I have enjoyed my stay immensely.

Thanks for letting me be part of your history. Thanks for your friendship. I'll be here til the end of May and then just a phone call away if you need my help.

Respectfully Submitted, Susan Foster, Executive Director

Motion: Moved by Ellen Poole that the Executive Director's Report be accepted. Carried.

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President Marjorie Turnbull thanked the staff for their hard work during the year. Then she called on Bob McMurray to explain the audited financial statements for the year ended December 31, 2005.

I. APPROVAL OF THE AUDITED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2005

Bob McMurray reported the highlights of the statements. Cash is down by \$7,472 however, temporary investments is up. Cash and temporary investments is \$121,271 (2004 - \$115,766) up from 2004 by \$5,505. Temporary investments has increased by \$12,977. The account has earned interest of \$977. Revenues for the year were \$407,604 (2004 - \$380,219) up from 2004 by \$27,385. Increases came from membership fees, classes and workshops, BC Gaming and fundraising. Decreases came from the Paintings, by Numbers event which was \$4,000. lower than 2004. Fundraising was up primarily because donations to the Calgary show Art Fusion was recorded. A similar amount was shown under expenses. Expenses were \$410,288 (2004 - \$390,661) up nearly \$20,000. As mentioned, the cost of the Art Fusion event added \$9,169 to the expenses and salaries and benefits were up \$12,500. The latter was due to a 5% wage increase plus increased hours worked by hourly staff. Expenses were down for Classes and workshops and office and administration. Bob then explained each of the auditor's notes to the financial statements touching specifically on Deferred Contributions, Chapters, and the Federation's lease commitments. He closed by telling members that the FCA has a clean audit with no caveats or un-auditable items.

Motion: Moved by Bob Sheridan that the Audited Financial Statements for the year ending December 31, 2005 be accepted. Carried.

J. APPOINTMENT OF AUDITORS

Motion: Moved by Martine Gourbault that Catherine Der, CA be appointed auditor for the Federation of Canadian Artists. Carried.

K. ELECTION OF OFFICERS

Susan Foster presented the slate of nominees for the Executive positions which had been circulated with the March/April issue of *Art Avenue*. It is:

President:	Dianna Ponting, SFCA
1st Vice-President:	Myrtle-Anne Rempel, SFCA
2nd Vice-President:	Lorna Dockstader , SFCA
Treasurer:	Teressa Bernard , AFCA
Secretary:	Sue Cowan, AFCA

Susan reported that 27 mail-in ballots had been received for the proposed slate and then asked for a Motion to approve the slate. Susan asked if there were any nominations from the floor.

Motion: Moved by Ellen Poole that nominations cease. Carried.

Motion: Moved by Barrie Chadwick that the slate of nominees be accepted. Carried.

Susan acknowledged that only Dianna Ponting, President and Marjorie Turnbull, Immediate Past President were present representing the newly elected Executive.

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Susan Foster told the membership that at the April Board meeting the following FCA members would be appointed by the Executive to the Board of Directors and acknowledged those present.

Linda Kalman, Education Chair
Tatjana Mirkov-Popovicki, Communications Chair
Brittani Faulkes, Membership Chair
Bob Sheridan, Member at Large
Lalita Hamill, Member at Large

Marjorie Turnbull then passed the gavel to the new president, Dianna Ponting.

L. MEMBER RECOGNITION AWARDS

Bob McMurray reported to the members that he had been appointed Chair of the Member Recognition Committee which was made up of four past presidents. They were charged with determining the criteria for recognizing members' significant achievements and also identifying members who met those criteria. The two awards which have been established are the Lifetime Achievement Award and the Early Achievement Award. They also award, as directed by the Board, Honorary Life Memberships.

Honorary Life Memberships were presented as follows:

- a. To **Robert Rennie, AFCA** for his work in establishing and running the Saltspring Workshops for the Federation in the 1970s, 1980s and the early 2000s.

Bob Rennie was present and thanked the Federation warmly for giving him this award.

- b. To **David van Berckel**, founder and president of Opus Framing and Art Supplies for his enduring generous support of the Arts and Artists in general and of the Federation and its members in their exhibits and fund-raising programs in particular.

Lifetime Achievement Awards were presented as follows:

- a. To **Robert Bateman, SFCA** for recognition as a world renowned and widely collected artist and for his philanthropic activities in protecting and preserving the environment.
- b. To **Daniel Izzard, SFCA** for his long and illustrious career gaining international recognition and prominence, his work in support of not-for-profit institutions and his leadership in forming the Canadian Institute of Portrait Artists.

Daniel Izzard was present and after acceptance spoke briefly about the importance of recognition by one's peers.

The **Early Achievement Award** was presented to **David Goatley, SFCA** for gaining international recognition as one of Canada's foremost portrait artists in a relatively short time having moved to Canada in 1992 to start his career as a painter in fine arts.

David Goatley was unable to attend but Bob McMurray read a message from him to the Federation.

Bob also presented retiring president **Marjorie Turnbull** with an inukshuk engraving in recognition of her service from 2003 to 2006 as Federation President.

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M. NEW BUSINESS

Rosemary Bennett of Calgary Chapter asked if it would be possible for their Chapter to accept more than three entries per member in each juried show. They have so few members who are entering that they are not able to mount a large enough show to fill their chosen venues. President Dianna Ponting told Ms. Bennett that the Board of Directors would take up the Chapter's request at their April 11, 2006 Board Meeting and get back to them with a decision.

N. ADJOURNMENT

Motion: There being no further business to discuss, it was moved by Marjorie Turnbull that the meeting be adjourned at 2:15 PM. Carried.

Minutes recorded and transcribed by Susan Foster, Executive Director