



Meeting of the CMOS Ottawa Centre Executive

Thursday, 26 November 2020

Approved Minutes

Venue: Zoom videoconference hosted by the Ottawa Centre

Call to Order: 10:04 am

Chair: Barry Goodison

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

Present: Len Barrie, Yvon Bernier, Dawn Conway, Ray Desjardins, Barry Goodison, Bob Jones, Helen Joseph, Leslie Malone, Ann McMillan, and student representative Ada Loewen (Carleton U.).

Not present: Denis Bourque, Sheila Bourque, Bruce Angle, Paul Pestieau, Michael Steeves, John Stone.

1. The Chair welcomed the Executive to the meeting. The agenda was unanimously adopted.

2. One correction was proposed to the draft minutes of the past meeting. It was moved by Helen Joseph and seconded by Yvon Bernier to approve the minutes of the meeting of 29 October 2020 with that correction included. All were in favour.

3. Update on actions assigned at the previous meeting

The meeting noted that all but one Action from the meeting of 1 October had been completed. Ray Desjardins updated the meeting that he was planning to contact the CMOS Bulletin regarding publishing an article on sky cover data within the next week.

4. Financial Report

Yvon Bernier informed this meeting that the cheque for the annual subvention (\$873) had been received from CMOS National, and that it had been deposited in the Centre's account. The transfer of signing authority has not yet taken place.

Yvon confirmed that the funds were in place to reimburse Denis Bourque for the cost of the Zoom license.

The Centre agreed that it would be prudent to ensure some redundancy in the system regarding the Centre's financial setup and processes. **ACTION:** Yvon Bernier will provide backup information to the Chair and several cheques that can be used in the event that the Treasurer might be unavailable when a transaction is required.

5. Review of Previous talks (participation, feedback, lessons learned)

5.1 David Phillips, 17 November 2020

This session was co-hosted by the Toronto Centre (Amir Shabbar) and by the Ottawa Centre (Denis Bourque and Barry Goodison) and was very well received. The Executive discussed the report submitted by Denis Bourque. It was noted that 353 persons registered, and that 243 persons signed in for some or all of the session. Of the latter, 104 (43%) were CMOS

members (including 11 who are CMOS Student Members), and 52 (21%) were students (include the 11 CMOS Student Members). The speaker briefly lost his internet connection, but that was resolved after several minutes. Only 12 attendees dropped out during the interruption. During the session, some participants were using the tool for annotating the screen. Others used the chat function as if they were texting. Some found this annoying and disruptive.

For future sessions hosted by the Ottawa Centre, it was agreed the host should disallow participants from annotating the screen (reserving this for the speaker, if needed). It was further agreed that there needs to be a plan - steps to follow - in the event of a loss of power or internet. The host, for example, should ensure that the speaker has a cell phone at hand during the talk (land lines may not function in a power outage), and that several persons including the host should have the cell number.

The video recordings of 4 talks, including the Phillips talk, are now available on the CMOS YouTube site.

5.2 Arna Einarsdóttir (CACOR/CMOS), 18 November

CACOR hosted this talk – a joint session with CMOS. There were 60 participants, some international. The talk was interesting and was well received.

It was noted that Madeleine Aubrey will be stepping down from her role as liaison with CMOS. Ann McMillan indicated that she also would be stepping down as our liaison to CACOR. Members of both CACOR and CMOS Ottawa include Bob Jones, Bill Pugsley and John Hollins.

ACTION: Bob Jones will contact CACOR to initiate discussion on future liaison.

6. Update on CMOS Ingenium cooperation

Leslie Malone briefed the Executive on the results of the initial discussions with Ingenium staff that took place on 10 November 2020 (see **Annex 2** for the report). The discussions were introductory but revealed important common interests. There certainly is an interest in collaboration on both sides, although the constraints due to the pandemic will likely affect progress at first.

There are possibilities for collaboration at each of the three Ingenium campuses. There is a possible Agriculture/climate avenue to explore, including making better use of the ECCC RCS installation at the Agriculture and Food Museum. Bob Jones noted that there is a complete aviation/meteorology display, currently archived, that could be brought out and updated for the Aviation and Space Museum. The climate and climate change information in the current Science and Technology Museum is a candidate for review and updating.

The next meeting is likely to be in January 2021.

7. Schedule of Speakers 2020-2021 season

7.1 17 December, Derek Mueller (Carleton), on the Milne Ice Shelf

The upcoming talk has been advertised on the meeting web page, with title, abstract and the speaker's bio. Dr Muller last spoke to the Ottawa Centre in 2011. Setting up the registration for the talk is in progress. The Executive decided that the Centre would continue to advertise talks in both English and French. Introductions and the Q&A session will be looked after by Ada Loewen and Dawn Conway.

7.2 Future speakers including local and non-local candidates

The executive agreed to follow up and arrange to schedule the following speakers:

- A **student trio** suggested by Luke Copland, U Ottawa: joint talk on glacier-ocean-iceberg dynamics in the Canadian Arctic. **Abby Dalton** could talk about her work on glacier changes on SE Ellesmere, which would connect to **Andrew Hamilton** (post-

doc) talking about glacier-ocean interactions, and then to **Adam Garbo** (MSc) talking about his work on validating and improving iceberg drift models in the CAA. **ACTION:** Barry Goodison, potentially for Jan/Feb 2021

- **Konrad Gajewski**, U Ottawa, on “Postglacial climates of the North American Arctic”, or: “Postglacial environments of the North American Arctic & Subarctic”, including discussion of how arctic ecosystems and human populations were impacted by this climate variability. A coherent story has emerged in the past few years on the space-time changes in climates across the North American Arctic. Dr Gajewski last spoke in 2009. **ACTION:** Barry Goodison, potentially for Jan/Feb 2021.
- **Andrea Niemi**, DFO, on Ocean Acidification. **ACTION:** Helen Joseph, potentially for March/April 2021. It might be possible to co-host this talk with the Winnipeg Centre.
- **Elyn Humphreys**, Carleton, on Mer Bleu research. **ACTION:** Ray Desjardins, likely for autumn 2021.

The CMOS Tour speaker 2021 will likely be in February but has not yet been scheduled. There is no information yet available on the SCOR Tour speaker 2020/21, but Helen Joseph is following up with Paul Meyers.

The following speakers/topics are tentatively possible, and early discussions are in progress:

- Ron Drever on Natural Climate Solutions for Canada (RD) – Ray is in touch with Mr Drever – waiting for the paper to be accepted before discussing possible dates for a talk (possibly spring?).
- COVID-19 and AQ (LB)
- Mark Ward (DC) – Dawn has approached Mark for a talk on the work of his research vessel, including in the Canadian Arctic. A date may depend on when his ship is in Canadian waters.
- speakers from Queens U and RMC (BG, HJ) – initiated, but no progress so far.
- A talk on private sector met/climate issues including client requirements and risk management. (BG)

The Executive noted that CMOS will be hosting the 2021 joint session with CACOR (possibly in April) and agreed that, as ideas are generated for speakers, we should keep in mind topics that would be interesting to both CMOS and CACOR (e.g. a talk on risk management for floods, earthquakes, etc. in Canada). Further consideration of this will follow at the next meeting.

8. Other business

8.1 New U. Ottawa student representative(s)

The Ottawa Centre Executive has been seeking a new student representative from U. Ottawa. The Chair noted that Abigail Dalton was recently proposed by Luke Copland and that she would be happy to take on the task. Ms Dalton is currently working on a project looking at glacier changes and iceberg drift in the Canadian Arctic, co-supervised by Luke Copland and Wesley Van Wychen. See: <https://cryospheric.org/people/abigail-dalton/>.

Given that Ms Dalton is a CMOS member and has her supervisor’s support in place, all agreed that she should be invited. **ACTIONS:** Barry Goodison will invite Ms Dalton to be our student representative for U. Ottawa and, on her acceptance, will inform the Chair of CMOS National Student Committee. **ACTION:** Bob Jones will update the mailing list for the Centre’s Executive and notify the Corresponding Secretary.

8.2 New CMOS web site

Members of the Executive have serious concerns with the new web site, in both English and French versions, and noted that it is unclear to whom to address concerns. Earlier, Ann McMillan and Bob Jones had been on the Committee for the web site redesign, but that had petered out with the changeover of the National Executive after Congress this year. **ACTION:** Barry Goodison will contact CMOS National to ask the status of the web committee and to whom to address comments.

8.3 New CMOS web-based survey on the Strategic Plan

Feedback from those that have completed the survey on the draft Strategic Plan noted dissatisfaction with the wording of some of the questions and with the rating system.

With respect to the draft Strategic Plan itself, it was noted that it was not very strategic, and without an accompanying Action Plan, there would be no way to set benchmarks and track progress in improving any aspects of CMOS.

8.4 Ottawa Centre mailing lists – protocols for amending and use

As was discussed with respect to the Centre's finances, the Executive also considered creating some redundancy with respect to the Centre's contact lists. At present there are more than 320 contacts in the dataset managed by Bob Jones. The centre agreed that it would be sensible to have the mailing list backed up by another member of the Executive. **ACTION:** Bob Jones will send the mailing list to Leslie Malone as a backup, with guidance on upkeep and use.

8.5 Outreach to and engagement of early career scientists

Len Barrie has contacted Jean Holloway and she is willing to discuss outreach and engagement of early career scientists with the Executive. **ACTION:** Len Barrie will set up a Zoom session with Dr Holloway, to include Barry Goodison, Ada Loewen and (if she can) Abby Dalton.

8.6 Review of statement on Outreach on the Ottawa Centre Website

This item was deferred to the next meeting when Sheila Bourque is present.

8.7 Activities of the Student Representative

Ada Loewen informed the Executive that she had taken part in a meeting of the student representatives (organized by CMOS National) on Tuesday 24 November. One topic discussed was setting up a career panel for the Victoria Congress (2021).

9. Date of Next Meeting of the Ottawa Centre Executive

The next meeting will take place, by Zoom, on 22 December 2020, from 10 am to noon.

10. Adjournment

The meeting closed at 11:37 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 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.	Dr Derek Mueller, on the Milne Ice Shelf	Ada Loewen
21.01.2021	Thurs.	Discussions in progress	Barry Goodison
18.02.2021	Thurs.	Discussions in progress	Barry Goodison
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
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	Pending	
Student rep., Carleton U.	Ada Loewen	ada.loewen@gmail.com

Annex 2

Avenues for possible collaboration between Ingenium¹ and the CMOS² Ottawa Centre

Meeting 1, hosted by Michel Labrecque by Zoom

10 November 2020

Participants:

Michel Labrecque	Assistant Curator, Physical Sciences and Medicine; Associate Editor, Ingenium Chanel	mlabrecque@ingeniumcanada.org
Corrie Bouskill	Interpretation Officer, Canada Science and Technology Museum	cbouskill@ingeniumcanada.org
Michelle Campbell Mekarski	Science Advisor, Canada Science and Technology Museum	mcampbell_mekarski@ingeniumcanada.org
Valerie Lefebvre	Education Coordinator, Canada Science and Technology Museum	vlefebvre@ingeniumcanada.org
John Gilbert	Member of the Education and Outreach Committee for the CMOS Ottawa Centre Executive	johngilber@gmail.com
Sheila Bourque	ECCC ³ (Ret. – Public Education Meteorologist), Former Director, Education and Training, CMOS; Education Coordinator for the CMOS Ottawa Centre Executive	sbbourque@rogers.com
Leslie Malone	ECCC (Ret.), WMO ⁴ (Ret.), Secretary to the CMOS Ottawa Centre Executive	lesliemalone@rogers.com

This meeting aimed to open a discussion - begin an exchange of ideas - on areas of possible cooperation between Ingenium and the CMOS Ottawa Centre (with a view to eventually involve CMOS National) on matters related to education and science on themes of mutual interest (weather, climate and oceans and application of these themes to key sectors, such as agriculture). The Chair of the meeting, M. Labrecque, noted that the three museum campuses⁵ have been open since August, but that many Museum functions are curtailed (given the pandemic) and there may be limited opportunity at present for new projects.

¹ Ingenium – Canada’s Museums of Science and Innovation: <https://ingeniumcanada.org/>

² The Canadian Meteorological and Oceanographic Society: <https://www.cmos.ca/>

³ Environment and Climate Change Canada (ECCC)

⁴ World Meteorological Organization (WMO)

⁵ Canada Agriculture and Food Museum; Canada Aviation and Space Museum; Canada Science and Technology Museum

The Ingenium staff described current activities (some of which have been modified by the constraints due to the pandemic). These include programming, activities with school groups, development of floor demonstrations, staff training, hosting birthday parties; hosting an instrument display (meteorological instruments) and development of the stories associated with those artifacts; development of travelling exhibitions such as Earth in Focus (on Earth observations) and collaborations with various organizations. “Curiosity on Stage” is an adult outreach activity, bringing important science figures to a public audience to explain their technologies (talks are generally 45 minutes, plus Q&A). There is also a family component of short (10 minute) educational videos. Every 2 months there is a public trivia night, hosted by a special guest. There is an Ingenium Channel⁶ to which articles can be submitted. There are field trips (currently virtual). There have been collaborative efforts with DFO, on the technologies used to explore the oceans. Their virtual Weather programme is currently being updated. There is a floor display on climate change. Ingenium also has a library⁷. Ideas for contributions (in E/F) are welcome.

Sheila Bourque provided some background on CMOS, noting that the Society was established as the Canadian Meteorological Society in 1967 and became the Canadian Meteorological and Oceanographic Society in 1975. The CMOS Bulletin (news, articles and events) is published every two months. Peer-reviewed science papers are published through Atmosphere-Ocean. CMOS has an interest in reaching out to the public, through schools, and through science-focused organizations such as museums, to promote meteorology and oceanography. CMOS offers scholarships. As well, CMOS sponsors local science fairs through its fourteen centres (one of which is the Ottawa Centre). The Ottawa centre sponsors luncheon talks, and CMOS national is now also organizing talks on topics of interest to both the science community, and the interested public.

Clearly there are opportunities to engage in outreach activities of mutual interest – lectures, artifacts, exhibits, etc. Opportunities should increase as the pandemic wanes. To start with, Ingenium is interested in the upcoming talk (Zoom) by David Phillips. **ACTION:** Sheila will provide the link to the information on the upcoming CMOS and CACOR talks to the Ingenium staff.

The meeting agreed to continue sharing ideas, with another meeting in about two weeks. **ACTION:** Michel Labrecque will organize a second meeting and inform the group.

⁶ The stories behind the science: <https://ingeniumcanada.org/channel>

⁷ The library Catalogue: <http://clio.technomuses.ca/ipac20/ipac.jsp?profile=>