

Meeting of the CMOS Ottawa Centre Executive
Monday, 4 May 2021
Approved Minutes

Venue: Zoom videoconference hosted by the Ottawa Centre

Call to Order: 3:00 PM

Meeting Chair: Barry Goodison

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

Not present: Ray Desjardins, Michael Steeves, Paul Pestieau. Abby Dalton (student representative, U. Ottawa) sent her regrets

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 Yvon Bernier and seconded by Bob Jones to adopt the agenda. All were in favour.
2. It was moved by Denis Bourque and seconded by Helen Joseph to approve the minutes of the meeting of 22 March 2021. All were in favour.
3. **Update on actions from the last meeting**

All election matters are ongoing – see item 7 below for updates on progress.

Action items from the January/February meetings 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, item 9)
- Develop a documented procedure for the Ottawa Science Fair (past and present practices) LB with BJ (to discuss, item 8)

Action items from the 22 March meeting with status:

Agend a item	Assigned To	To do	Status
6	Abby Dalton	Contact Jackie Dawson's group for a talk for the 2021-22 season	To discuss, item 6
6	Ada Loewen	Contact Stefan Gruber and Chris Burn for a talk for the 2021-22 season	To discuss, item 6
8.2	Barry Goodison	At the next Centre Chairs meeting, discuss decline in CMOS-relevant projects at local science fairs	Due 6 May. Will report at the next meeting
8.5	John Stone	Pass on contact information for and correspondence with the CMOS Scientific Committee to Len Barrie	To discuss, item 9
8.5	Len Barrie	Contact CMOS to find out the status of the Scientific Committee	To discuss, item 9

4. Financial Report

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

5. Recent talks and ZOOM matters

- a) the Ward and Drever talks, Zoom management (4 & 18 March resp.)
 - For the talk by Mark Ward (4 March 2021): 53 screens participated in the session. 29 (55%) of these were CMOS members; 3 (6%) were Students; 1 of these students are amongst the 29 CMOS Members. 66 registrations were recorded, therefore, 80% attended.
 - The Drever talk is still not posted on YouTube, pending publication of Dr. Drever's paper. There were 49 participants (half of them were CMOS members); 79 had registered; 69% participation which is in line with other talks.

- b) the Niemi and Twidle talks (8 and 29 April, resp.)
 - For the talk by Andrea Niemi (8 April): 35 screens participated in the session. 21 (60%) of these were CMOS members; 3 (9%) were Students; 1 of these students are amongst the 21 CMOS Members. 45 registrations were recorded, therefore, 78% attended.
 - For the talk by Laura Twidle (29 April): 81 screens participated in the session. 47 (58%) of these were CMOS members (the lowest of all the talks); 25 were from Private sector and 12 from academia; 5 (6%) were Students; 3 of these students are amongst the 47 CMOS Members. 107 registrations were recorded, therefore, 76% attended.

- c) CMOS Ottawa members from the Kingston area participating in the luncheon talks

The Executive was reminded of how this query started. It was meant to gauge the level of interest of people from that area (including those at Queens U and RMC Kingston) in CMOS, particularly in the activities of the CMOS Ottawa Centre. The Kingston area falls within the scope of the Ottawa Centre, but the Centre does not have student representatives from Queens or the RMC, nor extensive interaction with students and faculty there. Persons that participate in the virtual talks might be interested in stronger engagement with the Ottawa Centre.

Denis noted that it is actually difficult to answer this question based on information available from participants at the virtual talks. E-mail addresses used can be g-mail and other types that say nothing about affiliation or location of the user. Also people sometimes use e-mail addresses of universities even if they are not currently active with these institutions. Bob Jones noted that of the CMOS members affiliated with the Ottawa Centre (approx. 93), three are from the Kingston area.

In general discussion, the number of private sector participants at the Twidle talk was interesting, and perhaps more effort could be made to reach out to them for stronger engagement with the Ottawa Centre. The work undertaken by Ada Loewen and Abby Dalton to communicate CMOS and the Ottawa Centre's activities to students and faculty at CarletonU and U. Ottawa and more broadly to their networks is very helpful. An e-mail survey to participants on the virtual talks, to ask about offers to give talks, or generate ideas for talks they would like to hear could potentially be of benefit. First, the Centre should mine information from the talks this season to develop ideas. **ACTION:** Denis will review the talks held this 2020-21 season and will provide his analysis to the Executive at the next meeting.

6. Schedule of Speakers 2020-2021 season and beyond

All talks organized by the Centre for the 2020-21 season have been completed (See **Table 1**). For the 2021-22 season, many suggestions (some quite tentative at present) were made. The Executive will continue to propose topics and speakers with the objective of firming up and scheduling at least 4 talks for the Sept-Dec period later this year. Some ideas may arise from the talks scheduled for the upcoming Congress in Victoria. It was recognized that March and April are particularly busy times for students and that, in general, one talk per month should be enough to manage.

It was decided that this activity would be managed over the next several months, with a review of progress at the next meeting. **ACTION:** Leslie will assemble a list of those suggestions already discussed and circulate it to the Executive. **ACTION:** All members of the Executive will propose amendments and additions to that list and be prepared to select from the options at the next meeting.

As to past Actions, Abby has not yet spoken with Jackie Dawson's group, and Ada Loewen has not yet contacted Profs Gruber and Burn. These actions are still pending.

7. Elections, Ottawa Centre, 2021

Dawn Conway informed the Executive that she had contacted all current CMOS Members in good standing associated with the Ottawa Centre; presented the proposed slate; and asked for nominations. No comments or nominations have been offered. Dawn also contacted every current elected member of the Ottawa Executive, to see who wished to continue and who preferred to step down. Only Paul Pestieau wished to step down.

The slate, then, for the 2021-22 period is:

Chair	Barry Goodison ¹
Vice-Chair	Leonard Barrie ²
Past Chair	Dawn Conway
Secretary	Leslie Malone
Treasurer	Yvon Bernier
Membership & Archives	Bob Jones
Zoom Manager	Denis Bourque
Education Coordinator	Sheila Bourque
Member-at-large	Ray Desjardins
Member-at-large	Helen Joseph
Member-at-large	Ann McMillan
Member-at-large	Michael Steeves
Member-at-large	John Stone

The Executive was very pleased that the student representatives, Abigail (Abby) Dalton from U. Ottawa, and Ada Loewen from Carleton U. have agreed to continue in these roles for another year.

The next step in this process would either be to present this list to the Members and hold an election or to adopt this by acclamation. Given that there was no response from the Members (i.e. no objections raised, and no additions proposed), the Executive unanimously agreed the slate should be acclaimed as stated above. **ACTIONS:** Dawn Conway will prepare a message to Members informing of this decision, noting that all members had been consulted, and Bob Jones will disseminate it.

¹ Elected in 2020 for a two-year term

² Elected in 2020 for a two-year term

8. Science Fairs 2021

Yvon Bernier reminded the Executive that the Science Fair in Outaouais is in two parts. The first phase (secondary school level) was completed on 21 March. The second phase (primary school level) will be completed by 9 May. He and Serge Nadon are the judges representing the CMOS Ottawa Centre. After both phases have been completed, a full report with the details will be prepared. **ACTION:** Yvon Bernier will prepare a report on the 2021 Outaouais Science Fair and submit it to the Executive.

Len Barrie, Abby Dalton and Ada Loewen represented the Ottawa Centre as judges for the Ottawa Science Fair CMOS award. In addition, Abby and Ada registered as general judges for any project presented at the science fair. Ada said there was a good range of topics covered overall, and that participating had been a good experience.

The CMOS Awards for best projects related to weather, climate, oceans and environment were:

Winner: Joshua Auer (Ashbury College)
project 1203 'Clean energy from dirty bananas'.

Runner-up: Anerie Patel (Cedarview Middle School)
project 1301 'How the greenhouse effect affects plant growth'

Len noted that delivery of the cash awards is in progress.

The trophy will need to have the plaque engraved after the pandemic restrictions are lifted. Presentation of the trophy will take place after that. Len is developing a certificate to present to the winners. The Executive agreed to the purchase of frames for the certificates. These can be bought at Michaels. **ACTION:** Denis will send the SKU to Len for a basic frame.

ACTIONS: Len will finalize the certificates, purchase two frames, and mail the framed certificates to the award winners.

9. Other business

9.1 Contact with Queens U.

Abby Dalton (not present) updated the Chair prior to the meeting on having had no response yet from Laura Thomson (Queens U.) regarding the interaction with the Ottawa Centre. While waiting for contact with Dr Thompson, it was agreed to reach out to other contacts at Queens. **ACTION:** John Stone will write to John Smol to gauge interest in developing a closer relationship between Queens U and the Ottawa Centre.

9.2 Pamphlets

Sheila Bourque proposed verifying with ECCC that they would allow re-publication of any of the content in the old pamphlets and to contact Jim Abraham to ask whether CMOS National might be interested in getting involved. It was noted that the CMOS Committee on School and Public Education (SPEC) might be relevant to this. **ACTION:** Sheila will contact Jim Abraham to discuss the pamphlets (e.g. updating, revising, re-publishing).

9.3 CMOS Scientific Committee

The CMOS Scientific Committee is identified on the CMOS web site, along with its Terms of Reference. One activity normally undertaken by the Scientific Committee is in selection of scholarship winners. Another is the development of CMOS position statements on climate. John Stone is a member of that Committee but has not had recent information on it or seen any activity by that Committee. The Executive were reminded that in the recent efforts by CMOS National to hold a Governance Review, and to update its Strategic Plan and Implementation Plan, CMOS plans to review all current committees and look at any that might

have fallen dormant. **ACTION:** Barry Goodison will raise this at the upcoming Centre Chairs meeting.

10. Date of Next Meeting of the Ottawa Centre Executive

It was noted that the CMOS Annual General Meeting (AGM) is scheduled for 22 June 2021. The next meeting for the Centre (again, virtual) will take place, by Zoom, on the afternoon of Tuesday, 29 June 2021, from 3:00 to 4:30 pm.

10. Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 16:50. 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.	Barry Goodison
May 2021		No event will be scheduled	

NB:

CMOS Congress, 31 May-11 June, 2021, virtual: <https://congress.cmos.ca/index.html>
CMOS AGM, 22 June 2021, virtual:

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
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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