

1630-1800 COG AGM Minutes

Arnold calls us to order at 4:45 and welcomes everyone for their attendance at this first AGM in Quebec. Arnold presents his President's Report. Welcomes our auditor Dennis.

Approved 2007 AGM minutes moved by Mike seconded by Janet. Carried. Samuel moves seconded by Anne that we approve our agenda as presented.

1655 – 1720 Audited financial statements - Janet Mrenica and Dennis Medaglia Collins Barrow Ottawa LLP Chartered Accountants. Janet recognizes our accomplishment of having a more in depth audit and the establishment of a Finance Committee chaired by Samuel, with Reza, Laura and Janet as members of this committee. **We thank the committee for their work.**

Janet presents an over view of our draft audited report to those in attendance. Our inventory turnover control is a challenge area; as is our increasing dependency on restricted forms of income-grants and contracts with a limited life that is not in our control. Janet challenges us to become more entrepreneurial in our financial management. Our chapters activities are not included in our audit only with related transactions. **ACTION: We need to discuss what we would like to do with this reality.** Janet urges flexibility in our contracts with workers in case of contract cancellation by our funders. Questions and comments are welcome. Samuel thanks Janet for all her effort in ensuring financial due diligence at COG. Janet thanks all including Dennis. Moved by Janet seconded by Samuel, that unless there are material changes we accept the Audited Financial Statements. Carried. **Moved by Samuel, seconded by Dan that we accept Collins Barrow as our auditor for 2009.**

1720-1735 **Executive Director Report** – Laura Telford- presents summary of our activities. A huge activity is the Organic Standards Update Project. One of the largest issues we face is how we continue to fund the revision of our Canadian Standard. Laura acknowledges the support of the McConnell Foundation for our Growing Up Organic Project to boost organic acres and organic production in a balance with growing organic consumption via institutional buyers. See Executive Directors report as circulated.

Vote on proposed by-law amendments – Laura reviews the By Law Amendments

1. To hold AGMs in virtual space to encourage broader participation and ensure reduction in time stress for circulation of year end financials/ audit report;
2. To allow the acclamation of new directors when we have fewer directors running than we have director positions. Bylaw Amendment 1. Nine in favour present, total 116-3 Carried, by law Amendment 2. 117-4. Carried.

1750 – 1800 Questions from members – Arnold Taylor introduces the COG Board members.

Dan speaks to our presence in Montreal en francais. Acknowledges the first COG AGM in Quebec to encourage Quebec participation in COG. We welcome Seeds of Diversity Canada in

joining us to add to our presence. We have also adopted an official name for COG en francais. The President of Seeds of Diversity Canada thanks COG for welcoming their participation and sharing meals.

Janine Moves we adjourn, seconded by Mike. Carried. We finished ahead of schedule!

We thank all for the effort made to include local and organic wine and food at our reception!