

Minutes
CCFFR Annual General Meeting
The 73rd Canadian Conference for Fisheries Research
Halifax Convention Centre, Compass C
1700-1900, Friday January 3rd, 2020
Chaired by CCFFR President, Dr. Mike Stokesbury

I. Approval of The Agenda

Moved: Craig Purchase, Seconded: Mark Poesch - passed

II. Approval of The Minutes of January 4, 2019 (London) (posted on WEB Site)

Moved: Mark Poesch, Seconded: Dan Heath - passed

III. Thanks, and Acknowledgements

Our Sponsors

We wish to sincerely thank our sponsors and supporting organizations. These include: the Department of Fisheries and Oceans, the Great Lakes Fisheries Commission, the Canadian Society of Limnologists, the Pacific Salmon Foundation, the Canadian Aquatic Resources Section of the American Fisheries Society, the Ontario Student Subsection of the American Fisheries Society, the Great Lakes Institute for Environmental Research, Vemco-Amirix, Lotek, Halltech, Milne and Canada Science Publishers. We also wish to express our sincere thanks to Steve Cooke, the Director of Development, who has worked so hard to engage sponsors and arrange for the extensive sponsorship that we have received.

CCFFR WEB Site

Many thanks to Trevor Avery and his team for hosting the CCFFR site for this meeting.

CRTF and ECA

Special thanks are provided to Heidi Swanson for enabling CRTF and ECA.

IV. Financial Report (summary circulated separately)

2019 Meeting and Financial Report from Accountants

Motion to accept Financial Report

Moved: Dan Heath, Seconded: Trevor Pitcher, passed

Parent Corporation

CCFFR Inc. is in good financial condition. The balance in the corporate account is \$93,376.90. With the passage of a motion in 2019 the Board struck a committee to consider CCFFR's relationship with other organizations including the Canadian Society of Limnologists, the Canadian Aquatic Resources Commission of the American Fisheries Society and other related organizations. CCFFR has existed for 72 years as more of a concept than a formal organization. The report that was provided to the Board will be discussed later in this meeting. There have also been discussions about establishing a CCFFR Foundation to stabilize funding for CRTF and ECA. This will be explored in 2020.

V. Report From The Board

John Lark

- a) Activities of the Board
- b) Motions voted during the corporation year
 1. Approved Budget for 2020 meeting
- c) Payments during the Corporation year
 1. Allocation for Clemens Rigler and Early Career Award \$18,000
 2. Accounting Fees \$1,582.00
 3. \$5 million in insurance coverage (Directors and Officers, and Liability) \$3,719.52

VI. MOTIONS

- a. Nominations Committee report

Slate for 2020-2021

- i. John Lark – Chair – Signing officer*
- ii. Mark Poesch – President for 2021 meeting*
- iii. Steven Cooke – Treasurer and Director of Development – Signing officer*
- iv. Margaret Docker – Local Arrangements – 2021 Meeting – Signing Officer*
- v. Dan Heath – Signing officer*
- vi. Dylan Fraser*
- vii. Karen Smokorowski*
- viii. Christina Semeniuk*
- ix. Heidi Swanson*

Moved: Craig Purchase, Seconded: Mark Poesch – Passed

b. Nominations – President 2021, Program Chair for 2021

President: Mark Poesch

Moved: Dan Heath, Seconded: Trevor Pitcher - Passed

Program Chair: Eva Enders

Moved: Karen Smokorowski, Seconded: Caleb Hasler -Passed

c. It is moved that: Connelly and Koshy be appointed as CCFR's accountant for the 2020-2021 fiscal year

Moved: John Lark, Seconded: Mark Poesch - Passed

d. It is Moved that CCFR file a financial compilation in lieu of an audit (We have to file a tax return to prove that we aren't making a profit)

Moved: Christina Semeniuk. Seconded: Yolanda Morbey – Passed unanimously

e. It is Moved that CCFR pay its membership in PAGSE for 2019 (\$520)

Moved: John Lark, Seconded: Karen Smokorowski -Passed

VI. CLEMENS-RIGLER Travel Awards and the Early Career Award

A total of \$18,000 was allocated to support these awards.

We received 5 applications for the Early Career Award. The mean request was \$395 and the sum of the requests was \$2,000. As our budget was \$4,000 to support ECA, we were able to provide a high level of support (but did not exceed estimated budgets).

5 ECA applicants supported, \$4,000 awarded

We received 40 applicants for the C-R award. Mean request was \$575 and the sum of the requests was \$22,420. Our budget for the 2020 CRTF was \$14,000 (compared to \$11,000 the previous year)

40 students were funded, \$14,000 awarded

VI. UPCOMING MEETINGS

- a. Venue **2021 – Winnipeg – (Central)**
President: **Mark Poesch**
Local arrangements: **Margaret Docker**
Program chair: **Eva Enders**
Nomination Chair: **To Be Determined**
Director of Development: **To Be Determined**

- b. Venue **2022 – Vancouver – (West)**
President: **To Be Determined**
Local arrangements: **Scott Hinch**
Program chair: **To Be Determined**
Nomination Chair: **To Be Determined**
Director of Development: **To Be Determined**

- c. Venue **2023 – Toronto – (Central)**
President: **To Be Determined**
Local arrangements: **To Be Determined**
Program chair: **Don Jackson (to be confirmed)**
Nomination Chair: **To Be Determined**
Director of Development: **To Be Determined**

- d. Venue **2024 – Undecided – (East)**
President: **To Be Determined**
Local arrangements: **To Be Determined**
Program chair: **To Be Determined**
Nomination Chair: **To Be Determined**
Director of Development: **To Be Determined**

VIII. CJFAS Report

The Journal is covering travel and registration costs for both the Stevenson and Rigler Plenary presentations.

IX. OTHER BUSINESS

- a. Report from Christina Semeniuk on establishing and EDI Committee for CCFFR
 - i. An EDI committee was struck to develop policies and procedures to implement EDI initiatives at future CCFFR meetings
 - The two goals of the EDI committee are:

- 1. The creation of an EDI statement for the two societies (CCFFR and SCL) with guiding principles, *and***
- 2. To identify ways to increase EDI at our conferences, including action items that each year's organizers can consider.**

- Committee members were named:
 1. Cécilia Barouillet - SCL
 2. Margaret Docker - CCFFR
 3. Britt Hall - SCL
 4. Andrea Kirkwood - SCL
 5. Sarah Lehnert - CCFFR
 6. Fielding Montgomery - CCFFR
 7. Danielle Quinn - CCFFR
 8. Charles Ramcharan - SCL
 9. Karling Roberts - CCFFR
 10. Christina Semeniuk - CCFFR

b. Report on CCFFR's Governance

- i. A discussion of the report provided by Steve Cooke on options for CCFFR's future governance.

A lengthy discussion ensued where it was agreed that the transition should address:

- Approaching SCL to see if there was sufficient common ground to become a new Canadian Aquatic Science organization.
- Address and respond to an offer from AFS for support or incorporation as a formal AFS entity.
- The President of AFS noted that AFS maintains an ongoing capacity to organise meetings, symposia and conferences.
- One name was discussed, the Canadian Society for Fisheries and Aquatic Science. Members of SCL indicated that they preferred a direct reference to limnology in the name.
- Approaching the Canadian Museum of Nature, who provides a secretariat to PAGSE was identified as an option that could be explored.
- Governance structure
- A determination of how to unwind CCFFR Inc. if necessary
- A plan to administer the transfer of funds from CCFFR Inc. to the new organization that preserves the objectives of the current fund

to help support students and sustain the meetings for another 74 years (at least).

- Meeting timing and format (after Winnipeg which will occur as planned).
- How EDI principles can be formally adopted by the organization and incorporated into its operations.
- Whether the new organization should plan to take and advance specific positions on aquatic issues (concern was expressed that this might restrict participation by scientists employed by federal and provincial governments and funding from these sources).
- Long term sustainability by associating with an organization or institute so that CCFFR's successor organization was not dependent on a single individual
- The objective for the new organization should be to:
To identify a mechanism to ensure the long-term stability of the Canadian Conference for Fisheries Research (or its spirit) in service of students and fisheries and aquatic science professionals in Canada

A motion was put forward:

“It is moved that the Board of CCFFR take steps to create a Canadian Society for Fisheries and Aquatic Science. Options should include linking with SCL or other relevant Canadian organizations. The Board is asked to have a formal proposal including mission, membership, disposition of assets and transition by the Annual General Meeting in January of 2021. A draft proposal should be circulated to CCFFR participants and members by October of 2020. This will include a clear mission and vision which continues to keep the current core commitment to students and Post Docs. The current Stevenson and Rigler Lectures should continue. A WEB based information sharing option would be an important tool and should be established. The CCFFR Board should engage interested parties. A plan should clarify the roles and responsibilities for Directors so that they are clear. Special efforts should be made to involve students and post docs in the new organization's governance.”

Moved: Jeff Hutchings, Seconded: Karen Smokorowski. - Passed

X. ADJOURN

Moved: Christine Semeniuk, Seconded: Dan Heath - Passed