

Federation of Canadian Artists 2025 AGM

April 27, 2025 (via Zoom)

Members Present

Directors:

Jennifer Heine, *President/Chair*; Chris Block, *Co-Vice Chair Membership*; Kim Dibb, *Treasurer*;
Warren Oneschuk, *Secretary*; Bill Stephenson, *Co-Vice Chair Operations*; Kevin O'Toole, *Director-at-Large*;
Maria Josenhans, *Director-at-Large*; Emma Russell, *Director-at-Large*; Ann Willsie, *Director-at-Large*;
Shirley Claire Williams, *Standards Chair & Member-at-Large*

Staff:

Ellie Chung, *Operations Manager*

In-Coming Board Member:

Ron Czemerer (*currently Secretary, Standards Committee*)

Members in Attendance:

27 members in attendance

Regrets:

Dene Croft, *Past President*

Minutes

1. Call to order

- Jennifer called the meeting to order at 11:07 a.m.
- Jennifer confirmed a quorum.

2. Approval of previous minutes

- Jennifer moved to approve 2024 AGM minutes; all attending approved; motion carried.

3. President's Report

Summary:

- Jennifer offered the Federation's condolences to Philippine Canadian community following the tragedy at the Lapu-Lapu festival.
- Board and staff excited about achievements in the past year, and new projects underway.
- We have built and retained a great staff who've been providing exceptional services.
- A leadership change was made in January with the parting-of-ways of Kristian Clarke.
- Our three managers, in consultation with the Board and staff, have since streamlined the organizational structure:
 - Katrin is moving back to Germany in support of her family.
 - Until then, she will continue to be involved on our Fundraising and Engagement Committee.
 - Katrin has developed a succession plan in cooperation with Ellie and John.
 - Ellie, who joined us as Gallery Manager last year, has been made Director of Operations.
 - Tanha is now our Gallery Manager, and Hannah continues as Gallery Associate and Art Handler.
 - Eric continues as Membership and Chapter Coordinator; Min as education coordinator; and John our office manager, will be step in also as our new Studio Coordinator.

- The Federation has retained and expanded all previous partnerships – increasing their support and adding a new exhibition sponsor for our recent AIRE Exhibition. Many of these partners offer discounted rates to our members.
- To increase our engagement across the nation, we have two FCA retreats this year – in Nova Scotia and Banff.
- Education has over-performed with more students taking advantage of classes, workshops and mentorships that our artists provide.
- A new range of professional development courses are available for members' art practices
- Our goal of raising \$15,000 last year in our Annual Donation Campaign was met.
- A personal appreciation to Chris, the Vice-Chair of Membership, who's been shadowing the Chair role all year, and active in almost every committee meeting, emails and show openings.
- Thanks to Warren who has been our Secretary and an active Board member through six years.
- Standing for Secretary this year is Ron Czemers; existing board members will continue their terms.
- Janice Robertson and Gay Adams are stepping down from the Standards Committee.
- The Committee will expand to represent a broad range of practice and media. Welcome to three of our most experienced senior Signature Members:
 - Brent Lynch, a sought after instructor and one of our most celebrated artists internationally.
 - Leslie Gregory Morgan to mixed media and abstract creative processes.
 - Louise Selecki Weir, representing our 3D and sculpture members.

4. Treasurer's Report

- Financial reports for the last fiscal year – December 31, 2024.
- Financial statements have been uploaded to the website for more in-depth review.
- Our financial statements are reviewed by PACE Accounting who have done our annual review since 2016.
- PACE will file necessary documents with CRA.
- Main points:
 - During the Covid years we accrued a surplus, and in 2023 and 2024 that surplus was used up.
 - All surplus funds have been reinvested and spent on revitalizing policies, processes, systems, and organizations.
 - Excess of expenditures over revenue – at \$63,000.
 - Net worth – at \$37,000 (lower than average).
 - Average before Covid – in the range of \$80,000.
 - Cash at December 31st – at \$119,000.
 - Prior to Covid, the cash balance was higher, about \$170,000.
 - Cash can't go lower; because it is used as working capital throughout the calendar year.
 - The budget for 2025 has been set at a small surplus; we're considering it a break-even budget.
 - Overall, we are still in a healthy financial position.
 - Going forward, there will not be any more excesses of expenditure over revenues.
- Question from a member – is this considered a loss?
- Reply – for fiscal year 2024, it's a loss, because we exceeded expenditures over the revenue.
- Motioned made:
 - Kim moved to appoint PACE Accounting as our auditor for the 2025 annual review.
 - With a show of raised hands, motion was approved by everyone in attendance.

5. Election of Board Directors for 2025

- Ellie introduced herself as Gallery Manager joining FCA in April 2024.
- She thanked the talented staff, incredible volunteers, and dedicated members of the Board.
- Ellie presented the Board slate for 2025:
 - Chris Block, Bill Stephenson, Kim Dibb, Shirley Claire Williams, Emma Russell, Maria Josenhans, Anne Willsie, Kevin O'Toole, and Ron Czemerer.
 - All bring a diverse background to the table that enriches the expertise behind governance.
 - Jennifer Heine and Warren Oneschuk will be stepping down from their current Executive roles.
- Motion made:
 - Ellie moved to approve the Board slate as presented.
 - With a raise of hands, motion was unanimously approved by everyone in attendance.

6. Questions

- From members in attendance:
 - Q:** Possibility of obtaining individual contact info for Board members?
 - A:** Not FCA practice to share individual email addresses. Members can contact the office with their questions and they will be redirected to the appropriate staff person.

 - Q:** A President was not named on the Board slate. Will that be filled?
 - A:** Position of President has been renamed as Chair to indicate that the role is more governance in nature. Also, we are not moving into another Executive Director position. Ellie has taken on as Director of Operations – head of staff and reporting directly to the Board

7. Adjournment

- Being no further business, Jennifer adjourned the meeting @ 11:33 a.m.



Warren Oneschuk
Secretary