

**Leduc Society for Christian Education (LSCE)**

**Annual General Meeting (via Zoom) - Minutes**

May 5, 2021 @ 7:03 PM – 8:00 PM

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**In attendance:**

Grant & Cheri Andres	Laura Glesman	Jeremy & Jill Schindel	Leona Berreth
Shauna Balehowsky	Dennis & Joanne Gulley	Karla Strauss	Nicole McConville
Laurie Barkman	Karen Hofstra	Niki Underschultz	Colin Ward
Carrie Boyd	Malissa Huillery	Shannon VanHerk	Alice VandeKraats
Stacy Bruinsma	Tanya Klapstein	Corinna Weslosky	Brianna Schultz
Leon Burgess	Heather Luchak	Nicole Chapman	Paul Steheln
Michelle Clark	Ebony Matter	Jennifer Lozeau	Chris Hennink
Danny Dodds	Melissa Meier	Leanne Briggs	
Philip & Nichole Drader	Curtis Plitt	Kirsten Green	
Lisa & Ervin Gatzke	Jason Robinson	Kim Robinson	

**Absentee ballots:**

None noted.			
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1. Devotions: Niki Underschultz
  - “Abandon your back-up plans” by Marissa Henley (Galatians 3:18).
  - Particularly appropriate given lockdowns started again yesterday!
  - God always keeps His promises. Nothing can change that.
  - Those saved by faith in Christ don’t need a backup plan. The law isn’t a reliable back up plan because our good works could never be good enough.
  - The message is clear: abandon your back-up plan and rely on God’s promise!
  
2. Previous Minutes: **Motion 1: To adopt the minutes of June 24, 2020.** Melissa Meier moves that we accept the minutes. (Note: no seconder required for this or other motions given that the motions are voted on via poll online.) Motion carried.
  
3. Chair’s Report: Melissa Meier:
  - The current Executive members were introduced. Thanks was given to the Executive members for their work!
  - A summary of what the Executive is, and what it does, was presented, along with the committees of the Executive.
  - The following is a high-level summary of the work done by the Executive this past year:
    - o First annual golf tournament coming up in June (in place of our Marketplace and Auction, which was cancelled due to COVID).
    - o We oversaw the hard work of our various committees. Thanks to all committee members for their work this year.
    - o Maintenance projects on our building were reviewed and planned
    - o We completed the link project (between the portables and the main building).
    - o Our upcoming project is the playground expansion, which will be funded by government grants, golf tournament fundraiser, and prior budget allocations.

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- We have continued our ongoing mission: welcoming new families, CCS staff support with our core purpose in mind: flourishing learners, delighting in God, inspired to serve.
4. Financial Report: Leon Burgess, Treasurer
- Leon walked through the 2020 financial report. The following was noted:
    - Balance sheet: We had \$3,381,000 in total assets, and \$984,000 in long-term debt, which we are steadily paying down.
    - Statement of revenues and expense: We had total revenue of \$1,042,000 and total expenses of \$685,000. Our excess of revenue over expenses was \$356,000.
    - Walked through the notes to financial statements.
      - Note 3 (Rental Income): Black Gold Regional Schools (BGRS) rents our building to run the school, which totaled \$313,000 in 2020.
      - Note 4 (Transportation): Gives a snapshot of our bussing program. This program generated excess revenue of \$34,000.
  - Thanks was given to Leon and the Finance Committee!
    - **Motion 2: Leon Burgess makes a motion to accept financial statements as presented. Motion carried.**
    - **Motion 3: Leon Burgess makes a motion to approve Sanjit Kumar Professional Corporation to prepare the Notice to Reader for the 2020–2021 fiscal year. Motion carried.**
    - **Motion 4: Leon Burgess makes a motion to approve Nicole Dodds and Kristin Rino as financial reviewers for the 2020–2021 fiscal year. Motion carried.**
  - Leon walked through the proposed budget for 2020-2021. Below are some highlights:
    - Income:
      - Fees: no increase in fees this coming year for any categories, given tough economic times stemming from COVID, and the potential struggles of our families.
      - Leasing/rental income: budgeted to be the same as prior year.
      - Total income: budgeted as \$809,000.
    - Expenses:
      - Total instructional expenses: to increase by \$15,000 from 2020/2021 budget for supplementary staff.

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- Total society staff salaries and benefits expenses: to increase by \$26,000 from 2020/2021 budget due to Health Spending Account (HSA) benefit being added for staff. No salary increases are being budgeted, however.
  - Total facilities Operations and Maintenance (O&M) expense: to decrease by \$24,000 from 2020/2021 budget because planned renovations not as many or expensive next year.
  - Playground/bus allocations: allocate \$40,000 annually for these (same as 2020/2021 budget).
  - Total expenses: budgeted as \$809,000 (same as total income, for a balanced budget).
  - o **Motion 5: Leon Burgess makes a motion to approve the 2021–2022 budget as presented. Motion carried.**
5. Selection of Executive Members. Departing member is Melissa Meier. The nominee is Karla Strauss. Please contact Executive Chairperson Melissa Meier or Society Administrator Lisa Gatzke by Monday, April 28, 2021, if you have any objections to the above nomination. If no legitimate objections are received, Karla will be acclaimed as the new member.
- No objections were received. Welcome to the Executive, Karla!
  - Note that Karla's official tenure on the Executive begins on September 1, 2021.
6. Principal's Report: Donavin Simmons:
- Focused this year about God being a Waymaker.
    - o A Waymaker is one who makes a road. This is definitely true about our God!
    - o Despite the many roadblocks this year (COVID etc.), God has made a way for us, and for our kids, to learn about Him!
  - Our teachers have had so much to deal with this year: responsibility for public health, parents' fears, personal anxiety, and operating on very little information. But our teachers have shown grace and love.
  - Donavin takes this opportunity to publicly give thanks to our teachers. They are tired and burnt out, but they have showed up for our kids!
    - o We have the best teachers in not only the school division, but the entire world! This is not an overstatement!
  - This year we had a world-class Christmas concert, a ukulele class, and special dress up days. The Grade 8 play is coming up and will be delivered via video!
  - Donavin gave a pandemic update:
    - o Second wave – we were fortunate. 1 case in 1 class, no community transmission.

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- Third wave: not so lucky. 7 classes took turns being in isolation. 37% in isolation, 5 kids with COVID at one time. Alberta Health Services (AHS) visited April 20, and we passed with flying colours.
  - There are 0 cases right now at our school.
  - Home learning pack for parents released today for next few weeks. Please review guidance provided by BGRS and CCS.
7. Questions and Additional Discussion
- None.
8. Paul Stehelin from Christian Stewardship Services (CSS) on Endowment funds, what we have currently and how it benefits the Society and benefactor. (1-800-267-8890 ext 230. [pauls@cssservices.ca](mailto:pauls@cssservices.ca))
- Endowment fund: principal stays intact, but interest can be used by LSCE. Current balance is \$10k.
  - Long-term legacy of CCS: a generational blessing!
  - School is growing, long-term looks good. How do we keep building? We get government funding now – but what if they stop? Or if they change the terms of the funding such that they restrict Christian education? Things can change very quickly, as COVID has shown us!
  - Misunderstanding of legacy gifts:
    - Legacy planning is only for rich people. Not so. To reach the finish line, it takes help from the entire team. Give what you are able. Example: crowdfunding.
    - Will and estate planning is complicated. CSS can help with this. This is a complimentary service, given LSCE membership in CSS.
  - You will get donation receipt for tax purposes if you give via endowment fund.
  - Life insurance policies can be used as endowments, too. CSS can show you how.
  - CSS has 45 years of experience with endowment funds.
  - CSS makes giving easy!
9. Closing Prayer: Jason Robinson
10. Adjournment