



The Royal Society of Canada - 135th Annual Business Meeting
 Limestone City Ballroom, Four Points by Sheraton, Kingston, ON
 November 19th, 2016, 2:30 p.m. – 4:00 p.m. EST

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:

Tony Embleton; John Burge; Constance Backhouse; Tom Bursey; Jean Grondin; Spencer Barrett; Alain Bideau; Michael Owen; Pekka Sinervo; Jehannine Austin; Bruce Gaulin; Colin MacLeod; Harald Krebs; Joanna Quinn; Bruce Dancik; Troy Day; Gwendolyn Davies; Eve Stringham; David Edward Smith; Jeremy McNeil; Gary Slater ;Bonny Norton; Patricia Brubaker; John Giesy; Ajay Dalai; Laura Loewen; Marie-Claire Belleau; Mark Filiaggi; Lawrence Mysak; Keith Hipel; Michael Behiels; Ken Davey; Pascale Fournier; Aephraim Steinberg; Diana Nemiroff; Ian Lancashire; Jacques Derome; Lenore Fahrig; Guy Laforest; Robert Proulx; Gregory Kealey; Simon Langlois; William Leiss; Dwight Newman; Frederick Andermann; Bernard Boudreau; John Alcock; Jane Gaskell; Normand Labrie; Alain-G. Gagnon; Anne Katzenberg; Christian Leuprecht; Bing Chen; Peter Milliken; Eva Andermann; Linda Behiels; Éric Cohen; Hosahalli Ramaswamy; Dan Wayner; Ingrid Pickering; Vijaya Raghava; Krista Kesselring; Marie D'Iorio; Daniel Mercure; Craig Walker; Irving Abella; Gonia Jarema; Christl Verduyn; Pierre Nepveu; Bonnie Campbell; Laurence Monnais; Rachel

Birnbaum; Michel Fortin; Graham George; Reiner Kruecken; Nigel Shrive; Hanadi Sleiman; Jean-Claude Kieffer; Rudolf Uher; Jules Blais; John Smol; Andre Lapierre; Gary Libben; Charlotte Froese Fischer; Carl James; Jean-Francois Gaudreault-DesBiens; Smaro Kamboureli; Alain Bideau

1. Introductions / Opening Remarks

The meeting was officially called to order at 2:15 EST. President Maryse Lassonde opened the meeting by welcoming members to the 135th 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

The President noted that item #9 will be removed due to David Layzell' s illness. L. Mysak requested a report on international activities from the Foreign Secretary.

MOTION (A. Dalai / P. Sinervo)

That the agenda be accepted as amended.

Carried

3. Approval of the minutes of the 2015 Annual Business Meeting

MOTION (G. Kealey / P. Sinervo)

That the minutes of the 2015 Annual Business Meeting Minutes dated November 28th, 2015 be accepted as presented.

Carried

4. Business arising from the 2015 Annual Business meeting minutes

The President noted that since the meeting of last year, three statutory committees were implemented to address the PWC Report of 2014. These committees are: the Governance & Ethics Committee, the Human Resources Committee, and the Finance & Audit Committee, (which was already in place). These Committees report to the Council and include various competencies, including external expertise such as the VP Human Resources from the University of Ottawa and the VP Finance at Queen's University.

Governance Manual: The manual continues to be under review and will now become the priority for the Governance & Ethics Committee along with the Honorary Secretary. The updated Governance Manual will be presented to the Annual Business Meeting in 2017.

5. Board of Directors

S. Embleton presented the members of the Executive Committee for election to the RSC Board of Directors.

MOTION (S. Embleton / G. Slater)
That Maryse Lassonde serve as Chair for 2016-2017
Carried

MOTION (G. Laforest / N. Labrie)
That the Board of Directors be approved as follows for the period of November 17 2016 to November 25, 2017
Chad Gaffield, President - Elect
Irving Abella, President, Academy I
Constance Backhouse, President, Academy II
Jamal Deen, President, Academy III
Cynthia Milton, President, College of New Scholars
Sheila Embleton, Honorary Secretary
Jean-Marie Toulouse, Honorary Treasurer
David Barnard and Robert Proulx, Institutional Member Representatives
Chris Loreto, External Member
Carried

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

M. Lassonde presented her report noting that the meeting is taking place on the traditional lands of the Haudenosaunee and Anishnabee.

- 3 statutory committees have been created: Finance / Audit, Governance & Ethics, and Human Resources. These committees will assist in following up on the PWC report.
- Since last year, there have been some changes regarding the secretariat. The Honorary Treasurer, Honorary Secretary and the President were mandated by Council to oversee functioning at Walter House with the management. There were several meetings and support from the HR committee. Three people had left, including our comptroller.
- The departure of the former Executive Director, Iris Almeida-Coté, was followed by the return of Linda Clauson and then Darren Gilmour. The staff is remarkable, efficient, especially since two positions have not been filled.
- Walter House renovations were completed and there was an Open House on May 10, with several guests, including IM representatives; a great success.

Representational work of the RSC President this year has included:

- Presence at 1st meeting of the College in Ottawa, in hopes of encouraging much more interaction between the College and the Academies.
- Attendance at a special RSC day at Queen's (college and fellows from all academies);
- Presentation at U of T of RSC prizes and awards program plus special RSC day
- Presentation to the Table of Quebec principals and Directors, Research offices, regarding the importance to present Fellows and College members to RSC;
- Participation at events organized at the Parliament (Bacon and EggHeads, Big thinking, etc.);

- Representations in France (350th anniversary of Academy of Sciences), Uruguay (CILAC meeting, number of women in academies), G7, IAP, IANAS plus Royal Society London;
- French embassy plus Senegal contacts, etc.
- Promotion of underrepresented groups at RSC, including the initiative endorsed by Council to increase the number of IM nominations to four in order to increase the number of nominations from women and under-represented groups, for this round of nominations for one year only.
- CCA. The RSC is officially one of the 3 member academies of CCA. The RSC president is currently one of the RSC designates on the Board of the CCA, and therefore participates in all CCA Board meetings, plus governance meetings. There are several ongoing discussions with members of RSC (CEP, former presidents, etc.) regarding the RSC collaboration with CCA.
- Ongoing collaboration with Rideau Hall and the Governor General includes: 1) Committee for the promotion of Excellence. Women and Francophones. Again, communication with ACFAS, VP research and research offices in Quebec and at large, pleas in the president's messages. 2) Advisory committee, Order of Canada. Meetings and elections twice a year, which includes thorough analysis of the numerous nominations. 3) special meeting with GG (as well as with Minister Duncan)

MOTION (R. Proulx / J. McNeil)

That the report of the President be accepted as presented.

Carried

Questions/Comments:

S. Langlois asked why the RSC did not plan a symposium during the AGM this year and whether there will be a symposium next year? The President advised that the RSC has been working very hard at monitoring its budget by reducing expenses. The RSC has participated in less costly activities to highlight science during the year and will begin to use Walter House to support additional activities and programming in the future.

G. Laforest from the Committee on Expert Panels asked since D. Layzell was unable to participate in this meeting what would happen with last year's Annual Business meeting's questions regarding the relationship of the RSC with the CCA. Should Members understand that there will be no report presented even though the item was discussed at the Council meeting and that no strategic decisions will be made until next year's business meeting? The President confirmed that there was a brief discussion at the Council meeting. A new document has been developed between the CCA Members' Presidents. The document clearly states what expectations and requirements the RSC has in regard to its relationship with CCA.

A meeting will occur on Wednesday, November 23, with the CCA President, the Chair of the Board as well as CAHS and CAE presidents regarding this document and the President will

advise RSC Council on the outcome and then come back to the Membership. The Council has the mandate to decide on the future of the relationship.

A Member brought forward that one million Francophones affiliated with the 20 Universities outside of Québec offering French programming could use further focus.

The President indicated this is why she is working with ACFAS because they have representatives across Canada and expressed her willingness to participate in the promotion of the RSC in Francophone universities outside of Quebec.

7. Report of the Honorary Secretary

7.1 Recognition of outgoing officers

S. Embleton extended the gratitude of the Council to Alidad Amirfazli, the inaugural President of the College who unfortunately was not in attendance. S. Embleton confirmed that she will personally deliver a plaque thanking him for his service.

7.2 New Fellows/New College Members – Class of 2016

S. Embleton noted a total of 89 New Fellows and 80 new Members of the College for the Class of 2016.

7.3 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, 2016.

As Honorary Secretary, S. Embleton continued her report as follows:

- The Governance Manual was tasked to the Governance and Ethics Committee as previously mentioned in the President's report.
- Each year after the process is complete; feedback is received from the selection committees of each division. After a review of these reports, issues surrounding the amount of work and timing were noted. The Honorary Secretary asked that each of the nine divisions provide one person recently familiar with the process to be a contact point and then a discussion around areas that may need to be changed and where appropriate the recommendations will be brought forward to Council.
- In addition, the RSC President-Elect, C. Gaffield, will Chair a new working group surrounding the success rates in divisions, the size of disciplines in Canada, and spaces allocated each year to each division.

- The Honorary Secretary has been engaged in issues of Members' dues and dues collection. The financial details will be deferred to the Honorary Treasurer; however a policy surrounding consequences of non-payment will be developed. A review of what other organizations are doing in this area will open up conversation on what we should consider. Any recommendations that come out of the review will be brought to Council.

MOTION (A. Dalai/ A. Lapierre)

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

Carried

S. Langlois brought forward that the Social Sciences disciplines have changed since the RSC formed the Social Sciences academy several years ago. Currently 18 slots are available annually for new Fellows + 3 exceptionally over the next few years. He would like to insist on the necessity to recognize that the social sciences discipline has expanded in law, administration and education. He hopes the committee will face this issue in its review.

S. Embleton noted that this challenge as well as concerns from Life Sciences was part of the basis for developing the new working group on nominations.

In response to a query from K. Davey, C. Backhouse indicated that a temporary one-time allocation of new slots to the Academy of Social Sciences does not offend the by-laws.

8. Report of the Honorary Treasurer

J. M. Toulouse notified the Members that for the first time, 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.

8.1 2015-2016 audited financial statements

The audited Financial Statements as of June 30, 2016 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 small surplus.

Fewer programme activities occurred during the year, reducing expenses.

Assets total 8.5 million.

The combined value of Walter House and the land is worth \$2.3M (not the market price value); this is unchanged over last year.

Receivables: There are receivables that will need to be looked at as a potential write-off in the current year to clean up dues that are uncollectible.

Investments: Returns are within 2 to 5% return and are managed prudently and with limited risk. The current guidelines will not change.

MOTION (G. Kealey / S. Langlois)

That the audited Financial Statements be approved as presented and that the report of the Honorary Treasurer be received as presented.

Carried

The Treasurer called for any questions from the Members for either him or of Deloitte. No questions were posed.

8.2 Resolution for the appointment of auditors

MOTION (P. Sinervo / K. Hipel)

That Deloitte be re-appointed as auditors for 2016.

Carried

8.3 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. Slater / J. Grondin)

That the signing authorities be approved as amended

Carried

8.4 Report on budget

J. M. Toulouse reported that two quarters of the current fiscal year are complete and all is on track to date.

S. Langlois rose to note his gratitude to J. M. Toulouse for his excellent leadership in ensuring that the Society's finances are on the right track.

9. RSC Strategic Plan 2017-2022 (C. Loreto)

C. Loreto reported that the next iteration of the strategic plan process design will begin with developing hypotheses with the Council to discuss what the Society should focus on over the next five years. The consultation process will be greater and deeper than the last

plan (2012-2017) and will include engaging Members to meet in person and through an advanced survey. This will allow the Council to acquire feedback on the strengths and challenges with the potential directions proposed. The external environment impacting the RSC will also be reviewed.

C. Loreto encouraged Members to contact the Executive Director with any suggestions on how they may want to be engaged in the process.

A work plan will be developed in December 2016 and the plan is to roll out the actual process in January 2017.

G. McBean rose to suggest that visibility, positioning ourselves vis-à-vis other academies, and capitalizing on the importance of 2017 are areas that the strategic plan could focus on. The new strategic plan could also show the outcomes that are expected.

10. Report on International Activities (J. McNeil)

J. McNeil reported as follows:

The G 7 Meeting: Tokyo, Japan 18-19 February

The RSC was represented by the President, Prof. M. Lassonde and the Foreign Secretary, Prof. Jeremy McNeil. The three joint statements "Understanding, Protecting and Developing Global Brain Resources", "Strengthening Disaster Resilience for Sustainable Development" and "Nurturing Good Scientists for the Future" were discussed and finalized and after subsequent approval by all Academies were presented to the respective G7 governments. All three statements are now posted on the RSC website. Next year the meeting will take place in Italy. In 2018 the RSC will host and the choice of topics will be with Canada. We will have to plan ahead as this will take resources to host.

The IAP Conference on Science Advice and the 8th General Assembly, Hermanus, South Africa; 28 February-2 March

The RSC was represented by the President, Prof. M. Lassonde and the Foreign Secretary, Prof. Jeremy McNeil. The RSC was re-elected to the IAP Executive at the general assembly for another three-year term.

One major activity of IAP for the next three years, in which the RSC will be actively involved is the project "Food and nutrition security and agriculture" that is funded by The German Ministry of Education and Research. Representatives of the four IAP regional networks; The Americas (IANAS), Europe (EASAC), Africa (NASAC) and Asia (AASSA) met at an initial planning meeting in Halle on 1-2 June, 2015, and now each of the four regional networks will establish expert panels to prepare a report for the different countries in their perspective regions.

Frontiers for Science, Whistler, B.C. 14-16 March

The Royal Society, London and the Royal Society of Canada organized a multidisciplinary meeting of young scientists/social scientists, 25 selected by each of the two Academies. The goals were to bring future leaders together in an environment to encourage informal networking and discussion, as well as explore opportunities for international and cross-disciplinary collaboration. The meeting was a great success and the talks will all be posted on You Tube, and the first are already available on the RSC site. The College and the RSC were represented by Prof. Alidad Amirfazli and Prof. J. McNeil, respectively.

IANAS General Assembly, Rio de Janeiro, Brazil: 3-7th May

The IANAS meeting was hosted by the Brazilian Academy of Sciences held in conjunction with their centennial celebration Magna conference "A Century of Science: Paving a Better Future". The RSC was represented by the President, Prof. M. Lassonde and the Foreign Secretary, Prof. Jeremy McNeil.

The IANAS working group Women for Science publication "Young Women Scientists: A bright future for the Americas" was released on March 8th, 2016, International Women's Day. It is important to note that there is a chapter on "Gender, Energy and Water" that was prepared in conjunction with the Women for Science and the Water Program working groups.

At the general assembly the Energy group released the publication "Science Guide towards a sustainable energy for the future. A path proposed by the Academies". Both are available on the RSC and IANAS websites.

As noted above, one of the major activities for the next two to three years will be the preparation of the Americas report "Food and nutrition security for the Americas".

CILAC 2016 Forum, Montevideo, Uruguay. 7 September

There was a session "Networking Globally to Advance Women in Science" but as our representative Frances Henry was unable to attend President Lassonde presented the finding of the recent IAP/IANAS reports.

IANAS workshop "Food and nutrition security for the Americas", Mexico City, Mexico. 18-20 September,

As with some previous IANAS publications, each country will prepare a chapter. Therefore 2-5 representatives of the different IANAS countries attended to finalize the common approaches to be taken. Canada was represented by two members of the college, Satinder Kaur Brar (INRS) and Evan Fraser (Guelph) and two Fellows, John Kliromomos (UBC) and Jeremy McNeil (Western). They will work with other members of the community to prepare the final chapter.

IANAS Women for Science Programme, Caracas, Venezuela. 26-27 October,

The RSC was represented by Dr. Frances Henry, who was recently elected Co-Chair of this programme.

IANAS Water Programme, Medellin, Colombia. 21-22 November.

This meeting will be held just before the International Water Congress (23-25th November), where several of the IANAS focal points will speak. The RSC will be presented by Prof. Banu Ormeci.

Bi-national Meeting in the Humanities
RSC and the Israel Academy of Sciences and Humanities
Jerusalem, Israel. 11-14 December

The theme is “Between Literature and History” and is the second bilateral conference with the IASH, the first held in Canada several years ago. Kevin Keys is responsible for the programme, working with the Foreign Secretary, J. McNeil, and I. Abella, President of Academy I.

The Canadian speakers are Kevin Kee (University of Ottawa); Cynthia Milton, (Université de Montréal); Carol Gerson (Simon Fraser University); Katherine Carter (Wilfrid Laurier University); Jocelyn Letourneau (Université Laval); Daniel Woolf, (Queen's University); Chad Gaffield (University of Ottawa).

The RSC will be represented by J. McNeil, I. Abella and D. Gilmour.

Current activities related to specific 2017 events include the Frontiers for Science with the Japanese Society for the Promotion of Science, Kyoto, Japan. Fall 2017

CIFAR was one of the sponsors of the RSC Frontiers meeting with the RS earlier this year and our contact was Dr. T. Foster. In Whistler she and the Foreign Secretary, J. McNeil, spoke about possible collaborations between CIFAR and the RSC on other Frontiers activities in the future. Recently she was in Japan and contacted the Foreign Secretary, asking if the RSC would be interested in holding a Frontiers meeting with the JSPS next year. As the JSPS will cover all the local costs and CIFAR had earmarked \$80K to cover the costs of Canadian participants, the answer was yes. We are currently developing a memo of understanding with JSPS and once this is done the Foreign Secretary will be working with the College to set up the Canadian planning group to work with their Japanese counterparts to select the specific topics and then select the 25 young Canadian participants. It should be noted that this event will include scholars in the Social Sciences.

11. Remarks from the Executive Director

D. Gilmour thanked members of Council and members of the Royal Society for their confidence in providing him with the opportunity to become Executive Director.

D. Gilmour reviewed the current five priorities of the strategic plan and noted points of emphasis within each priority for 2017, emphasizing operational excellence and the

opportunity provided by Imagine Canada's Standards Programme, the exigencies of which considerably exceed the recommendations of the PWC report

Strategic Direction #1: Knowledge Promotion and Dissemination

Priority for 2017: Establishing a roadmap that the RSC can use in fulfilling its mandate to advise. Specifically, fleshing out the ways in which Walter House can be used as a convening space for Fellows and College Members to provide independent expertise to decision-makers.

Strategic Direction #2: Engagement of Fellows, College Members and Institutional Members

Priority for 2017: Supporting the strategic planning process.

Strategic Direction #3: Diversifying and Enhancing the Fellowship

Priority for 2017: Actively gathering baseline data on the ethno-racialized and indigenous composition of the Fellowship and the College through a survey developed by the Committee on Equity and Diversity.

Strategic Direction #4: Strategic Partnerships

Priority for 2017: Rideau Hall, CIFAR, CSP, Indspire, FedCan

Strategic Direction #5: Financial Sustainability

Priority for 2017: Human resources review, Systems/tools review at Walter House

On behalf of the RSC and the Secretariat, D. Gilmour presented flowers to L. Joly, noting her ten+ years of distinguished service to the Royal Society of Canada, and thanking her for her important contributions.

12. Other Business

There was no other business.

13. Adjournment

MOTION (L. Mysak/ L. Loewen)

That the meeting be adjourned

CARRIED

The meeting officially adjourned at 4:15 pm