

**Fredericton Chamber of Commerce
Annual General Meeting
Tuesday, June 14, 2015
Fredericton Convention Centre**

Attendance:

Mayor Mike O'Brien	Meghan Seagrave	Charit Khatri	Ryan Boyer
Victoria Andrews	Dan Myers	Bronwyn Mulherin	Stephen Hill
Jill Stairs	Dave Watt	Ali Reid	Betty Blanchard
David Eisnor	Mary Goggin	Lordea Aparicio	Erin Flood
Julia Ramirez	Joseph O'Donnell	Karen Grant	Bob Chisholm
Robert Burroughs	Shahram Ghanbari	Paul Simmonds	Steve Kennedy
Ron Sauntry	Nick Norrad	Mark Scaplen	Stephen MacGillivray
Danielle Harding	Sheri McKillop	Tracy Pugh	

Staff:

Krista Ross	Morgan Peters	Stacey Murray	Wendy Morrell
Christine Little	Janet Moser	Alex Dee	Andrea Robertson

1) Welcome and Call to Order

President Stephen Hill called the meeting to order at 8:00 am and welcomed all those in attendance that the 2016 Annual General Meeting. Copies of the Agenda, AGM report and the audited financial statements were distributed to all in attendance. (Additional copies are available upon request at the Chamber office.)

a. Approval of Agenda

The agenda had been distributed via email prior to the meeting. Stephen asked for the approval of the agenda. MOTION: Dave Watt moved to accept the agenda, seconded by Charit Khatri, motion approved.

b. Approval of the Minutes

The minutes of the June 25, 2016 meeting had been distributed via email prior to the meeting. Stephen asked for the approval of the minutes. MOTION: Jill Stairs moved to accept the minutes, seconded by Karen Grant, motion approved.

2) Treasurer's Report

Nick Norrad reported that the Fredericton Chamber of Commerce had another great year due to successful advocacy efforts and a strong slate of events. There was also growth in membership revenue. The year ended with the chamber's expense below what was expected and the chamber's equity is in a positive position. The chamber will be starting the 2016-2017 year in a strong financial position. Nick noted that this was his final report as Treasurer and he has enjoyed his time on the board of directors and encouraged everyone to become a volunteer. MOTION: Paul Simmonds moved to accept the treasurer's report, seconded by Vicki Andrews, motion approved.

3) Presentation of the Audited Financial Report

Nick presented the audited financial statements completed by Grant Thornton. Page one was the Independent Auditor's Report which reported a clean audit. Page three was the Statement of Operations which Nick had previously highlighted on during his report. Page 5 was the Statement of Financial Position which shows the chamber ending the year in a solid position with the assets exceeding the liabilities. The Notes section had nothing significant to report. Nick then asked if there were any questions from the floor. MOTION: Nick moved to accept the audited financial statements as presented, seconded by Ryan Boyer, motion approved.

4) Appointment of Auditors for 2015-2016

MOTION: Nick moved to appoint Shannon & Buffett as auditors for the 2016-2017 year, seconded by Paul Simmonds, motion approved.

5) President's Report

President Stephen Hill talked about what the chamber has accomplished in his 8 years on the board. Many new events, good connections, good decisions, strong advocacy work with some successes and some failures but our chamber continues to be one of the strongest in Atlantic Canada.

Stephen talked about the importance of the chamber's new strategic plan which was a two day journey to decide on a direction for the chamber to follow. From this the chamber has identified the need for stronger feedback from the membership which has spurred one-on-one member interviews to help us learn more about the members but also get a gauge on the economic health of the region. The information from these interviews will give the chamber the metrics needed to set our targets and goals for the future.

During the last year our chamber has taken part in activities around the municipal and federal elections. The Fredericton Chamber put forth a resolution at the Canadian Chamber of Commerce Annual General Meeting dealing with the use of unmanned drones and this resolution was unanimously passed. This resolution had the highest approval of a resolution, and is a testament to how thorough our chamber is when researching and preparing for this type of thing.

Also during the past year the chamber began a program which gives business training to those studying in medical school to become family physicians / primary health care providers to help them to prepare to run their businesses more effectively. This program has been very well received.

The chamber also spent time reviewing the number of events hosted and has decided to concentrate more on hosting the right events for our members and the community.

Lastly, Stephen thanked the dedicated board members for their hard work and remarked how he is looking forward to sitting as past president with the strong group of volunteers for the board for the upcoming year. Stephen thanked CEO Krista Ross for helping her team along to put the chamber in a position to succeed.

- a) Stephen took an opportunity to recognize the outgoing directors:
Joseph O'Donnell, Nick Norrad, Laurie Guthrie, the late Geoff Gallant, Nathan Armstrong, Karen Murdock, Robert Gallen, and Barbara Burnett.
- b) Stephen recognized Nick Norrad for his hard work and dedication as the Treasurer of the chamber and presented him with the Chamber's 2016 President's Award.

6) Chief Executive Officer's Report

Krista reported that the chamber had another great year and reflected on the successes and accomplishments of the past year. Krista recognized Stephen Hill and thanked him for his support and going above and beyond over the past year. She also thanked the excellent Executive and Board of Directors and stated that she is looking forward to working with Incoming President Paul Simmonds in the upcoming year.

Krista recognized Morgan for his hard work on the chamber's committees and advocacy efforts over the past year and recognized the busy year with both a federal and municipal election taking place. Morgan is always prepared with research, facts and figures to support the chamber's work.

Krista recognized Janet and her work with the Business Immigrant Mentorship Program and the Hive and soon she will be working on the new succession planning program as well. Thank you to the Government and Department of Post Secondary Education and Training for their contributions to offer newcomers top-notch training.

Krista recognized Wendy for her work on revamping the chamber's website, Insight magazine and the look of the chamber's eblasts over the past year.

Krista recognized Stacey for her work on planning over 50 events over the past year with over 4000 people in attendance and over 100 event sponsors. Krista announced that Stacey has been chosen as 1 of 3 finalists in an upcoming Atlantic Canadian meeting planners event in Halifax. Best of luck Stacey.

Krista recognized Christine for the growth in memberships over the past year. Memberships are a large part of the chamber's revenue and the reason we exist. Christine has worked on the shared services offering to the membership adding a new texting benefit that will allow the chamber to connect with members through text messaging. Christine has also worked to increase the number of followers of the chamber's social media feeds.

Krista mentioned that she is looking forward to working with the new president and board along with the staff to implement the new strategic plan which illustrates the chambers vision - Community prosperity through business.

Krista ended by thanking the many volunteers, committee members, speakers, sponsors, and board members. She particularly thanked 4 year treasurer Nick and departing Past President Joseph for their dedication to the board and she thanked the many community partners that help the chamber succeed with its mandate.

Krista presented Stephen with a gift to commemorate his year as chamber president.

7) Nomination Committee

Joseph O'Donnell, chair of the nominating committee reported in accordance with the chamber's by-laws the following people following people have agreed to let their name stand as members of the executive committee:

Paul Simmonds - President
Keir Clark - 1st Vice President
Ryan Boyer - 2nd Vice President
Stephen Hill - Past President
Jill Stairs- Treasurer
Karen Grant - Executive Member
Charit Khatri- Executive Member

The following individuals agreed to remain as 2nd year directors:

Rick Allen
Victoria Andrews
Dave Watt
Jason LeJeune
Bronwyn Mulherin
Roger Bannister

The following individuals have agreed to sit as board members for a two year term:

Danielle Harding
Erin Flood
Mark Scaplen
Sheri McKillop
Dan Myers
Bob Chisholm
Ali Crandlemire Reid
Meaghan Seagrave

MOTION: Stephen Hill moved to accept the 2016-2017 board of directors, seconded by Rob Burroughs, motion approved.

a) Confirmation / Introduction - Mayor Mike O'Brien came forth to say that he was honoured to be asked to affirm the new board members. He said that the new city council was sworn in and are ready to get to work. The Mayor has already had lots of meetings with community leaders and groups and knows that economic development is one of the most important things to work on to improve our city. He talked about an upcoming meeting with the mayors of Saint John and Moncton and their chambers and economic development agencies. He knows the best way to move forward is for all of these groups to work together on a united front.

The Mayor then called the new board members forward to affirm them as members of the chamber's board of directors. Each director was then presented with Fredericton Chamber of Commerce lapel pins.

8) Confirmation / Introduction - Incoming President

Mayor Mike O'Brien called upon Paul Simmonds to affirm him as the chamber's president for the 2016-2017 year.

Stephen Hill came forward to do the Chamber tradition of 'Passing the Buck' to the new President Paul Simmonds. A framed \$1 bill that has been passed on to the new President Each year and signed by each President was given to symbolize the new year.

9) Incoming President Report

President Paul Simmonds thanked Stephen for his steadfast dedication and thanked Joseph O'Donnell as well for laying the groundwork for success. He thanked the chamber team which is lead by CEO Krista Ross. He stated that the Fredericton Chamber is known for our professional development, advocacy efforts, shared serves offerings, networking and our events.

He also thanked the community leaders and partners and looks forward to working more closely in his role as President. He is also looking forward to working with the new Mayor and council.

Paul took part in the strategic planning journey and is also looking forward to the implementation of the plan over the upcoming year. As well, he is looking for to the chamber hosting the 2017 Canadian Chamber of Commerce Annual General Meeting here in Fredericton.

President Simmonds made mention of the 27th Annual Golf tournament coming up August 25th at Kingswood..

10) Other Business

Paul asked if there was any new business. No new business at this time.

11) Adjournment

President Simmonds asked for a motion to adjourn the meeting, moved by Bronwyn Mulherin.