

ECCOE Annual General Meeting Minutes

Date: March 21, 2023

6:00 p.m. - 7:06 p.m.

Location: Zoom Webinar (LINK)

Start Time	End Time
6:02 p.m.	7:06 p.m.

Attendance			
Board Members in Attendance:	Regrets:	Absent:	Also in Attendance:
Jocelynn Johnson Liette Gervais Christopher Daeninck Sherrisse Augustyn Nick Slonosky Denise Watson-Jarigen Tricia Amaro	Darla Matombe Jamie Routledge April Riel	Leo Humeston	Executive Director – Jane Langes Interpreters – Sue Schmid, Kevin Klein Note Taker – Shayne Ostrowski

Agenda Items	Notes and Action Items
Agenda presented by AGM Chair – Jocelynn Johnson	<p>Welcome</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Contact the host via the Q&A button or use the hand-raise button. ● Questions can be submitted afterward to board@eccoe.ca should there be any outstanding. <p>Voting will be done via the Zoom polling feature.</p> <p>You must be a member and your name on Zoom must match your membership email.</p> <p>Introduction to using the Q & A feature on the Zoom Webinar platform.</p> <p>The meeting is being recorded.</p> <p>There will be an open forum at the end for questions and suggestions; during the presentations, members are asked to keep questions specific to the topic being discussed.</p>

	<p>Poll #1 One practice poll consisting of two questions was conducted to ensure the attendees were able to access the polling feature.</p> <p>The ECCOE Board of Directors and Executive Director introduced themselves:</p> <p>Christopher Daeninck, Vice President</p> <p>Sherrisse Augustyn, Treasurer</p> <p>Liette Gervais, Member at Large</p> <p>Nick Slonosky, Chair</p> <p>Denise Watson-Jarigen, Chair Communications and Nominations</p> <p>Jane Langes, Executive Director</p> <p>The complete Board of Directors listing is available on www.eccoe.ca</p>
<p>Message from ECCOE President, Jocelynn Johnson</p>	<p>Jocelynn extended a welcome and thank you to the staff, freelancers, the Board, and the community.</p>
<p>November 2021 AGM Minutes</p>	<p>The full minutes for the AGM held on November 26, 2021, are available on www.eccoe.ca</p> <p>Poll #2 Motion to accept November 26, 2021, AGM minutes.</p> <p>MOVED: Jocelynn Johnson</p> <p>SECONDED: Liette Gervais</p> <p>Carried</p>
<p>Financial Report Sherrisse Augustyn, Treasurer</p>	<p>Financial report for the fiscal year ending March 31, 2021. Full documents are available on www.eccoe.ca</p> <p>Sherrisse Augustyn noted that COVID-19 continued to impact ECCOE during the 2021-2022 fiscal year and that 2022 was ECCOE's first fiscal year of operation since the separation of ECCOE and RCMDDB (the Resource Centre for Manitobans who are Deaf-Blind).</p>

There were three (3) motions made by Sherrisse Augustyn.

a. Accept the audited financial report for 2021-2022

- End of March 31, 2022, ECCOE saw a total revenue of \$1,076,0624 which is an overall decrease of \$272,042 from the previous year. The decrease is largely due to COVID-19's impact.
- As a need for ECCOE services gradually returned, fee for service increased from \$555,979 in 2021 to \$681,512 in 2022
 - COVID-19 government subsidies that ECCOE received in the 2021 fiscal year ended in the 2022 fiscal year, which factors into the lower revenue. Fee for service didn't recover to pre-pandemic levels
 - Funding from the government was \$46,673 in 2022 compared to \$294,618 in 2021
- ECCOE received a one-time donation of \$100,000
- The total expenses for 2022 were \$986,048, which is a decrease of \$230,533 from 2021.
- The amount ECCOE paid to freelance interpreters was \$248,912.
- The total operating costs were lower with \$135,971 in 2022 compared to \$181,925 in 2021.
- The result of the surplus of \$ 90,576 for 2022 ended the fiscal year with \$161,593 in surplus, which is the strongest position in recent years.

Be It Resolved:

The financial statements of the Corporation for the fiscal year from April 1, 2021, and ended March 31, 2022, prepared, and reported by the auditors of the Corporation; be approved.

Poll #3 – Motion to accept the 2021-2022 financial report.

MOVED: Sherrisse Augustyn

SECONDED: Liette Gervais

Carried

	<p>b. Accept Scarrow and Donald as Auditors for the current year</p> <p>Be It Resolved: Scarrow & Donald, Chartered Professional Accountants, LLP be reappointed as auditors of the Corporation to hold office until the next annual meeting of the members at a remuneration to be fixed by the directors.</p> <p>Poll #4 – motion to reappoint Scarrow and Donald as Auditors for the 2020-21 fiscal year.</p> <p>MOVED: Sherrisse Augustyn</p> <p>SECONDED: Liette Gervais</p> <p>Carried</p> <p>c. Omnibus Resolution which is as follows:</p> <p>Be It Resolved: All by-laws, resolutions, contracts, acts, and proceedings of the board of directors and officers of the Corporation enacted, passed, made, done, or taken since the last annual meeting as the same are set forth or referred to in the minutes/resolutions of the directors of the Corporation or in the financial statements for the fiscal year from April 1, 2021, and ended March 31, 2022, are hereby approved, ratified, sanctioned, and confirmed.</p> <p>Poll #5 – Motion to accept the Omnibus resolution.</p> <p>MOVED: Sherrisse Augustyn</p> <p>SECONDED: Liette Gervais</p> <p>Carried</p>
<p>Communications and Technology</p>	<p>ECCOE’s website has been cleaned up, the current Board members are on the website, their information is more accessible, and the website has been made more accessible. The Board is hoping that Userway will be successful.</p>

	<p>Additionally, ECCOE is working on building features on the website that would allow people to send in video recordings.</p>
<p>Nominations Committee Denise Watson-Jarigen, Chair</p>	<p>The Board of Directors recruited three interim Board members, each with a one-year position. They are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • April Riel • Leo Humeston • Jaime Routledge <p>The Board extended a welcome to these three new members. The Board had three open positions for nomination this year, which were filled by acclamation, so no vote was needed at the AGM.</p> <p>It was noted that Tammy Neiman departed from the Board after a one-year term.</p> <p>Darla Matombe will remain on the Board.</p> <p>Liette Gervais’s position has been extended.</p> <p>Nick Slonosky will remain on the Board.</p> <p>Jocelynn Johnson will remain on the Board.</p> <p>If there is any interest in joining the Board, please contact Denise Watson-Jarigen.</p> <p>Jocelynn Johnson thanked all those who stayed on the Board and all those who stayed in interim positions.</p>
<p>Bylaws Committee Chair– Jocelynn Johnson</p>	<p>Members were invited to see the Bylaws as posted on the ECCOE website (in both English and ASL).</p>
<p>The Future of ECCOE Jane Langes, Executive Director</p>	<p>Jane Langes noted that if any members in attendance would like to receive a copy of her report, they can contact her, and she will email it to them.</p> <p>She noted that she has been trying to save costs wherever possible. She has renegotiated contracts and saved money where possible. There is \$28,000 in savings over the year. She will continue working on saving money/cutting costs.</p>

She noted that the cost for business percentage is lower than in the previous year, but that prices in general are rising.

Jane Langes noted that revenue has increased: she has been involved in more grant proposals and other opportunities. The money received in grants has been used to update ECCOE's technology. She also received dollars for different projects like translation from English to ASL. She is hoping to receive more grant monies.

She noted that ECCOE no longer uses TeleHealth. Instead, ECCOE uses remote interpreting at hospitals. In response to a question, she remarked that TeleHealth was not easier as the technology became outdated, and hospitals stopped using it.

She reported that the full-time staff member Brittany Toews joined the team in January 2021 and has been a wonderful addition.

Jane Langes highlighted that much has improved regarding scheduling. In this regard, she wanted to extend a special thanks to Josie Vitucci Spencer and Shaina Dumont who ensure everything in the schedule gets covered daily, which helps financially and allows for more money to be redirected into the agency. Last year (as is customary) Red River College Polytech sent practicum students to ECCOE who were able to develop their interpreting skills and support the interpreting schedule. ECCOE is looking forward to the next practicum.

She noted that she had meetings with members of the Manitoba Deaf-Blind Association in which ECCOE received constructive feedback on how it could improve. She also met with the Deaf Seniors Club which gave her additional feedback for ECCOE, indicating what is needed from ECCOE and how it could improve.

She noted that ECCOE recently became a part of SLIC (Sign Language Institute Canada) which offers interesting opportunities for partnerships across Canada among different organizations.

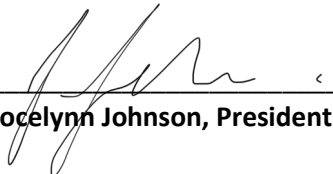
Jane Langes and representatives from New Directions, MDA (Manitoba Deaf Association), DCM (Deaf Centre Manitoba), and DRC (Deaf Resource Centre) met with the RCMP to give the RCMP feedback on how to improve services for Deaf persons and work more collaboratively together in the future.

If there are any interpreters interested in joining ECCOE's roster, please contact Jane Langes.

Jane Langes extended thanks and acknowledgment to the Board (comprised of 8 deaf members and 3 non-deaf members) for their support, feedback, ideas, and willingness to share. She thanked contract and freelance interpreters for their amazing work. She gave special thanks to the ECCOE staff members who are a small but busy group of committed individuals who are always willing to offer support. She gave a specific thanks to Josie Vitucci Spenser whom she talks to daily and who is always patient and responsive to her multitude of questions. She said

	<p>that she could not imagine doing her job without Josie. She also thanked the Deaf Community for being at the AGM, and she mentioned that she is always willing to meet or have discussions at any time.</p> <p>In response to a question, Jane Langes mentioned that ECCOE is still looking for a new office, and if anyone sees a viable option to let her know.</p>
	<p>The following comments and questions were made by attendees of the AGM:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Comment:</i> Thanks to Sherrisse Augustyn for the graphs in her presentation; they were clear and easy to follow. • <i>Comment:</i> Congratulations to Jane Langes for doing a good job. • <i>Question:</i> Will the next AGM be in person? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Jocelynn Johnson replied that it depends on whether there will be issues with COVID again. It is possible that ECCOE will do a hybrid between in-person and Zoom so that people who might be immunocompromised can attend. • <i>Question:</i> Why was there no AGM in 2022? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Jocelynn Johnson replied that ECCOE is required to hold an AGM no later than 18 months after the previous one. Due to scheduling conflicts, it was planned to hold the AGM in early January, but she got quite ill with COVID and then pneumonia, which necessitated the AGM to be moved to March. It is possible that there will be another AGM in the Fall of 2023. • <i>Comment:</i> Thank you to the Board for a job well done. • <i>Comment:</i> Because of all the changes to ECCOE, a town hall meeting might be beneficial. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Jocelynn Johnson replied that the Board was planning to hold a town hall meeting in the spring/summer, but until details are clarified, people can contact her for questions and concerns. <p>Jocelynn Johnson noted that if there are any further questions or comments, they can contact board@eccoe.ca at any time. If anyone needs to contact staff or has an immediate concern, it is best to contact booking@eccoe.ca.</p>
<p>Thank you and Adjournment</p>	<p>The Board and Executive Director extended thanks to the attendees, the interpreters for the AGM, and the ECCOE team.</p>

Approved by the Board of Directors:



Jocelynn Johnson, President

Date: 25 April 2023