



WEST KOOTENAY WOMEN'S ASSOCIATION

Annual General Meeting Minutes

Fiscal year April 2023—March 2024
Conducted at the Nelson & District Youth Centre and Zoom
September 12th, 2024 5:30pm to 7:00pm

Meeting Chair: Malia Joy (Executive Director),
Board members present: Kerry Marsland (Treasurer), Deena DeWitt (Secretary), Jaspreet Batra (zoom)

Meeting Recorder: Deena DeWitt (Secretary)

The meeting came to order at 5:30pm. Malia gave a welcome and territory acknowledgement.

1. Confirm Quorum

Malia confirmed that we met quorum.

2. Review of Agenda

Rita Smith made a motion that we accept the agenda. The motion was seconded and carried.

3. Adoption of Robert's Rules of Order

Lauren Penfound made a motion that we adopt Robert's Rules of Order for the AGM. The motion was seconded and carried. There was a suggestion that sometimes it might be supportive to hear everyone's voice, not solely the person who had a question/ comment, which was agreed to.

4. Minutes of 2023 AGM

Kerry Marsland made a motion that we approve the minutes of the 2023 AGM. The motion was seconded and carried.

5. Coordinating Collective Annual Report

Lauren Penfound made a motion that we accept the annual report. The motion was seconded and carried.

6. 2023-2024 Financial Statement

Anna Jauncey made a motion that we accept the financial statement. The motion was seconded and carried. There was discussion about the grant funding.

7. Appointment of Virtual Heights Accounting to compile financial statement to March 2025

Anna Jauncey made a motion to approve the appointment of Virtual Heights Accounting to compile financial statement to March 2025. The motion was seconded and carried.

8. Waive requirement for audit

Kerry Marsland made a motion to approve waiving the requirement for audit. The motion was seconded and carried. There was discussion regarding why we would need an audit and why we would waive it.

9. Consideration of Special Resolution

a) Mission Statement

Anna Jauncey made a motion to approve the proposed mission statement. The motion was seconded and carried with the changes noted below.

Proposed Mission Statement: The West Kootenay Women's Association promotes the equality and empowerment of women, gender diverse individuals, and their children through advocacy, education and the provision of services and supports that meet their needs.

There was discussion of the changes, and two additional motions were made:

i) Rita Smith made a motion to add the word "all" after "empowerment of". The motion was seconded and carried.

ii) Anna Jauncey made a motion to add the words "while working for societal change" at the end of the sentence. The motion was seconded but not carried.

The approved mission statement now reads:

The West Kootenay Women's Association promotes the equality and empowerment of all women, gender diverse individuals, and their children through advocacy, education and the provision of services and supports that meet their needs.

b) Bylaw Amendment Part I, #1, e)

Current Bylaw: Registered Address of a member or member group means their address recorded in the register of members.

Proposed Bylaw: Remove this definition as it is no longer relevant, we do not keep members' addresses on file. We only retain email addresses and phone numbers.

Deena DeWitt made a motion to approve the removal of this definition. The motion was seconded and carried. As per the Societies Act, WKWA cannot legally keep registered addresses. WKWA retains address information for Directors only.

c) Bylaw Amendment Part II, # 8

Current Bylaw: A life member is an individual who for the purpose of obtaining an extended membership subscribes three-hundred dollars or more.

Proposed Bylaw: Lifetime membership will be given to someone who donates a minimum lump sum of \$500 or 100 hours of volunteer time.

Anna Jauncey made a motion to approve the new bylaw. The motion was seconded and carried with the change noted below. There was discussion about what membership constitutes, noting there are honorary memberships for men (with no voting rights).

Lifetime membership will be given to someone who donates a minimum lump sum of \$500 or accumulates 100 hours of volunteer time.

d) Bylaw Amendment Part IV, # 21, a)

Current Bylaw: The coordination collective will approve all expenditures of \$2000 and over prior to cheques being written. All cheques require two signatures. All cheques of \$2000 and over require the signature of one board member.

Proposed Bylaw: The Board of Directors will approve the annual budget, which will outline all account expenditures. All payments and/or transfers require the signature of the Executive Director, Treasurer, or Board Chair. All expenses exceeding the approved annual budget require the prior approval of the Coordinating Collective.

Anna Jauncey made a motion to approve the new bylaw. The motion was seconded and carried. The reason for the change was explained in further detail.

10. Strategic Plan 2024-2027

Anna Jauncey made a motion to accept the Strategic Plan for 2024-2027. The motion was seconded and carried.

11. Election of Directors

Rita Smith made a motion to accept Jaspreet Kaur Batra as a Director. The motion was seconded and carried.

12. Use consensus for the remainder of the year

Anna Jauncey made a motion to approve the use of consensus for the rest of the year. The motion was seconded and carried. There was discussion about what constitutes consensus and why WKWA uses Robert's Rules only for the AGM.

13. Closing comments and appreciations were made by Malia.

14. Adjournment

Rita Smith made a motion to adjourn the AGM at 6:45pm. The motion was seconded and carried.