

Canadian Association of Elizabeth Fry Societies
Minutes of the Annual General Meeting
June 5, 2010 – Days Inn, Sydney, Nova Scotia

1. Identification of Participants

a) Voting Members

Lucie Joncas, President
Cathie Penny, Treasurer
Ailsa Watkinson, Past President
Mollie Both, Kamloops
Aimee Thompson, Central Okanagan
Toni Sinclair, Edmonton
Bonnie Parker, Edmonton
Jackie Horejsi, Edmonton
Leanne Kilby, Hamilton
Jo-Ann Wemmers, Quebec
Darlene MacEachern, Cape Breton
Wilma van der Veen, Central Okanagan
Aimee Thompson, Central Okanagan
Ruth Gagnon, Quebec Regional Advocate
Diana Majury, Ottawa
Tricia Haggarty, Calgary
Marianna Stack, Saint John
Nancy Poon, Saskatchewan
Michelle Coombs, Toronto
Nicole Farmer, Nova Scotia
Erin Bellavance, Thunder Bay
Judy Garneau, Kitchener-Waterloo

Jennifer Harrington, Vice-President
Sue Dunlop, Secretary
Maureen Schizkoske, Sudbury
Jodi Richard, Sudbury
Tracy Booth, Manitoba
Louise Richards, Kamloops
Linda Slavin, Peterborough
Joan Corrigan, Peterborough
Cheryl Stapleton, Manitoba
Cindy Chaisson, Yukon
Sarah Carroll, Kamloops
Jeannette Milley, Nova Scotia
Carlene Graham, Thunder Bay
Bryonie Baxter, Ottawa
Kathi Heim, Prince George
Denise Durette, Saint John
Caroleen Wright, Saskatchewan
Joan White, Toronto
Terri Soukup, Simcoe County
Diane Durnford, Nova Scotia
Paula King, Simcoe County
Sarah Davis, Ottawa

b) Regrets

Bernice Perkins, OOHL Representative
Carley Parish, New Brunswick
Susan Witter, Vancouver

Chickadee Richards, Manitoba
Shawn Bayes, Vancouver
Deborah Riddle, Peel-Halton

c) Staff

Kim Pate, Executive Director

d) Observers

Ann Allen, Cape Breton
Evelyn Headley Boutlier, Cape Breton

Jane Mills, Cape Breton
Patricia Ganaway, Cape Breton

Margaret Ann MacKinnon, Cape Breton
Susan Hornby, Emerging P.E.I.
Shannon Murray, Emerging P.E.I.
Lynne Yetman, Nova Scotia
Wanda Mallows, Nova Scotia
Jennifer Oades, Deputy Commissioner for Women, Correctional Service of Canada
Lisa Allgaier, Director General, Aboriginal Initiatives, Correctional Service of Canada
Peter Wickwire, Nova Scotia Area Director, Correctional Service of Canada
Sue Coatham, Calgary Parole & Community Strategy, Correctional Service of Canada

Julie Kendall, Cape Breton
Sonia Gaudry, Emerging P.E.I.
Heather MacKenzie, Nova Scotia
Mary Young, Nova Scotia

2. Reading of Mission Statement

Jennifer Harrington read out the Mission Statement of CAEFS in English and Lucie Joncas la lit en français.

3. Motion to Approve the Agenda

Appendix I

Motion: That the agenda of the Annual General Meeting be accepted with the addition of the ad hoc Housing Committee report.

Moved by Terri Soukup; seconded by Judy Garneau; carried unanimously.

4. Motion to Approve the Minutes of the May 2009 AGM

Appendix II

Motion: That the minutes of the Annual General Meeting held on May 23, 2009 in Ottawa, Ontario, be adopted as tabled.

Moved by Paula King; seconded by Cindy Chaisson; carried unanimously.

5. Annual Report 2009 – 2010

a) President's Report

Appendix III

Lucie Joncas welcomed and acknowledged the AGM participants. Lucie reviewed some of the legislative revisions that have been passed, as well as those pieces of legislation that are pending. Lucie also urged the membership to review the recent law society report and ensure that all women apply for bail, as judges still have the discretion to award additional time

Motion: That the President's Report be accepted as tabled.

Moved by Jennifer Harrington; seconded by Erin Bellavance; carried unanimously.

b) Treasurer's Report

Appendix IV

Cathie reviewed her written report and the audited financial statements for CAEFS with the membership.

i) **Approval of Financial Decisions and Payments of the Past Fiscal Year**

Motion: That the membership accept the Treasurer's Report, including confirmation and approval of all financial decisions and payments made on behalf of CAEFS over the past fiscal year, and the audited financial statements, as corrected, for CAEFS for the fiscal year 2009-2010.

Moved by Cathie Penny; seconded by Diana Majury; carried unanimously.

ii) **Appointment of Auditors**

Motion: That Moore Vallance Chartered Accountants be appointed as the auditors for CAEFS for the fiscal year, April 1, 2010–March 31, 2011.

Moved by Cathie Penny; seconded by Tricia Haggarty; carried unanimously.

c) Executive Director's Report

Appendix V

In addition to her written report, Kim reported orally.

Kim thanked Cathie, Darlene, Jane, Ann and the rest of the E Fry Cape Breton team for inviting the membership to Sydney, as well as for organizing the AGM. Kim also thanked the CAEFS' Board and membership, as well as the Correctional Service of Canada representatives who joined us for the CAEFS AGM.

Kim gave various examples of the strength and leadership within our network and encouraged the membership to continue to take strong, positive positions and to hold accountable the politicians who are making short-sighted and irresponsible decisions. She also highlighted the collective experience and expertise of the women involved in the CAEFS network, all of which she encouraged the membership to reflect upon, when considering the incredible richness and diversity of our network.

Kim thanked and recognized the particular contributions of the Regional Advocacy Teams. The 17 Regional Advocates all do the advocacy work off the sides of their desks. They make monthly visits to the regional prisons, in addition to the follow up with the women and staff in the prisons. The entire CAEFS membership also asked that the minutes reflect the appreciation and thanks of the CAEFS Board and membership for the incredibly valuable contributions of all of the CAEFS Regional Advocates. The Regional Advocates are requested to share this expression of appreciation with their local Boards of Directors and to thank their Boards for supporting the regional advocacy work they do.

Motion: That the Annual Report be accepted as tabled and presented.

Moved by Sue Dunlop; seconded by Terri Soukup; carried unanimously.

e) Regional Reports

Appendix VI

i. Okimaw Ohci Healing Lodge

Caroleen Wright presented the written report on behalf of Bernice Perkins, the Healing Lodge Representative.

ii. Prairie Regional Report

Caroleen Wright reported on behalf of the Prairie Regional Advocate Team.

iii. Pacific Regional Report

Mollie Both and Louise Richards reported on behalf of the Regional Advocate Team for the Pacific Region.

iv. Ontario Regional Report

Leanne Kilby reported on behalf of the Regional Advocate Team for the Ontario Region.

v. Quebec Regional Report

Ruth Gagnon reviewed her report in English for the membership.

vi. Atlantic Regional Report

Darlene MacEachern presented the Atlantic report on behalf of the Atlantic Regional Advocate Team, the Atlantic Advocacy Committee.

Motion: The Regional Reports be accepted as presented.

Moved by Nancy Poon; seconded by Diana Majury; carried unanimously.

f) Committee Reports

i. Social Action

Louise Richards and Jo-Anne Wemmers, co-chairs of the Social Action Committee, reviewed the revised terms of reference and work plan for the Committee. The CAEFS membership requested that the Committee develop a plan as to how to address issues arising within provincial and territorial prisons.

ii. Diversity Concerns

Sue Dunlop, chair of the Diversity Concerns Committee, reported on the results of the diversity survey and the call for women with lived experience to be nominated to attend CAEFS Board meetings. Approximately 1/3 of the members responded to the survey and the majority of the members who responded to the survey indicated that they had some limited diversity in terms of race, disability and women with the lived experience. Sue only received the names of two women with lived experience, so the Committee encouraged the regions to nominate additional women.

iii. Regionalization

Diana Majury, took up the role of the chair of the Regionalization Committee when she replaced Barb Ryner on the CAEFS' Board. Diana thanked Barb for her work on this Committee, as well as the Ontario Region. The Committee is also working on a more equitable distribution of the Regional Development monies, to accommodate the disproportionately large number of federally sentenced women in the Prairie Region, the existence of three federal regions and only four Elizabeth Fry societies to address the regional advocacy requirements of the women in the Prairie region.

iv. Membership, AGM and Bursary

Mollie Both, chair of the Membership, AGM and Bursary Committee, thanked the EFS of Cape Breton for their sponsorship of the AGM this year.

Mollie also welcomed the emerging Elizabeth Fry Society developing in Prince Edward Island and encouraged them to complete their application process. EFS Saint John is sistering the PEI group and Kim will follow up with the group this summer again during her vacation.

Mollie also reported that the Committee received a number of bursary applications from women. She thanked the membership for the additional funds donated to the Elizabeth Fry memorial Bursary Fund by the membership. She also encouraged the membership to raise funds by increasing their bids for the silent auction. The Committee award the following women Elizabeth Fry Memorial bursaries:

Atlantic – Crystal Dawn Struthers

Quebec – Stephanie Gignac
Deborah Kopelman

Ontario - Tracy Lee Thornbury
Candace Pitvor

Prairies - Elissa Stick
RoseLynn Weeseekase

Pacific - Ronda Black
Bobby Lee Worm

v. Housing Committee

Jennifer Harrington and Paula King, co-chairs of the Housing Committee, reported on the very positive nature of the Housing Forum in May in Ottawa. The membership is encouraged to review the community release papers on the CAEFS web site.

Motion: That the committee reports be accepted as tabled and presented.

Moved by Ailsa Watkinson; seconded by Tricia Haggarty; carried unanimously.

6. Resolutions

Appendix VII

EFS Saskatchewan presented the resolution that was circulated to the CAEFS Membership in advance of the Annual General Meeting to endorse the Joint Statement on the Physical Punishment of Children and Youth.

Moved by Ailsa Watkinson; seconded by Terri Soukup; carried unanimously.

Jennifer Harrington and Leanne Kilby reported that the CAEFS Board passed the following motion at the Outgoing Meeting last evening:

Prison Liaison Workers

Motion: In order to off the equitable access of service to all federally sentenced women across Canada, the Executive Directors of CAEFS' membership request:

The CAEFS Board put forward a motion to the membership that CAEFS apply for a national prison liaison contract with the Correctional Service of Canada in order to administer the funds for a Prison Liaison Program for federally sentenced women across Canada to offer equitable access to service for all federally sentenced women.

CAEFS will only negotiate such an agreement if CAEFS members who presently receive funds to administer prison liaison services would not receive any less than they are now receiving and new funding would result in equitable cross-country distribution.

Moved by Leanne Kilby; seconded by Sue Dunlop; carried unanimously.

7. **Ten Year Volunteer and Staff Announcements**

Appendix VIII

The names of volunteers and staff listed were read out and certificates were distributed.

8. **Board of Directors for 2010-2011**

Appendix IX

The CAEFS' Board bid farewell to Dominique Larochelle, Barb Ryner and Chickadee Richards; and welcomed Diana Majury and Bonnie Parker to the Board.

9. **Date and Location of 2010 – 2011 Annual General Meeting**

The CAEFS' membership welcomed the offer of the Elizabeth Fry Society of Hamilton.

10. **Other Business**

a) **Report from the Meeting of the Executive Directors**

The Executive Directors reported that they discussed a number of issues and that they are consequently looking forward to:

- participating in the development of the roll-out of the community support strategies for federally sentenced women,
- funding for the Creating Choices 20th anniversary public events,
- federal prison liaison funding and
- provincial advocacy work.

b) **Please donate to the Justice for Levis Fund**

Ruth Schaeffer's son, Levi, was a young man with mental health issues. He was shot by the police and Ruth and her family are pursuing justice to remedy the wrongful death of her son.

c) **EFS Vancouver**

The concern raised by EFS Vancouver regarding the circulation of the Terms of Reference of the Social Action Committee and the Resolution were acknowledged, although the membership confirmed that in both instances, the information was, in fact, circulated in accordance with usual time frames in advance of the meeting.

11. **Adjournment**

Motion: That the Annual General Meeting of the Canadian Association of Elizabeth Fry Societies be adjourned at 3:45 p.m. Atlantic time.

Moved by Cathie Penny; Celebrated unanimously.