

**Draft Minutes of the Williams Lake Conservation Company (WLCC)
Annual General Meeting - June 17, 2019 at the Captain William Spry Centre, Halifax NS**

The meeting was called to order and chaired by Melanie Dobson, treasurer of the WLCC.

The agenda was reviewed by those present, and there was a call for additions to the agenda. A motion to approve the agenda was made by Martha Leary and seconded by Karen Lyle; the motion passed. The minutes from the 2018 AGM were circulated. There was no discussion. Murray Coolican moved for adoption of the 2018 minutes; it was seconded by Ron Doleman. The minutes were approved as read.

President Robin Whyte was not able to attend. Kathleen Hall provided an update on members of the WLCC Executive Committee. Robin will be stepping down, and was heartily thanked for 2 years of service as President. Two additional members will be leaving and their presence will be missed: Marsh Conley and Andrew Ross. Kathleen thanked the committee who organized the WLCC 50th celebration: Karen Lyle, Marsh Conley, Robin Whyte, Deborah Hall (who assisted), and especially chair Martha Leary.

Melanie Dobson presented the Treasurer's report, with details of the current WLCC bank balance and expenditures on water quality testing and domain name registration. It was noted that membership dues barely cover the cost of testing, helped this year by a grant spearheaded by Kathleen Hall, and that dues may have to rise. Melanie itemized the costs for the WLCC gala, and the final amount donated to the NCC. Kathleen Hall moved to accept the financial statement. Martha Leary seconded the motion, and it was passed.

Water quality testing results were reported in detail by Melanie Dobson. Graphs show good water quality for swimming, but a concerning uptick in pH (alkalinity) and associated iron levels over several years. Regarding water levels, graphs showed the correlation of rainfall with water level over many years, and an increasing pattern of extended low water levels in late summer. During discussion it was noted that newer "green" lawn treatments contain chelated iron, which may be raising iron levels.

Nominations for the WLCC board were solicited for 2019-20. Martha Leary nominated Debbie Hall, and Cathy Vaughan volunteered from the floor. Melanie Dobson moved to accept the slate for 2019-20, Martha Leary seconded the motion, and it passed unanimously.

Faith Flemming, Director of Development at the NCC presented an update on the Urban Wilderness Park, including an overview of the ecosystems which are unique in North America, the park management plan, and the potential to connect with other wilderness corridors. Despite a funding gap of \$400,000, construction will begin soon on parking and front country trails, for a planned opening in Fall 2019. A question period followed.

Melanie Dobson entertained a motion for adjournment. Martha Leary moved to adjourn the meeting, and Nick Ross seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

The meeting adjourned and those present took the opportunity to socialize.