



Canadian Association of Geographers
Association Canadienne des Géographes

71st Annual General Meeting
Video Conference
Thursday, June 10, 2021 – 2:30-4:30pm PDT

Minutes

Executive Committee at opening of the AGM:

President: Neil Hanlon
Past President: Sanjay Nepal
Secretary-Treasurer: Joseph Leydon

Division Representatives:

Atlantic: David Lieske
Ontario: Susan Elliott
Prairies: Janna Wilson
Québec: Chantal Déry
Western: Claire Hay

Councillors:

Craig Coburn
Matt Dyce
Nathalie Gravel
Nancy Worth

Student Councillor:

Trevor Wideman

Welcome

CAG President Neil Hanlon welcomed the members in attendance, thanked them for taking time to participate in our second consecutive virtual Annual General Meeting (AGM), and went over some general housekeeping guidelines for the meeting.

1. Approval of Agenda*

Motion to accept the agenda of the 2021 AGM

Craig Coburn/Nathalie Gravel
Motion carried

2. Approval of the Minutes of the 70th Annual General Meeting*, Tuesday, May 26, 2020. Virtual.

Motion to accept minutes of the 2020 AGM

Claire Hay/Chantal Déry
Motion carried

3. Announcements

- a. **Memorials** – a moment of silence was observed while the names of the deceased were displayed.
- b. **Undergraduate Awards** – the award winners, identified by departments, were announced. They will receive a complimentary 1-year membership to the CAG in 2022. Congratulations to all winners, and thank you to all the departments who submitted candidates.
- c. **CAG 2021 Awards** – the recipients of the CAG 2021 awards were announced. Thank you to all who nominated a colleague for a CAG Award, all nominees were deserving of recognition. Members were encouraged to continue to nominate their colleagues and students for the awards.

* Written reports available on website.

REPORTS

4. *The Canadian Geographer (TCG)* – Editor’s Report*

TCG Editor Nadine Schuurman presented her report. She noted that the journal was affected by the pandemic in that there were fewer submissions and it was more difficult to find reviewers. There were four special sections in 2020, as well as efforts to increase the number of French papers thanks to French Editor Martin Simard. The most recent available Impact Factor was 1.032 for 2019. The editorial team continues to work on decreasing the time from submission to initial decision. The journal is in a good position overall.

Motion to receive the TCG Editor’s Report

Sanjay Nepal/Janna Wilson
Motion carried

5. Officers’ Reports:

a. Secretary-Treasurer’s Report

i. Financial Statements 2020*

CAG Secretary-Treasurer Joseph Leydon went over the audited financial statements, clarifying that the qualified report refers to insufficient documentation from some of the divisions and study groups that had not yet moved their funds to be held centrally. He highlighted that the investments are all performing well despite the pandemic.

The membership revenue declined substantially in 2020, which was to be expected during the pandemic. The royalty revenue remains relatively stable. The major expenses, related to publications (TCG and GeogNews) and operations of the central office, have remained relatively stable. As a result of the pandemic and the cancellation of in-person meetings, there were no travel expenses for executive members, no student travel grants, and none of the regular expenses associated with the Annual Meeting in 2020.

Motion to accept the 2020 Financial Statements

Nathalie Gravel/Craig Coburn
Motion carried

ii. Budget 2021

Joseph presented the budget, with actual revenues and expenses for 2020 and estimates for 2021. It is expected that revenues and expenditures for 2021 will be similar to those for 2020. Joseph proposed that the small surplus be held in reserve given the uncertainties of the pandemic and its potential impacts on revenue streams moving forward. Membership fees will remain at the 2020 level, in recognition of the difficulties that many institutions and members continue to face at this time.

Motion to accept the 2021 Budget

David Lieske/Sanjay Nepal
Motion carried

b. President’s Report*

Neil summarized his report, highlighting the recent and upcoming regional conferences, as well as the importance of virtual events and digital communications for keeping our community connected through the pandemic. He provided an update on the transition to a home-based central office. He thanked the Executive Committee members whose terms are ending, including Sanjay Nepal (Past President), Nancy Worth (Councillor), and Trevor Wideman (Student Councillor). Nathalie Gravel’s term as Councillor is ending and she is moving into the position of Vice-President. The executive had two additional virtual meetings in the past year, and will continue to meet more frequently moving forward, including virtual meetings in the fall and spring in addition to the regular annual meetings. This year, the executive meetings were held virtually outside of the conference program, which will likely continue in the future as

* Written reports available on website.

a way to generate considerable cost savings from executive travel that can be earmarked for other purposes. Regarding the TCG, Nadine has agreed to stay on as editor until the end of 2023. He also provided some insight into the decline in membership, due in part to exceptional circumstances over the past several years, as outlined in the written report. The executive will be forming a Membership Task Force at its next meeting to evaluate and address the issue. He ended his report by sharing that he is proud of the accomplishments of the entire community as we've come through these challenging times, and looks forward to working together to renew and revitalize the CAG.

Motion to receive the President's Report

Craig Coburn/Joseph Leydon
Motion carried

6. Division Reports

- a. Atlantic*
- b. Québec*
- c. Ontario*
- d. Prairie*
- e. Western*

Motion to receive all Division reports

Susan Elliott/Claire Hay
Motion carried

7. National and International Affairs

- a. The Federation for the Humanities and Social Sciences (CFHSS) – Neil Hanlon attended the AGM on behalf of the CAG.
- b. The Canadian Federation of Earth Sciences (CFES) Report – Mary-Louise Byrne has stepped down as CAG representative to the CFES after many years of service. We are looking for a replacement.

Motion to receive the CFHSS and CFES reports

Trevor Wideman/Joseph Leydon
Motion carried

OTHER BUSINESS

8. Formation of committees on Equity, Diversity, Inclusion (EDI), and Indigeneity & Decolonization (I&D)
To continually strive to make the CAG more inclusive and accessible to all, two committees will be formed at the next Executive Committee meeting to address these issues.

9. Nominations from the floor to the Elections Committee

In 2022 the CAG will be seeking nominations for one Francophone Student Councillor. The Elections Committee is composed of four members: Vice-President as Chair, two members chosen from the floor at the AGM, and one member of the Executive Committee. CAG members Evan Cleave and Scott Mitchell volunteered from the floor.

10. Adjournment

Motion to adjourn

Craig Coburn

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Executive Committee at closing of the AGM:

President: Neil Hanlon

Vice President: Nathalie Gravel

Secretary-Treasurer: Joseph Leydon

Division Representatives:

Atlantic: David Lieske

Ontario: Susan Elliott

Prairies: Janna Wilson

Québec: Chantal Déry

Western: Claire Hay

Councillors:

Heather Castleden

Craig Coburn

Matt Dyce

Sinead Earley

Student Councillor:

Celeste Digiovanni