

Meeting of the CMOS Ottawa Centre Executive
Monday, 22 March 2021
Approved Minutes

Venue: Zoom videoconference hosted by the Ottawa Centre

Call to Order: 10:00 am

Meeting Chair: Len Barrie

Present: Len Barrie, Yvon Bernier, Dawn Conway, Ray Desjardins, Bob Jones, Helen Joseph, Leslie Malone, Ann McMillan, John Stone. and student representatives Ada Loewen (Carleton U.) and Abby Dalton (U. Ottawa). Barry Goodison was present but not actively participating.

Not present: Denis Bourque, Sheila Bourque, Michael Steeves, Paul Pestieau

Members of the Ottawa Centre Executive and web links: see **Annex 1**

1. The Chair welcomed the Executive to the meeting. It was moved by John Stone and seconded by Dawn Conway to adopt the agenda. All were in favour.
2. It was moved by Bob Jones and seconded by Yvon Bernier to approve the minutes of the meeting of 22 February 2021. All were in favour.
3. **Update on actions from the last meeting**
The following Actions were completed:
 - Denis Bourque shared instructions, captured in a tutorial¹, on how one of the Centre's Zoom administrators can resend the Zoom coordinates for a meeting to someone that has registered but cannot locate the original coordinates².
 - Ann McMillan found and shared the OCE/CACOR Letter of Agreement
 - Yvon Bernier contacted Serge Nadon for Outaouais Science Fair
 - Bob Jones shared the list of CMOS members in good standing (Ottawa Centre)
 - Helen Joseph shared the information on DFO Decade of Ocean Science for Sustainable Development

The following Action items from the January/February meetings are still pending:

 - Identify how many CMOS Ottawa members from the Kingston area are participating in the luncheon talks. DB (to discuss, item 5)
 - Contact Laura Thomson to promote participation of students and faculty at Queens U. AD (to discuss under item 8)
 - Develop a documented procedure for the Ottawa Science Fair (past and present practices) LB with BJ (to discuss under item 8)

4. Financial Report

The Treasurer reported that there were no issues or any new developments to report for the finances, including investments.

¹ The tutorial can be viewed at: <https://youtu.be/ki0f3RBLE-g> . This can be viewed by anyone, but the process can only be applied by a designated administrator.

² Please note that if a person has registered for a meeting, has received the coordinates but has lost that information, that person cannot attempt to register again for the same meeting with the same email. They will be told that that e-mail is already in use. In that event, the hopeful attendee can contact one of the Ottawa Centre Zoom administrators who can locate that protocol and resend the original sign-in link to the person.

5. Review of the Ward and Drever talks and ZOOM matters

Denis Bourque was not available for this meeting. Presentation of the analyses for the Ward and Drever talks is postponed to the next meeting. In discussion, the Executive agreed that both talks had been excellent.

6. Schedule of Speakers 2020-2021 season

The schedule of talks organized by the Centre for the remainder of the season is complete (**Table 1**). There are two talks scheduled, for 8 and 29 April, and the abstracts and bios are available for both.

For the Niemi talk on 8 April, coordination with the Winnipeg Centre is being conducted through Pat McCarthy. Helen Joseph and someone from the Winnipeg Centre will handle introductions and the Winnipeg Centre will manage the Q&A session. The Zoom link will be available soon.

Jim Abraham will introduce Laura Twidle on the 29th April. It is still being determined who will lead the Q&A session. As soon as the talk on the 8th has been held, the information on and the Zoom coordinates for the Twidle talk will be posted.

Talks for the 2021-22 season:

- The Centre will host talks on a monthly basis in the 2021-22 season (Sept through April).
- One of the talks is expected to be delivered by Elyn Humphreys, Carleton U., on Mer Bleu research. Ray Desjardins will coordinate with Dr Humphreys on scheduling.
- The Executive agreed that the talk given in February by Abby Dalton, Andrew Hamilton and Adam Garbo (all students of Luke Copland, U, Ottawa) had been excellent, and that something similar should be considered for the next season. Ada Loewen and Abby Dalton are asked to keep an eye out for such possibilities including to connect with Stefan Gruber and Chris Burn (Carleton U., permafrost) and with Jackie Dawson and her team to explore ideas. **ACTION:** Abby Dalton will contact Jackie Dawson's group to discuss a potential talk. **ACTION:** Ada Loewen will contact Stefan Gruber and Chris Burn to discuss a potential talk.
- Len Barrie is working to organize a talk on an Air Quality or Carbon Cycle research theme.
- All Members of the Executive are asked to provide to the Executive additional suggestions for discussion at subsequent meetings. Effort will be made to address gender balance and diversity of topics and disciplines.
- Bob Jones reminded the meeting that all past talks with titles and speakers are available through the Centre's archives https://cmosarchives.ca/Ottawa/index_ottawa_archives.html.

7. Elections, Ottawa Centre, 2021

Dawn Conway is leading the process to determine the slate for the 2021 election. The current Chair and Vice-chair are entering the second year of their terms in these positions. Of the other twelve elected members of the Executive, most have confirmed willingness to continue for another year. Paul Pestieau has indicated that he is willing to step down.

On 17 March, Bob Jones e-mailed Dawn Conway's message to CMOS members in good standing who are associated with the Ottawa Centre, asking for nominations (See **Annex 2**). The deadline for response is the end of March. To date there have been no replies. It was noted that of the approximately 90 CMOS members in this area, 48 are retired and 11 are students. It is hoped that there will be interest in joining the Executive, in particular from persons still working. The Centre Executive will discuss any expressions of interest and then, in early April, the final slate for election will be compiled.

Helen Joseph informed the Executive that she had forwarded the call for nominations to former colleagues at DFO, hoping that some Ocean person would step forward with interest in the Ottawa Executive.

Process for the election:

The Executive recalled that, last year, the slate for the 2020 election had been sent to Members and included a statement that a non-response would be considered as an acceptance of the slate. One person (who was briefly a CMOS member but has since stepped away) had objected to the approach (his comment was made after the election had taken place). The concern raised will be taken into account as the final steps of the election process are defined.

Roles and responsibilities of the Ottawa Centre Executive:

This is a living document that can be adjusted as needed. It is available to support discussion with any persons interested in standing for election to join the Executive, to help identify the nature of the work conducted by the Centre. All members of the Executive are encouraged to review it and, if needed, to propose amendments. The document, TORs_OttawaCentre_Mar2021.pdf, has been posted by Bob Jones in the Centre's Archives at: <https://cmosarchives.ca/Ottawa/Executive/index.html> .

8. Other business

8.1 CMOS Centre Chairs meeting of 11 March 2021

The CMOS Centre Chairs met on 11 March 2021. The formal minutes of that session will be passed on to the Executive as soon as they are available. In the meanwhile, on 18 March, Barry Goodison sent a brief informal summary of key points to the Ottawa Centre Executive.

8.2 Update on Science Fairs

Yvon Bernier reported that the first phase of the Outaouais Science Fair has been completed (the secondary school level, as of 21 March). The Primary school level will be held in early May. Yvon and Serge Nadon are the judges reviewing any CMOS-relevant projects at both levels. A full report will be completed after both phases are completed.

The Outaouais Science Fair for 2021 is virtual, using a platform 'connection.tv' which was very effective. Each participant prepared 10- to 12- minute clips of their project. This year there were only 26 projects overall, and of these, only one qualified as CMOS-relevant. That one, luckily, was very good, on the topic of Ocean acidification, and was awarded the \$200 prize. This project was also selected to advance to the provincial level in April.

It is of concern that there is a noticeable decline in recent years in the number of CMOS-relevant projects entered in the science fairs that we support. This may be because of a lower level of interest in the students or the teachers themselves but may also be related to the curriculum the schools are required to use. It was noted that CMOS has a committee, the School and Public Education Committee (SPEC), to which the Centre might raise this issue and ask what steps CMOS might be considering (or engaged in) for addressing such concerns.

ACTION: Barry Goodison will raise this issue at the next meeting of the Centre Chairs (6 May).

Ada Loewen also mentioned that she was actively engaged as a volunteer in 'LetsTalkScience' (<https://letstalkscience.ca/>). This is a national initiative, with chapters all over the country. This group recognizes a need for skilled, trained, innovative people for science, technology, engineering and mathematics (STEM) - related jobs and helps Canadian youth build the skills they need. The Executive agreed that initiatives like this will help raise interest in science – hopefully including CMOS-relevant sciences (CMOS serves the interests of meteorologists, climatologists, oceanographers, limnologists, hydrologists and cryospheric scientists in Canada).

Ray Desjardins mentioned that he had been asked by two students to advise on their project related to carbon footprinting in the food sector. He will pass on to them the information on the role of the Ottawa Centre in science fairs locally.

Len Barrie reported that he is working with Rob Langlois, one of the organizers of the Ottawa Science Fair. He, Ada Loewen and Abby Dalton will soon be registering to serve as judges. The event will be held over the period 29 March to 8 April and will be conducted virtually using Zoom. The judges will do a final review of the top-ranked projects for consideration of awards on the evening of 9 April, and the awards will be announced on the 10th. Len will inform the organizers that he (Len) will manage the awards for the CMOS winners chosen by the CMOS judges (Len, Ada and Abby). The award is likely to be \$200 for the first place project plus the trophy (to be displayed at the winner's school for the year), and \$100 for the second place project. The judges will try to collect photos of the winners and their projects.

8.3 Contact with Queens U.

Abby Dalton has written to Laura Thomson (Queens U.) regarding the Ottawa Centre and is waiting for a response. It is hoped that there will be increased interest at Queens U and at the RMC Kingston in the work of the centre – perhaps there could be interest in nominating a student representative, or a candidate for the upcoming election (keeping in mind that the Executive is currently near the max number of persons that is operationally feasible).

8.4 Pamphlets

Sheila Bourque was not available for the meeting. Discussion on this topic was deferred to a later date.

8.5 CMOS Scientific Committee

John Stone is a member of the CMOS Scientific Committee, but to his knowledge little has been going on for some time now. He asked if anyone knew the status of that Committee.

ACTION: Len Barrie offered to contact the CMOS President on the matter. **ACTION:** John Stone will pass on contact information, relevant correspondence, etc. to Len.

Bob Jones noted that information is available on the CMOS web site at (https://www_cmos.ca/site/activities/). Members of the Committee are under 'Committee Membership' and Terms of Reference are found under 'Committees'.

9. Date of Next Meeting of the Ottawa Centre Executive

The next meeting (again, virtual) will take place, by Zoom, on the afternoon of Tuesday, 4 May 2021, from 3:00 to 4:30 pm.

10. Adjournment

It was moved by Bob Jones and seconded by Ray Desjardins that the meeting adjourn at 11:06 am. The Chair thanked all participants for an excellent discussion.

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	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	Thurs.	Dr Jean Holloway, postdoc, U. Ottawa, Chair of the Association of Polar Early Career Scientists Canada: Impacts of forest fire on permafrost in the discontinuous zones of northwestern Canada.	Len Barrie
18.11.2020	Thurs.	Ms Arna Einarsdóttir: Climate change and music, culture	CACOR, joint event
17.12.2020	Thurs.	Dr Derek Mueller (Carleton U.): Cryospheric and ecological changes along Canada's northernmost coast: The Milne Ice Shelf break-up of 2020	Ada Loewen
21.01.2021	Thurs.	Dr. Konrad Gajewski (U Ottawa): Holocene climate variability of the North American Arctic and impacts on terrestrial ecosystems & human populations	Barry Goodison
18.02.2021	Thurs.	Student trio: Abby Dalton on glacier changes on SE Ellesmere, Andrew Hamilton (post-doc) on glacier-ocean interactions, and Adam Garbo (MSc) on validating and improving iceberg drift models in the CAA.	Luke Copland
24.02.2021	Wed.	CMOS Tour speaker, Dr Katja Fennel, virtual science lecture on 'Autonomous observing technology ushering in a new era in biogeochemical ocean observation and prediction'	CMOS national
03.03.2021	Wed.	CMOS Tour speaker, Dr Katja Fennel, Dalhousie U., Q&A session	CMOS national
04.03.2021	Thurs.	Mark Ward on the work of the marine research vessel Alucia	Dawn Conway
18.03.2021	Thurs.	Dr. Ron Drever on Natural Climate Solutions for Canada	Ray Desjardins
08.04.2021	Thurs.	Andrea Niemi (DFO Winnipeg): Drivers of forage species variability in the Canadian Beaufort Sea. Joint with CMOS Centre Winnipeg (co-host). We will organize.	Helen Joseph
29.04.2021	Thurs.	Laura Twidle (CatIQ Connect): The Impacts of Extreme events in Canadian Catastrophes. Tentatively joint with CACOR	Barry Goodison
May 2021		No event will be scheduled	

Annex 1: Ottawa Centre Executive 2020-2021 (<https://cmosarchives.ca/Ottawa/ottawaexecs.html>)

Position	Name	e-mail
Chair	Barry Goodison	barrygo@rogers.com
Vice-chair	Len Barrie	leonardbarrie@gmail.com
Treasurer	Yvon Bernier	ycbernier@videotron.ca
Recording Secretary	Leslie Malone	lesliemalone@rogers.com
Membership and Archives	Bob Jones	jonesb@ncf.ca
Education Co-ordinator	Sheila Bourque	sbbourque@rogers.com
Past Chair	Dawn Conway	DMConway1@gmail.com
LAC Chair, 2020 Congress	Bruce Angle	Wxangle58@gmail.com
Member-at-large	Denis Bourque	denisabourque@gmail.com
Member-at-large	Ray Desjardins	Ray.Desjardins@canada.ca
Member-at-large	Helen Joseph	macdonaldjoseph@hotmail.com
Member-at-large	Ann McMillan	mcmillan@storm.ca
Member-at-large	Paul Pestieau	Paul.Pestieau@canada.ca
Member-at-large	Michael Steeves	meridian848@gmail.com
Member-at-large	John Stone	john.stone@rogers.com
Student rep., U. Ottawa	Abigail Dalton	adalt043@uottawa.ca
Student rep., Carleton U.	Ada Loewen	ada.loewen@gmail.com

Links:

The Canadian Meteorological and Oceanographic Society: <https://www.cmos.ca/>

CMOS Ottawa Centre: <https://www.cmos.ca/site/ottawa>

Archived materials: https://cmosarchives.ca/Ottawa/index_ottawa_archives.html

Annex 2

Message sent on 17 March 2021 to CMOS members in good standing that are associated with the Ottawa Centre

Dear members of CMOS Ottawa:

At the CMOS Ottawa meeting before the annual CMOS Congress, members consider a slate of Officers and Members-at-Large to be elected to the Executive for the Centre for the upcoming year. This slate is in preparation. While many members of the current Executive are prepared to continue, there is an opportunity for one or two new members to be elected as Members-at-Large. I invite you to let me know if you wish to submit a nomination to stand for election to the Executive and if so, to provide brief information on your nominee's affiliation and areas of interest and expertise.

Meetings of the Ottawa Centre Executive are currently virtual (by Zoom). The Centre also hosts virtual "luncheon" talks, which are archived on the CMOS Ottawa website and posted on the CMOS YouTube channel. The Ottawa Centre and related organizations exchange information on their respective talks. Members-at-Large facilitate these efforts by:

- proposing speakers for the Centre's meetings;
- assisting in liaison with related bodies or coordinating talks with other CMOS Centres; and,
- providing valuable advice and input on Centre business, serving on special sub-committees for Centre projects or undertaking special studies or analyses on behalf of the Centre.

If you have any questions, comments, or nominations, please send them to **Dawn Conway, Chair of the Nominations Committee** (dmconway1@gmail.com), **by the end of March.**

Further information on the Ottawa Centre may be found at

<https://cmos.ca/site/ottawa>

and

http://cmosarchives.ca/Ottawa/index_ottawa_archives.html.

Many thanks and stay well.

Dawn Conway
Chair, Nominations Committee