



CURLING CANADA
ANNUAL MEETING
SEPTEMBER 24, 2022
MINUTES

**ANNUAL MEETING - CURLING CANADA
HELD VIRTUALLY VIA ZOOM
SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 24, 2022**

Meeting Chair: Amy Nixon

ATTENDANCE:

Member Association Executives (Voting Delegates)

Harold Walters (NF and Labrador)	Angela Dale (Nunavut)
Bernard Savoie (New Brunswick)	Janie Hobart (Northwest Territories)
Remy St-Pierre(Quebec)	Jody Fisher Meli (Alberta)
Rick Thurston (Ontario)	Joan Sheppard (Northern Ontario)
Keith Johnston (Manitoba)	Jim Wilson (Saskatchewan)
Neil Campbell (British Columbia)	Bob Holmes (Yukon)

Voting Delegates Absent Due to Hurricane in Atlantic Canada:

Mike Strang (NS) and Jane DiCarlo (PE)

Curling Canada Board

Amy Nixon, Chair	Donna Krotz, Governor
Brian Cowan, Governor	Roselle Gonsalves, Governor
Darren Oryniak, Governor	Paul Addison, Governor
Michael Szajewski, Governor	Calvin Seaman, Governor

Curling Canada Staff

Katherine Henderson, CEO	Al Cameron
Gerry Peckham	Omid Kahriz
Prab Kalra	Oriyomi Bakare
Nolan Thiessen	Brodie Bazinet
Karen Ryan	Terry Smith
Danny Lamoureux	

Other Attendees:

Craig Baker (MB)	Tim McChesney (ON)
Steve Chenier (ON)	Randy Olson (Canadian Stick Curling)
Carmelinda Del Conte (ON)	Beau Welling (World Curling Federation)
Graham Prouse (World Curling Federation)	Jennifer Howard (Candidate)
Teri Palynchuk (Candidate)	Ray Baker (Candidate)
Scott Hindle (Candidate)	Jason Veltri (Candidate)

Parliamentarian

Steven Indig, Sport Law

Simply Voting – Subject Expert

Robin Witty, Sport Law

Auditor - BDO

Nadine Atkinson

1.0 CALL TO ORDER, NOTICE OF MEETING AND PROOF OF MAILING

Chair Amy Nixon called the Annual Meeting to order at 1:00 p.m. She welcomed those who had just participated in a business session focused on Curling Canada's 2022-2027 Strategic Plan, Member Association representatives,, Governors, Curling Canada staff, candidates

standing for election and other observers who took the time to join this Zoom meeting. She acknowledged special guests in attendance and thanked them for their interest and support of Curling Canada:

- Beau Welling, President, World Curling Federation
- Graham Prouse, Vice President – Americas, World Curling Federation

Katherine Henderson, CEO, reported that on September 2, 2022 notice that the Annual Meeting would be held virtually on Zoom commencing at 1:00 pm ET on September 24, 2022 was emailed to the Curling Canada Board of Governors, Member Association Presidents and Voting Delegates, Member Association Executive Directors, Curling Canada National Staff, Affiliate Organizations, Francois Allaire (Sport Canada), Nadine Atkinson (BDO Canada), Candidates for Election and Steven Indig (Parliamentarian). Background information was included with the distribution of the notice of meeting.

2.0 REPORT ON CREDENTIALS OF DELEGATES AND QUORUM

CEO Katherine Henderson polled the meeting for voting delegates and a total of 12 votes were recorded (see attendance record for listing of voting delegates). She advised there was a quorum for the meeting and that 7 constituted a simple majority.

It was noted for the record that prior to each voting situation during the meeting, a call was put forward to ascertain if the voting delegates for Nova Scotia and Prince Edward Island had been able to join the meeting; however, the hurricane that was moving across the Atlantic provinces at that time prevented them from doing so.

3.0 ACCEPTANCE OF THE AGENDA

The Chair called for any objections to proceeding with the meeting agenda as circulated and received none. The agenda was accepted.

It was reported by the Chair that no Notices for Consideration were received for the 2022 Annual Meeting.

4.0 MINUTE OF SILENCE FOR DECEASED MEMBERS

A moment of silence was observed in respect for members of the curling community who had passed away since the last Annual Meeting.

5.0 APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF THE 2021 ANNUAL MEETING

The Chair called for any errors or omissions to the 2021 Annual Meeting Minutes as circulated in the meeting package and received none. The 2021 Annual Meeting Minutes were approved as circulated.

6.0 BUSINESS ARISING FROM MINUTES

There was no business that required further attention from the 2021 Annual Meeting Minutes.

7.0 GREETINGS FROM THE WORLD CURLING FEDERATION

Beau Welling, newly-elected President of the World Curling Federation (WCF), brought greetings from the WCF and thanked Curling Canada for its efforts in hosting high-profile curling events during the pandemic. He acknowledged both Graham Prouse for his work on

the WCF Board and Amy Nixon for her work as a member of the Structural Review Group. Mr. Welling is looking forward to his role as President of the WCF and hopes to take the organization to the next level through implementation of strategically-planned initiatives. As the WCF's largest member, he stated Canada is respected as an important stakeholder and partner to the WCF and he foresees many opportunities in the future where both of our organizations can work together on projects that are of mutual benefit.

8.0 REPORT OF THE CHAIR AND BOARD OF GOVERNORS

Amy Nixon presented the Chair's report (*see addendum for text*) and then had each of the Curling Canada Chairs for the Governance, Enterprise Risk, Finance & Audit, Human Resources and International Committees give a brief update on their Committee's work during the past season. Amy thanked the Chairs and committee members for being thoroughly involved in the work of these committees over the past year and acknowledged Ray Baker and Debbie Schween (Curl MB), Tim Chesney (CurlON), Janie Hobart (NWTCA), Ellen Johnson (YCA) and Jean-Michel Menard (Curling Quebec) who sat as member association reps on committees this year.

Before proceeding to the next agenda item, Chair Amy Nixon acknowledged and thanked Governors Donna Krotz and Paul Addison for their contribution to the sport. Both Donna and Paul were completing 4-year tenures on the Board and expressed their thanks for having had the the experience of serving as a Governor on the Curling Canada Board.

9.0 REPORT OF THE ENTERPRISE RISK, FINANCE AND AUDIT COMMITTEE

ERF&A Chair Michael Szajewski called upon Auditor Nadine Atkinson to provide an overview of the audit and review of the financial statements with the group. She confirmed a clean audit opinion that was approved by the Curling Canada Board of Governors on August 26, 2022. Throughout her presentation, she reaffirmed that Curling Canada has had another successful financial year and remains in a strong financial position.

Prior to this meeting, a question regarding the Association's finances was received that asked about plans to utilize some of Curling Canada's unprecedented cash reserves to assist regional and provincial curling associations in attracting capital funding and strategic partnerships in replacing and renewing aging curling facilities infrastructure.

Michael Szajewski provided the following information for clarification regarding the amount of the reserve:

The appearance of an inflated reserve position is related to a recovery grant received late in Curling Canada's fiscal year. The grant application is tied to specific initiatives and system investments that will be realized in the coming year. As a result, approximately \$3 million of the reserve is a flow through amount that will occur over two fiscal years. This year there is a temporary surplus that will be drawn upon so that the reserve, with all things transpiring as expected, being the same by the end of the next fiscal year as it was in the previous year. As a result, Curling Canada will show a loss based on that system investment.

Michael reported that Curling Canada has done significant work on determining the appropriate level of a reserve for an organization of our size and complexity of operations. The Auditor's perspective was solicited and Nadine Atkinson confirmed that BDO did examine and are comfortable with the amount determined as appropriate for the reserve fund for Curling Canada.

They are aware of how the recovery grant funding is being handed and stated that Curling Canada is in compliance with all Sport Canada funding agreements and CRA regulations and best practices.

9.1 Confirmation of Auditor's Appointment

MOTION: AGM 2022.01

Moved by Harold Walters (NF), seconded by Jody Fisher Meli (AB), that BDO Canada be appointed as Curling Canada's auditors for the 2022-2023 fiscal year.

Carried

10.0 ELECTION OF GOVERNORS TO THE CURLING CANADA BOARD

Four elections were conducted under the supervision of Curling Canada's Governance Committee Chair Brian Cowan. He reviewed the process for the elections and also advised:

- Parliamentarian Steve Indig would act as scrutineer for the elections.
- The confidential Simply Voting software to be used by the 12 voting delegates to cast their ballots was managed by Robin Witty of Sport Law.
- Two females must be elected at this year's elections to fulfill Board gender standards as outlined in the Curling Canada Bylaws.
- A separate election would be held for each of the positions on the Board; and
- a virtual Zoom breakout room was available for voting delegates to convene in privately at any time during the election process, simply by request.

Nominations received in advance of the meeting were announced:

- Ray Baker
- Scott Hindle
- Jennifer Howard
- Teri Palynchuk
- Jason Veltri

There were no further nominations from the floor.

Election 1: Female Governor's position on the Board for a 4-year term was held:

Candidate elected for this position: Teri Palynchuk

Election 2: Female Governor's position on the Board for a 4-year term was held:

Candidate elected for this position: Jennifer Howard

Election 3: Governor's position on the Board for a 4-year term was held:

Candidate elected for this position: Ray Baker

Election 4: Governor's position on the Board for a 1-year term was held:

Candidate elected for this position: Scott Hindle

With the elections completed, Parliamentarian Steve Indig was asked to maintain in confidence the votes and to erase all electronic ballots and results from the Simply Voting platform.

11.0 CHAIR AMY NIXON THANKED FOR HER SERVICE

As Chair Amy Nixon was also completing a 4-year tenure on the Curling Canada Board, Governor Michael Szajewski addressed the meeting to thank Amy for her dedicated service to Curling Canada and the sport of curling. Amy responded giving some insight into her experiences as a Governor and then Board Chair and thanked the many people who assisted and befriended her during her time on the Board of Curling Canada.

12.0 NEW BUSINESS

A call was put forward for the members to bring any general announcements or questions forward at this time and there were none.

13.0 DATE OF NEXT ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

Chair Amy Nixon announced that Curling Canada's 2023 Annual Meeting would take place via Zoom on Saturday, September 23, 2023.

14.0 CONCLUSION OF MEETING

Having dealt with all items on the agenda, the Chair announced the meeting was concluded.

CHAIR'S REPORT

We welcomed three new board members in the fall of 2021 and met for the first time as a board team in October. We continue to face risk around succession as the Board will welcome 4 new members today for a total of 7 Board members with 1 year or less of service on the board.

We saw the benefits of a gradual normalization around Covid-19 over the course of this past year but faced some challenging and difficult organizational decisions around events including the cancellation of our Mixed Doubles Trials in December due to the rising case counts and concerns related to the Omicron variant.

Despite the challenges related to Covid and a busy last year of the Quad, the CEO, in partnership with the Board, made inroads on a risk appetite statement and risk framework.

Similarly, Katherine as CEO, in partnership with the Board, confirmed the membership of and terms of reference for the Athletes' Council in spring of 2022.

We worked closely with Elaine Brimicombe of CurlON and Ray Baker of CurlMainitoba to communicate with the Presidents of the Member Associations and began to explore different ways of engaging you, the Member Associations. I am personally so grateful to Elaine and Ray for the gift of their time and their perspectives.

We listened and learned in Niagara Falls during the Changing the Face of Curling Symposium. Curling Canada is committed to continuing those conversations and looking at ways to change the face of curling.

We cheered on our Canadian teams at the Olympics and World Championships. I had tears in my eyes for each success and for each hard-fought battle that ended with teams off the podium. We are so very proud of the professionalism and resilience displayed by our athletes this past season in some exceptionally challenging and unique circumstances.

We benefitted from the professionalism and work of Dr. Geoff Schoenberg as our governance advisor who departed from Curling Canada earlier this summer. As a result of Geoff's work we became more process-driven on the board with templated briefing notes, agendas, clear understanding of the Board's role in each agenda item and we undertook a meaningful Board assessment with an external party's help.