

Meeting: ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING  
Date: Saturday, September 22, 2018  
Time: 1:00 pm  
Location: Windsor Pavilion, 2451 Windsor Road, Victoria, BC  
Voting members present: 25

**Motions:**

- i) **Motion:** That Grant Thornton be appointed as auditor for 2018/19. Moved by Lori Roter. 2nd Anne Underhill. Carried.
- ii) **Motion:** To ratify the election of Briony Penn, Fran Sloan Sainas, Mel Lehan and Jeff Ward to the Board for three year terms. Moved by Mel Lehan, 2<sup>nd</sup> Tom Watson. Passed

**1. CALL TO ORDER:**

Meeting Called to order 1:15 pm. 25 members present.  
**Board Present:** Fran Sloan Sainas, Frances Pugh, Lori Roter, Tom Watson, Mel Lehan,  
**Executive Director:** Cathy Armstrong  
**Staff/Contractors:** Connie Pedersen, Lisa Cross, Sherry Beauvais, Susan Shortill, Torrey Archer

**2. WELCOME AND INTRODUCTIONS (Fran Sloan Sainas)**

- 3. APPROVE/AMEND AGENDA: (Fran Sloan Sainas)** – Additions/changes to the agenda: 10. Board election  
11. Appointment of auditor 12. New/Other Business Vicky Husband announcement 13. Adjournment  
**Motion** to approve the agenda. Moved Mel Lehan 2nd Tom Watson. Carried

- 4. MINUTES of Previous AGM (Fran Sloan Sainas) Motion** That the AGM minutes of September 23, 2017 be approved. Moved Tom Watson 2<sup>nd</sup> Fran Pugh. Carried.

- 5. BUSINESS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES (Fran Sloan Sainas)** No business arising.

**6. 2018 CHAIR’S REPORT (Fran Sloan Sainas)**

Greetings TLC members, supporter and donors. During the past year, the TLC Board has focused on the fiscal wellness of the organization, documentation of policies and procedures and fulfilling the principles of TLC’s strategic plan. It has been a positive year for the organization as membership has grown and we work within our budget parameters. This has enabled TLC to look at getting involved in sustainable and important conservation work. I would like to highlight one initiative where TLC has taken the lead role and is partnering with individuals, communities and educational organizations.

On March 2, 2018, TLC announced the protection of 11.2 hectares of wetland in the Clearwater River Valley and the launched a fundraising campaign to protect a further 4 hectares of wildlife corridor. TLC’s first property acquisition in years, we have been thrilled with the enthusiasm that our membership and donors have shown towards the project.

Wetlands act as giant sponges to aid in reducing floods, easing drought and filtering pollutants. Serving as important carbon sinks for atmospheric CO<sub>2</sub>, wetlands can moderate the warming effects of climate change.

Since Wells Gray Provincial Park was established in 1939, the southern border of the park has been extended several times. As a result there are two southward lobes of park land, but no designated wildlife corridors connecting them. This has forced the park's large wildlife – deer, moose, cougar, bobcat, grizzly, black bear, wolves, coyotes – to cross private land twice each year as they migrate between their winter and summer ranges. As the Clearwater River Valley becomes more developed this causes greater concern for the continued survival of the wildlife that call it home.

TLC previously secured 30.8 hectares of wetland and meadow in 2012 through direct purchase and a donation made through the federal Ecological Gifts Program. We launched this second phase of the project to further support the wildlife that transverse this corridor each year.

With the wetland parcel successfully acquired in March for \$17,900, TLC spent the remainder of the 2018 fiscal year and the beginning of the 2019 fiscal year working to raise \$100,000 in funds to protect the southern wildlife corridor by the end of 2018.

TLC's Board and staff are looking forward to working with Trevor Goward, Thompson Rivers University and Wells Gray Wilderness Society to support the next generation of naturalists through ongoing educational programming at the site. With world-class biology professionals joining our efforts to protect at-risk habitat there is truly no stopping us.

On behalf of TLC's Board of Directors, I wish to thank TLC members, volunteers and donors for their support this year. Your hard work has protected more than 5,200 hectares of land through conservation covenants and more than 1,100 hectares of habitat we continue to directly own.

#### **7. REPORT FROM EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR (Cathy Armstrong)**

This year we acquired two new covenants. Hollyhock Covenant on Saltspring Island and the Horel Covenant on Galiano Island. We also acquired two properties in Clearwater, the first to complete the protection of the Kurta wetlands and northern wildlife corridor and the second, just completing this past week, to protect the southern wildlife corridor. These properties, together with the Thompson Rivers University Research Centre and Edgewood owned by Trevor Goward will form the basis for a future naturalist training education centre.

In June TLC staff undertook a road trip to visit some of our properties and covenants. Beginning with a stop at Max Lake in Penticton, we met with our volunteer steward, local conservation organizations and the Penticton Indian Band to discuss water management and mosquito control. We then travelled to Trail to tour the Fort Shepherd Conservancy lands with the Trail Wildlife Association. Following that we met with NOPNAT in Vernon, visited Gardom Lake Covenant in Enderby, visited John and Edwina Kurta in Salmon Arm (donors of the Kurta wetland property), the Clearwater properties, and Todd Road property in Kamloops.

Following a Fall Land Trust Alliance conference, we adopted a project showcased by an Eastern Canada land conservancy and launched the Passport to Nature. The Passport featured activities like mushroom identification, mulching, moss walk, photo hike, restoration work, Abkhazi Garden tour and more. This program was very successful and will be replicated and expanded next year.

We have just returned from a follow-up meeting in Clearwater to bring together naturalists, TLC members, staff, a Thompson Rivers University professor, and resident scientists to plan for the Spring launch of an onsite educational program to support young naturalists gain hands on experience in the field. More details will follow, please stay tuned, this is exciting as TLC fulfills its education mandate utilizing our land resources and technical expertise. We welcome your feedback as we chart this new course. Thank you for supporting us in our recent acquisitions, we value your enthusiasm and commitment to conservation.

#### **8. TREASURER'S REPORT (Lori Roter)**

Members should not be concerned about the stark difference in the Consolidated Statement of Operations from

AGM Minutes

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last year to this year, given that in the year prior, we were culminating the CCAA process. There is a difference between a deficit and debt –TLC no longer holds any debt. In addition, during the past year, the Board has successfully adopted a number of much needed financial stewardship policies, namely: the Expenditure; Financial Institution Account, Cash and General Revenue Management; Tangible Capital Assets, Records Management, Code of Conduct and Whistleblower policies, which are currently on our website.

**9. PRESENTATION OF FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (Larry Beatty from Grant Thornton)**

Larry Beatty provided an overview of the audited financial statements for the year ended April 30, 2018. He remarked that this is a more representative year of regular TLC activities as recent statements have included CCAA transactions.

Question – How does interest rates affect TLC? Answer – there is no debt hence fluctuations in interest rates are only evident in the returns from investments. The Bat House mortgage is a remnant of the CCAA process and will be extinguished via the transfer of the property to the mortgage holder, anticipated to finalize in the current fiscal year.

Question – What is rental income? Answer – mostly from the Teahouse at Abkhazi Garden.

**Motion** to accept the financial statements April 30, 2018. Moved by Briony Penn, Second Anne Underhill. Carried.

**10. BOARD ELECTION**

The Board nominating committee presented their recommendations to the membership 77 days prior to the AGM and members had the opportunity to nominate further board directors. None were received, hence the Board is seeking ratification of the following recommendations: Briony Penn, Fran Sloan Sainas, and Mel Lehan to be re-elected to a three year term and Jeff Ward to be elected for a three year term. **Motion** to ratify the election of Briony Penn, Fran Sloan Sainas, Mel Lehan and Jeff Ward to the Board for three year terms. Moved by Vicky Husband, 2<sup>nd</sup> Melissa Anderson Passed.

**11. APPOINTMENT OF AUDITOR (Lori Roter)**

**Motion** that Grant Thornton be appointed as auditor for 2018/19. Moved by Lori Roter. 2<sup>nd</sup> Anne Underhill. Carried

**12. NEW/OTHER BUSINESS**

a Vicky Husband announced the recent passing September 15 of Gordon Alexander, husband of Peta Alexander former TLC Board member. **Motion** that flowers be sent to Peta Alexander. Moved by Briony Penn, Second Mel Lehan. Carried.

b Reminder that CRD is asking for public input on their survey for priorities of resource allocation.

c Announcement that cherished TLC member Marion Cumming is profiled in the current FOCUS magazine.

d Announcement that Briony Penn will be on CBC broadcast Ideas with Paul Kennedy on McTaggart Cowan and the Brotherhood.

**13. ADJOURNMENT:** Moved to adjourn by Lori Roter. Meeting adjourned at 2:35 pm.