

Meeting of the CMOS Ottawa Centre Executive

Date: Tuesday January 16, 2024, by zoom. Time: 15:00-16:30

Present: Leonard Barrie (Chair), Yvon Bernier, Denis Bourque, Sheila Bourque, Dawn Conway, Bob Jones, Peter Kimbell, Ann McMillan, Shiliang (Dan) Shan, Ward Smith, John Stone. Erika Brummell (student rep. U. of Ottawa) and Ada Loewen (student rep. Carleton U.) from 15:30.

Regrets: Ray Desjardins, David Grimes, Frank Johnson

1. Adoption of the agenda

The agenda was adopted. (Moved Denis Bourque; Seconded Bob Jones).

2. Adoption of the minutes of the meeting of November 15, 2023

The minutes were adopted following correction of a typo (Moved Yvon Bernier; Seconded Ann McMillan).

3. Actions arising

These are covered under appropriate agenda items.

4. Financial Update

Yvon Bernier is currently preparing the Centre's annual financial report. The excel spreadsheet will be appended to its report to CMOS. The Centre's current assets are \$11,247. This amount is based on \$11,076 at the beginning of the 2023 year, plus \$1,558 in income, minus \$1,386 in expenses. The Centre's GIC matures in November 2024.

5. Ottawa Centre Activities for 2023-2024

5 a Review of monthly lunch-hour seminars

- Craig McLean's talk on the Ocean Decade was on Tuesday November 21 and was well received. Len Barrie thanked those involved in running it and contributing to its success.
- Gilbert Brunet's talk on January 11, 2024 was entitled "Addressing Earth's Foremost Challenges: Advancing Meteorological and Climate Solutions". The talk, which was pitched at an advanced level, suffered from poor audio and will not be posted on UTube.

Upcoming talks

Michel Jean will give a talk on February 22, 2024 on the topic: "The Global Meteorological and Environmental Enterprise in the Era of Machine Learning and Artificial Intelligence: Implications for Canada." He will be introduced by David Grimes.

- Yan Boulanger will speak on March 21, 2024 on "What the Future Holds for Wildfires in a Future Climate". Peter Kimbell will introduce him.
- Joanna Dean will speak on April 18, 2024, on "Teaching Climate as a Historian". Her talk is likely to interest a broad public, including teachers.

Other potential speakers in 2024

- Ward Smith will contact Andrew VanderZaag to discuss a schedule for his talk.
- Dawn Conway will contact Craig Stewart to explore his willingness to give a talk and to explore dates for it.

Action: Ward Smith and Dawn Conway

Members were invited to suggest additional speakers and reminded that talks are every third Thursday of the month. Also, that speakers should be informed that not all attendees are specialists and talks should be targeted appropriately.

5 b Report on January 9 CMOS Centre Chairs' Meeting

The meeting included a review of plans for the next CMOS Congress, which will be held virtually, June 3-6, 2024. It is being co-hosted by the Winnipeg and the interior BC-Yukon Centres. The theme is "Extreme Events in a Changing Climate". Sixteen sessions are proposed around topics such as climate emergencies, high impact weather, critical ocean challenges, the global water crisis, the private sector, applications of Artificial Intelligence; and impacts and extremes relating to the indigenous community. There will be 4 plenary speakers and one speaker for a public session. Some Centres organize additional events of local interest.

Ada Loewen mentioned interest in the student group for an in-person event during the congress, for networking and connecting with professionals. This was endorsed by Dan Shan. Erika Brummell noted the value of live talks organized by university departments. Such events are likely to be popular, and could be moderated by an academic.

Some Centres have expressed interest in the Ottawa Centre's poll of virtual vs. in-person meetings. Denis Bourque will review this prior to release; Len Barrie will draft a covering note.

The next Centre Chairs meeting will be on March 4, 2024.

5 c CMOS Awards at Science Fairs in 2024

The Ottawa Regional Science Fair will be at Carleton University on 5-6 April, 2024. Ward Smith, Ray Desjardins, Ada Loewen and Erika Brummell will collaborate on CMOS judging.

Len Barrie noted that winners receive framed certificates and a plaque and trophy for display at the winner's school.

It was recommended that CMOS Ottawa be a 'bronze' level sponsor, as this allows display of our logo, as well as our name in the program and on the Fair's website. The Executive agreed. (Moved Yvon Bernier, Seconded Bob Jones.)

Yvon Bernier will lead CMOS judging at the Outaouais fair. Given the recent teachers' strike at Quebec schools he will update the Executive on the status of the Fair at the next meeting.

Action: Yvon Bernier.

6 Other business

The CMOS Executive Director has asked that members complete a CMOS impact survey.

The CMOS President's term is now 1 year. Len Barrie has suggested that it revert to 2 years, as was done during Jim Abraham's presidency.

6 a Elections preparation

Dawn Conway agreed to handle arrangements for a slate of nominees for the next Ottawa Executive, with the assistance of Bob Jones. This will involve preparing an initial slate of nominees by March, in consultation with members. Recommendations for new members will be finalized by early May, to submit for a vote by Ottawa members. The new slate will be sent to the CMOS Executive Director.

Action: Dawn Conway to report at the next meeting.

6 b Annual report to CMOS

We will soon be contacted by CMOS regarding the report.

Action: Len Barrie, Bob Jones and Yvon Bernier will review a first draft of the report.

6 c Recruiting new members

Some current members are ready to cede their responsibilities to other members of the Executive. This includes Denis Bourque who currently provides Web support for talks. Finding necessary expertise is thus important in proposing new members to our Executive.

7 Date of the next Executive meeting

The next meeting will be by zoom on **Tuesday February 27, 2024**, from **15:00 to 16:30** hours.

8 Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 16:30.