

# Meeting of the CMOS Ottawa Centre Executive Thursday, 16 October, 2014, 12:00 PM

## Minutes, Approved version 21.11.2014

The Black Thorn

15 Clarence Street, The Byward Market, Ottawa

**Present:** Ann McMillan (Chair, Ottawa Centre), Martin Gauthier (Vice Chair), Wayne Richardson (member at large), Paul Pestieau (member at large), Yvon Bernier (Treasurer), Bob Jones (membership coordinator), Leslie Malone (Recording Secretary).

**Unable to attend:** Marty Taillefer (past chair, CMOS Ottawa Centre), Denis Bourque (member at large), Sheila Bourque (education coordinator), Richard Asselin (member at large).

### Proceedings:

1. A meeting of the Executive of the CMOS Ottawa Centre was held on 16 October 2014. The session was chaired by Ann McMillan.
2. Minor changes only were proposed to the minutes from the meeting of 18 September 2014, therefore those minutes (with the agreed edits) are considered approved. The status of actions from the 18 September meeting was reviewed. It was noted that there has been no reply from Steve McCauley (inviting him to be a speaker in autumn, 2014), so the meeting agreed to focus on inviting him to one of the luncheons in 2015. Dens Hains has been approached and provisionally is interested to speak at the December session (on the Franklin). All other actions from 18 September are completed or are on the current agenda for discussion. The status of actions of previous sessions was briefly reviewed. It was agreed that there would be no further action to develop a report of the water forum (June 2014). Several actions still outstanding from the 2013/2014 period (ending June 2014) have been pulled forward for consideration at the next (November) meeting (to determine whether to assign them or drop them), but most past action items are considered closed.
3. The meeting was informal, with discussions intended to cover finalizing identification of potential speakers for upcoming sessions; science fairs; budget and investment strategy; special evening events with AWMA; return visit of the CMOS President; and any new business. These discussions are summarized below (items 4 to 9) along with any decisions and actions agreed upon.
4. **Speakers for 2014/2015 year, Ottawa centre:** A list of upcoming sessions including speakers for the 2014/2015 year is attached as **Annex 1**. The following actions were agreed:

**Action 1:** Approach Steve McCauley to be a speaker in 2015 (Wayne Richardson).

*Action completed, no response from Mr McCauley.*

**Action 2:** Finalize arrangements with Denis Hains to speak in December 2014 (Ann McMillan).

*Action completed.*

**Action 3:** Finalize arrangements with Dave Jackson (IICWG) to speak in November 2014(Paul Pestieau).

*Action completed.*

**Action 4:** Approach Gordon Young to be a speaker in 2015 (Ann McMillan and Leslie Malone).

*Action outstanding. Review at December session.*

**Action 5:** Approach Matt Ladd to be a speaker in 2015 (Bob Jones).

*Action completed. Mr Ladd declined.*

***Please note that it is urgent to identify and book additional potential speakers as soon as possible.***

Following a suggestion from Denis Bourque, the meeting agreed to pursue setting up a special session on the topic of climate change. This would not be part of the regular luncheon schedule. Date and place are as yet undetermined. The meeting agreed to approach Dr John Stone on the matter to get his perspectives on the event, its format, etc. Possibly it would be a discussion forum with a moderator. It was further agreed to ask Dr Stone for a summary of the activities and outcomes of the climate change discussions recently held in NY, USA (September 2014), and whether he has any suggestions for speakers for 2015.

**Action 6:** Approach Dr John Stone for his perspectives and advice on setting up a special session on climate change (Ann McMillan and Denis Bourque).

*Action initiated, not completed. Review at December session.*

**5. Science Fairs:** It was noted that Marty Taillefer wishes to continue to participate in the Science Fair activities. The meeting agreed to keep the amounts of the 2015 prizes the same as were awarded in 2014. Matching funds from CMOS national have not yet been received. The meeting agreed with a proposal from Marty Taillefer that a certificate (possibly framed) be awarded to the Science Fair winners in addition to their cash prizes.

**Action 7:** Request CMOS national to provide the matching funds for the 2015 Science Fair prizes (Yvon Bernier).

*Action initiated, not completed. Review at December session.*

**Action 8:** Create a draft certificate for consideration at an upcoming meeting of the Ottawa Executive (Denis Bourque, Richard Asselin). This could be based on existing available CMOS certificates.

*Action initiated, not completed. Review at December session.*

**6. Budget and Investment Strategy:** The meeting considered the analysis and proposal on investment of funds made by Yvon Bernier and decided to invest five thousand dollars (5,000.00 CAD) in a three year GIC with the stipulation that the terms of the deposit be that the funds could be withdrawn, if needed, on the first or second anniversary date.

**Action 9:** Invest the \$5K in a three-year GIC (Yvon Bernier and Ann McMillan).

*Action near completion. Papers have been signed. Review at December session.*

**7. Special events with AWMA:** AWMA is interested in follow-up sessions with CMOS, following the successful joint Water Panel held in June 2014. The meeting noted the lack of clarity in issues related to identification of which groups currently have responsibility for measurement/monitoring of water quality, including in the four conservation areas in the Ottawa region.

**Action 10:** Contact AWMA to discuss setting up a joint activity with CMOS to discuss the status of monitoring of water quality (Ann McMillan, Wayne Richardson).

*Action initiated. Ann has contacted Donna Jean (they agreed to post the presentations from the previous event). No discussion yet on a new event or financial repercussions of the past event. Review at December session.*

**8. Return visit to Ottawa of CMOS President:** Dr Ahluwalia is interested in returning to Ottawa to speak with students/academia on the future of CMOS. The meeting suggested as a first step that an informal discussion be set up at ArcticNet (December 2014) between GCW (WMO), CMOS Arctic SIG, and other relevant groups with professors and students attending that event. Possibly attending ArcticNet will be Luke Copeland, Jack Ives, Prof. Antoni G. Lewkowicz (current President of the International Permafrost Association), inter alia. It was noted that a side session of Arctic SIG is being organized to take place during ArcticNet.

**Action 11:** Organize an informal side meeting (possibly over lunch) during ArcticNet, with representatives of GCW, Arctic SIG and others, with the purpose of familiarizing these groups with CMOS and discussing increasing their collaboration in CMOS activities (Ann McMillan, Marty Taillefer Arctic Sig) and Barry Goodison (GCW)).

*Action to be reviewed at December session.*

**9. Other business:** A number of additional topics were discussed:

- It was noted that the annual subvention to the Ottawa Centre (based on our 2014 members) had not yet been made.
- In the overview of outstanding actions from past sessions, a number should be re-addressed at the November meeting to finally resolve them. These include establishing a position for an outreach coordinator for Ottawa Centre; identification of a new student representative; issues associated with Congress 2018; candidates from Ottawa Centre for roles in CMOS national.

**Action 12:** Contact Andrew Bell (CMOS national) to determine the status of the annual subvention (Ann McMillan and Yvon Bernier).

*Action not completed. Review at December session.*

**8. Closure:** The meeting was closed at 13:30. The chair thanked the members for their contributions.

Attachment: Annex 1

## Speakers, 2014/2015 year

<b>Date</b>	<b>Speaker</b>	<b>Status</b>
September	Dr Ahluwalia, CMOS President	completed
16 October 2014	none	closed
19 November 2014	Dave Jackson	In progress
18 December 2014	Denis Hains	In progress
15 January 2015	TBD	
19 February 2015	TBD	
19 March 2015	TBD	
16 April 2015	TBD	
21 May 2015	TBD	

Other candidates being considered for invitation to speak:

Steve McCauley  
 Dr Gordon Young  
 Matt Ladd

When considering speakers, it is a good idea to check our list of past speakers to ensure we don't ask folks to repeat too often (note: this link is presently on the "old" web site but will be kept current either in Ottawa Archives or in the main Archives under Ottawa Centre.)

Please see:

<http://cmosarchives.ca/Ottawa/ottawapastspeakers.html>