

**Acadia Lifelong Learning Centre
Advisory Board
Annual General Meeting Minutes
Wednesday, April 17, 2013
L'Arche Hall
Main Street, Wolfville, Nova Scotia**

Opening:

The Annual General Meeting of the ALL Advisory Board was called to order at 1:07 p.m. Roger Boutilier on Wednesday, April 17, 2013 in the L'Arche Hall, Wolfville, NS.

Present:

Roger Boutilier, Jessica Bradley, Jennifer White, Yvette Leblanc, Teresa Patterson, Brian Jones, Agar Adamson. Grant Lohnes, Gordon Halliburton.

Regrets: Darrell Slauenwhite. Blanca Baquero, Gisela Westphalen

1. CALL TO ORDER

2. AGENDA

Approval of Agenda

MOVED by Brian Jones that the agenda be adopted as presented.
Seconded by Dorothy Walker Robbins.

CARRIED

3. MINUTES

Approval of Minutes

The minutes of the Annual General Meeting of April 18, 2012 were circulated
MOVED by Diana Shelley that the minutes be accepted as distributed.
Seconded by Jennifer White

CARRIED

4. BUSINESS ARISING FROM MINUTES

No business.

5. UPDATE

- i. Teresa Patterson reported on the progress of the upcoming Seniors' Conference, which is now referred to as "Learning for Life".

UPDATE ON CONFERENCE OF MAY 24, 2013.

ALL is hosting the annual conference for 50+ learners. We will refer to this conference this year as "Learning for Life" to reflect the fact that we continuously learn no matter what stage we have reached in our lives. This will be a one day professional development seminar aimed at discussion and sharing of information about the respective programs in order to enhance the learning experience for seniors in our communities.

Invitations have been sent to several other organizations of similar nature to us. The response has been similar to other years and we anticipate approximately 20 participants from other areas.

Board members will also attend. There will be room for 5 additional participants from this membership. If you are interested please see any of our current board members.

Jennifer White has kindly offered to facilitate the conference. Roger Boutilier will participate as a panel member. The panel will be made up of participants from all organizations speaking on several topics, followed by round table discussions.

Mr. Ray Ivany, president of Acadia University will attend to offer opening remarks to the attendees. Ms. Ramona Jennex, Minister of Education has also agreed to offer remarks to the group before we start in on the work. Ms. Jennex also put us in touch with seniors' funding and we have received \$500.00 to help us with the financial portion of hosting such an event.

Dr. Maurice Tugwell has graciously agreed to be our guest speaker to end the sessions for the day.

We are very pleased with the progress so far and look forward to a successful conference.

6. REPORTS

i Program and Partnership

Partnership/Programming Report – 2012 – 2013

Advisory Committee Members: Jennifer White, Chairwoman, Yvette LeBlanc, and Darrell Slauenwhite

Programming:

My thanks to our wee committee and to members for attending courses this last year. Our selection of Programs and the involvement with prospective speakers/facilitators is always a busy time and we are currently doing the background work for our next year Programs.

Statistically this is what it looked like:

Courses Conducted: 22, Courses Cancelled: 6, Number of Participants: 167 members and 12 non members joined programs

Our antidotal assumptions so we could make sense of the cancellations I'll summarize below.

In planning we continued to use feedback from participants suggestions forwarded to Jessica, either from members or prospective instructors but the Committee also talked about some new possibilities. As a result two successful Spanish programs were included and an addition of a new Watercolor instructor.

We are always looking for something new to add and a bit of a sneak preview into next year will close off this Report.

Now to changes:

- Courses were conducted for a shorter duration mostly 6 weeks which appealed to participants as well as instructors and changed the cost of the resulting course fees.
- Courses were started later in both the Fall and Winter semesters to accommodate later returns from holidays and busy Septembers and Januarys for members
- We will no longer be competing with programs offered in Fitness, but instead collaborating with programs offered like the Fit as a Fiddle and the AAA, offered through Acadia University. Instead these programs will be profiled in our Calendar and members will have contact information provided if they are interested in attending.
- Only 2 semesters will be provided to align with the University format – Fall and Winter.

Partnership:

The Partnership component of the combined portfolio of Programming and Partnership has taken the form of the Advisory Board committing to host the 2013 50+ Learning Conference. The Chairwoman taking the lead in this is Teresa Patterson, who will discuss it in her reporting.

In summary a Sneak Preview of Next Year:

Look for some of your obvious favorites if we can convince the prospective facilitators: Economics with Maurice Tugwell; Blomindon Naturalist Society walk with Sherman Bleakney, an Annapolis Valley Health Seminar Series, coordinated by Wendy Hamilton,

Arctic and Antarctic with Graham Daborn, Writing programs with Susan Haley, Amy McKay, Christy Anne Conlin, and/or Jan Coates; more Art courses with new instructors. And some new possibilities and we need your feedback on these:

Music Appreciation: Learn to Sing, in a fun filled program; Stress Management and Self Care; Practical Law as a series of discussions on important legal issues for seniors; Meditation; Reinventing yourself after retirement; Drum making and then playing your own drum; Trading online and the wonderful world of managing part or all of your own portfolio.

Submitted by: Jennifer White, Chairwoman Program/Partnership Committee

ii Communications

COMMUNICATIONS/NEWSLETTER REPORT 2013 AGM – APRIL 17, 2013

Submitted by Teresa Patterson

In August of 2012, the 2012/2013 Calendar was launched at the potluck lunch held once again at the Research Station picnic grounds with an attendance of approximately 80 people consisting of many returning members and several new members. This year the Bruno Allard group provided background drumming for our entertainment, which was well received.

The Wolfville Farmer's Market offers a booth to non-profit organizations for free and on August 25, 2012 we set up for the day to distribute calendars, newsletters and membership applications. Promotion of our programs results in new members, renewals and gathering of new ideas for programs.

Calendars were distributed by board members to venues throughout the region, at various intervals throughout the 2012/2013 season.

The December Newsletter was distributed at the December potluck lunch held once again at the Centreville Baptist Church. Graced with the piano stylings of Janice Rogers, the sister of our board member, Yvette LeBlanc, and readings from Gordon Haliburton and Teresa Patterson. We wish to thank all of the attendees for offering their voices to a Christmas sing-a-long.

On January 5th, 2013 we once again set up for the day at the Farmer's Market to distribute calendars and promote the winter and spring sessions.

As we are coming to the close of this season, we wish to say thank you to our outgoing board members, Roger Boutilier, Jennifer White and Gisela Westphalen for their contributions, their guidance and their unwavering commitment to Acadia Lifelong Learning.

iii Brown Bag Lunch

Brown Bag Lunch Committee Report to 2013 A. L. L. AGM

This past year there were 25 presentations in the Brown Bag Lunch series. Roger Boutilier coordinated the 12 speakers in the fall semester while Agar Adamson was the primary recruiter for the 13 talks that followed after Christmas. Once again the diversity and eclectic nature of the topics was designed to offer something for everyone.

Attendance varied from as high as 60 to as low as 8, but the average attendance was above 25 persons. Repairs to the Alumni Board Room during the second term may have accounted for a few of the lower turnouts. About the same time Eastlink television returned to record our presentation for high definition broadcast, and we are glad to have them back so as to raise the profile of Acadia Lifelong Learning.

Our membership continues to "feed" ideas for topics and/or speakers back to us as possible future presentations. We appreciate this support because it not only helps to assure that this "free" A. L. L. series of talks continues to be relevant to our audience, but it also makes our job as coordinators easier! Please continue to offer your suggestions in the months ahead so that B. B. L. can remain a bright fixture in the Lifelong Learning curriculum.

Respectfully submitted,

Agar Adamson and Roger Boutilier

7. Election of New Advisory Board Members

Nominating Committee

Roger Boutilier and Teresa Patterson read out the biographies of the two nominees Vicky Decker and Susan Cargill, for the benefit of the members.

It was noted that we are in need of three members and Roger asked if any of the members might be interested. He suggested they contact a board member if that is the case.

MOVED by Agar Adamson that Vicky Decker and Susan Cargill be appointed to the ALL Advisory Board for a three year term.
Seconded by Gordon Haliburton.

CARRIED

MOVED by Peter Decker that the Advisory Board be empowered to appoint a third board member at a later date.
Seconded by Barbara Robinson.

CARRIED

8. Program Suggestions and Other Business

The floor was open to suggestions from the members regarding the types of programs they might like to see on the 2013/14 calendar.

The following were suggested:

Skiing

History and Culture of the area.

9. Adjournment

MOVED by Susan Surette that the meeting be adjourned at 1:50 p.m.
Seconded by Gordon Haliburton

CARRIED