



Meeting of the CMOS Ottawa Centre Executive

Thursday, 1 October 2020

Approved Minutes

Venue: Zoom videoconference hosted by CMOS (Gordon Griffith)

Call to Order: 10:00 am

Chair: Barry Goodison

Members of the Ottawa Centre Executive: see **Annex 1**

Present: Len Barrie, Yvon Bernier, Denis Bourque, Sheila Bourque, Dawn Conway, Ray Desjardins, Barry Goodison, Bob Jones, Helen Joseph, Leslie Malone, Ann McMillan, Michael Steeves, John Stone and student representative Ada Loewen (Carleton U.). Gordon Griffith (Executive Director, CMOS) organized and participated in the call. John Gilbert also participated as a guest.

Not present: Bruce Angle, Paul Pestieau, François Lapointe (See item 8 below).

1. The Chair welcomed the Executive to the meeting. On behalf of the Centre, Barry Goodison thanked Gordon Griffith for hosting the Zoom session. He also welcomed John Gilbert. Both were invited to take part in the discussions. The agenda was adopted as written.
2. The minutes of the Zoom meeting of 27 August 2020 were approved, with the proviso of including several minor edits from Sheila Bourque (Moved: Bob Jones; seconded: John Stone). **ACTIONS:** Leslie Malone will make the final revisions with Sheila Bourque's input and Bob Jones will post them.
3. **Update on actions assigned at the previous meeting**
The meeting noted the status of actions from the 27 August meeting as follows:

Actions completed:

- Approved minutes, 29 July 2020, were posted on Ottawa Centre web site.
- Ann McMillan contacted CACOR to discuss the virtual CMOS Forum (to be held on 8 October) and requested their sponsorship of it.
- Dawn Conway, Sheila Bourque and John Stone considered a paragraph on the format for the virtual CMOS Forum and on expected outcomes to add to the draft announcement. Edits were proposed.
- Ann McMillan followed up with Arna Einarsdóttir who will speak on 18-Nov Wednesday 1:30 PM on 'Climate change and music, culture'. This will be a joint CACOR/CMOS event, hosted by CACOR.
- Ada Loewen invited her supervisor, Derek Mueller, to give a talk on the Milne Ice Shelf in the autumn roster, and he is willing. Scheduling is being discussed.
- Barry Goodison contacted John Gilbert, introduced him to Sheila Bourque and invited him to participate in the Zoom call today.

Actions pending:

- A final LAC report has not been submitted (Bruce Angle)
- Suggestions on future speakers are still needed (all members)

4. Financial Report

Yvon Bernier informed this meeting that there had been no change in the Centre's financial status since the last meeting. The transfer of signing authority has not yet taken place.

5. Congress 2020, future Congress events and related matters

5.1 Lessons learned from Congress 2020: Bruce Angle was not at the meeting. Gordon Griffith noted that there has been no recent meeting of the CMOS National Congress Committee. The LAC for Victoria (2021) and that for Saskatoon (2022) are both watching developments with COVID-19 transmission. There are no changes to report.

5.2 CMOS Forum October 2020: Len Barrie noted that Gordon Griffith will be hosting the Forum on Zoom and that planning was going well. A dry-run rehearsal has taken place and was very useful. John Stone and Len Barrie are making sure CBC is informed of the event.

Given that this is planned as a public forum, the login/access process has been modified to make easier. Participants will be asked for name, e-mail address, employer and language preference. Word is getting out, and at this point, 136 people have registered. **ACTION:** Leslie Malone will send an invitation to the Forum to the City councillors in the area near Dunrobin. **ACTION:** Bob Jones will send another notice to the Ottawa Centre e-mail list. **ACTION:** John Gilbert will see if the S&T Museum has a mailing list – if it does, he will let Sheila Bourque know. CACOR has agreed to sponsor the Forum and has sent a notice to its e-mail list.

6. Review of the talk by Chris Derksen (by Zoom) on 24 September

This talk was very well received. Eighty-five people registered, and in the end, approximately sixty-five signed in. The Executive discussed following up with those that had registered and had not participated but agreed not to do that. It was agreed that, for future events, a reminder the day before the event would be useful. Zoom does allow generation of a report on participants, including names and e-mail addresses. **ACTION:** Gordon Griffith will send that report to Barry Goodison as soon as possible.

The link to the recorded version is available through both the Ottawa Centre and through CMOS National. **ACTION:** Bob Jones will also post the pdf of the PowerPoint deck in the Ottawa Centre archive. People who want the original version of the presentation are encouraged to request it from the author.

It was agreed to streamline the registration process for future talks. The current method creates work for the host and organizer(s). Ada Loewen asked if it would be possible to set up the process whereby once you register, an automatic e-mail to the registrant is generated and sent, containing the registration information including the URL. CMOS National does this. Denis Bourque also has experience in setting this up. **ACTION:** Denis Bourque and Bob Jones will investigate setting up an improved, more efficient registration process, as soon as possible.

With respect to the Ottawa Centre online meeting page, it was noted that having the CACOR materials on half the screen meant that the reader had to scroll down a fair bit to see the upcoming CMOS talks. One suggestion was to have the information on 2 levels – a basic list of the upcoming events on the top level, with all details available on a second level through hyperlinks. Further discussion on this was deferred to a subsequent meeting. For the next meeting it was agreed to re-organize the page to put the Ottawa Centre materials on top, and CACOR information below. **ACTIONS:** Bob Jones will re-organize the Ottawa Centre page to have CMOS on top, CACOR below, and Ann McMillan will inform CACOR of the change.

On behalf of the Executive, Barry Goodison thanked Bob Jones for his work to adapt the Centre's web-presence and practices to cope with changing to an Internet meeting platform.

7. **Schedule of Speakers 2020-2021 season**

See **Table 1** for a summary of upcoming talks.

7.1 Zoom session, **22 October**: Organization of this session is in hand. Jean Holloway, postdoc, University of Ottawa and Chair of APECS Canada (Association of Polar Early Career Scientists) will speak on 'Impacts of forest fire on permafrost in the discontinuous zones of northwestern Canada'.

7.2 Zoom session, **18 November**: This event is joint with CACOR, and CACOR is the host. Arna Einarsdóttir will speak on 'Climate change and music, culture'. Ann McMillan is working with Madeline Aubrey (CACOR) and more detailed information on the event and logistics will be made available in due course.

7.3 Zoom session, December, **TBD**: Ada Loewen contacted Derek Mueller. He is interested in speaking on the Milne Ice Shelf and is working with Barry Goodison on scheduling.

7.4 **Additional future speakers including local and non-local candidates**

- Ray Desjardins suggested a talk on Natural Climate Solutions for Canada, based on a paper submitted by Ronnie Drever (<https://www.natureunited.ca/>). It could be considered once the paper has been accepted. **ACTION:** Ray Desjardins will provide more information when possible.
- Len Barrie suggested a talk on the effects of COVID-19 on Air Quality and Greenhouse gasses (the work of a WHO working group). It is not known whether there are any Canadian scientists involved in this effort, so the Executive requested additional information before approaching this group. **ACTION:** Len Barrie will provide additional information for discussion at a subsequent meeting.
- Potentially, there will be a 2020/21 SCOR speaker organized by CMOS National but otherwise, we have little organized on oceans, so far. **ACTION:** Helen Joseph will look into options, including possible speakers from east and west coast institutes.
- To continue the effort to increase participation with universities and with early-career scientists, it was agreed to look for opportunities with Queens and RMC. **ACTION:** Barry Goodison will contact Laura Thompson (Queens) and identify possible speakers for the consideration of the Executive. **ACTION:** Helen Joseph will contact Mike Stacey (Ret.) and Stephanie Green on the ocean side.
- Sheila Bourque proposed a talk that had been given at a CMOS Congress in Fredericton (2016), by Taylor & Francis on how to get your paper published. It would be highly relevant to our early career scientists around the country. **ACTION:** Sheila Bourque will look into this possibility and provide more information for discussion.
- In general, it was agreed that if needed, the Centre can exercise some flexibility regarding dates, now that we are hosting internet-based talks.
- It was requested that ideas on possible speakers be brought to the attention of the Executive for discussion as a first step, for reasons of balance in themes, etc. Such discussions can be dealt with by e-mail between sessions.

7.5 Options for expanding the Ottawa network and audience

- **Partnering with Arctic Circle (AC):** Dawn has spoken with her AC contact. They have fewer executive meetings than CMOS Ottawa Centre. AC is still interested in linking with us and prefer an informal approach to share schedules. John Gilbert is on their Programme Committee, and noted that they will be ready soon to release their schedule for the next year and that he will be giving a talk on 'The Journals from Eureka (1947-48)' to Arctic Circle in December. **ACTION:** John Gilbert will speak with the AC Secretary about having interested AC members send their emails to Bob Jones for inclusion in the Ottawa Centre email distribution list.
- **Inviting participation of members from other CMOS centres:** for now, the Centre agrees to watch and see the level of engagement from other centres and to wait to hear results of the next meeting of Centre Chairs (5 November 2020).

8. Other business

- **Update on CMOS participation in updating the climate exhibit at the Museum of Science:** John Gilbert provided background on the development of the exhibition at the Museum. The main focus is on instrumentation, such as the thermometer that recorded Canada's lowest temperature, the Canadian 'snow kit', etc. Many of the artifacts were provided through MSC Downsview. Many are undocumented. The Museum is currently discussing what it needs in terms of educational materials. Zoom offers a good platform for the Museum's efforts to locate and discuss the instruments and the holdings in different institutions, to document them, and create a catalogue. CMOS is certainly interested in helping the Museum on the educational aspects of their meteorological exhibit (Canadian content). **ACTION:** John Gilbert will set up a Zoom discussion with Sheila Bourque, Ray Desjardins, Barry Goodison and John Stone.
- **Update on the recent meeting of CMOS Centre Chairs:** The minutes have not yet been distributed so there was no discussion.
- **Review of statement on Outreach¹ on the Ottawa Centre Website and consideration of CMOS National info on the Centres' activities in the President's Welcome²:** The Executive agreed to look at the statements on Outreach and to consider posting an updated statement. **ACTION:** Sheila Bourque will review the text and suggest modifications.
- **New student representative, U. Ottawa:** It was noted with regret that François Lapointe has stepped down as student representative for U. Ottawa for health reasons. The Centre had found him to be an excellent student representative and wished him well. **ACTION:** Barry Goodison will approach various contacts at U. Ottawa to identify a new student representative, as soon as possible.

¹ Outreach activities aimed at high school, university and post graduate students are a priority for the Ottawa Centre. We judge and provide prizes at regional science fairs in Ottawa and Gatineau

² In addition to holding the annual scientific Congress and publishing Atmosphere-Ocean and the CMOS Bulletin, our Society awards prizes and scholarships, endorses weathercasters and accredits consultants, supports participation of teachers in Project Atmosphere and Project Ocean, and issues scientific position statements. Many CMOS activities take place at the local level, at the 14 Centres across the country. Our Centres organize science and policy talks, tours, and luncheons, host talks by the CMOS Tour Speakers, provide judges for science fairs, visit schools, and award travel bursaries to students.

9. **Date of Next Meeting of the Ottawa Centre Executive**

The next meeting will take place, by Zoom, on 29 October 2020, from 10 am to noon.

10. **Adjournment**

It was moved by John Stone and seconded by Sheila Bourque to close the meeting at 11:59 am. The Chair thanked all participants for an excellent discussion, and thanked Gordon Griffith for having hosted the session.

Table 1: Talks and speakers, Sept 2020 – May 2021

Date	Day	Speaker & title of talk	Proposed by
24.09.2020	Thurs.	Dr Chris Derksen, CMOS national Tour speaker 2020: Key Findings from Canada's Changing Climate Report. See https://cmos.ca/site/ottawa	All
8.10.2020 Noon to 2 pm	Wed.	Public Online CMOS National Forum 'Coping with Extreme Weather Events Under a Changing Climate': moderated by Jim Abraham with four speakers: Gordon McBean, Peter Kimbell, David Sills and Jennifer Spinney.	CMOS national, organized by Len Barrie and Gordon McBean.
22.10.2020 Noon to 2 pm	Thurs.	Dr Jean Holloway, postdoc, University of Ottawa and Chair of APECS Canada (Association of Polar Early Career Scientists) will speak on 'Impacts of forest fire on permafrost in the discontinuous zones of northwestern Canada'.	Len Barrie
18.11.2020	Thurs.	Ms Arna Einarisdóttir will speak on 'Climate change and music, culture'	CACOR, joint event
17.12.2020	Thurs.	TBD, possibly Dr Derek Mueller, on the Milne Ice Shelf	Ada Loewen
21.01.2021	Thurs.	TBD	
18.02.2021	Thurs.	TBD	
18.03.2021	Thurs.	TBD	
22.04.2021	Thurs.	TBD	
20.05.2021	Thurs.	TBD	

Annex 1: Ottawa Centre Executive (see also <http://cmosarchives.ca/Ottawa/ottawaexecs.html>)

Position	Name	e-mail
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