

**Editors' Association of Canada/Association canadienne des réviseurs
Minutes of Annual General Meeting 2005
Victoria University in the University of Toronto
Northrop Frye Hall, Room 003
June 11, 2005**

1. Call to order

The annual general meeting of members of the Editors' Association of Canada was called to order by the president, Faith Gildenhuis, at 3:48 p.m.

2. Approval of agenda

MOVED by Tom Vradenburg, seconded by Christine Hastie, to approve the agenda as presented. CARRIED.

3. Approval of AGM minutes of June 5, 2004

MOVED by Nancy Flight, seconded by Rosemary Tanner, to approve the minutes of the 2004 annual general meeting. CARRIED, with 7 abstentions.

4. Approval of the annual report

MOVED by Ruth Chernia, seconded by Tom Vradenburg, to approve the annual report. CARRIED, with 26 abstentions.

5. Approval of auditors' report

MOVED by Greg Ioannou, seconded by Gillian Watts, to approve the auditors' report. CARRIED, with 30 abstentions.

6. Appointment of auditor for 2005-06

MOVED by Gillian Watts, seconded by Ann Fothergill-Brown, to retain the services of Cowperthwaite Mehta as our auditor for this coming year. CARRIED.

7. Motion to extend the ad hoc committee mandate of the Membership Review Committee

MOVED by Tom Vradenburg, seconded by Jennie Worden, to extend the mandate of the ad hoc Membership Review Committee by one year. Tom explained that the Membership Review Committee has been looking into new structures for association membership categories and fees, particularly concerning voting membership and corporate membership. The committee has now finished drafting new individual categories and fees, but these still need to be reviewed and approved before work can begin on corporate membership planning. MOTION AMENDED to extend the committee's mandate by two years. CARRIED as amended.

8. Motion to dissolve the ad hoc PICA Committee

MOVED by Greg Ioannou, seconded by Ann Fothergill-Brown, to dissolve the PICA committee. Greg reminded members that the committee had been formed two or three years ago when some publishers were going bankrupt and members were at risk of losing money. He explained that the committee's mandate could now easily be folded into the mediator's work. CARRIED, with one opposed and one abstention.

9. Motion to amend the list guidelines

MOVED by Alan Yoshioka, seconded by Tom Vradenburg, to adopt the English members' email discussion list guidelines as reviewed by the membership. There was some discussion of various copy

editing problems in the document. MOTION AMENDED to adopt the substance of the document, subject to editorial tidying. CARRIED, with one abstention.

10. Motion to approve Member Services Policy 1: Honorary Life Membership

MOVED by Susan Davis, seconded by Greg Ioannou, to adopt Member Services Policy 1: Honorary Life Membership. Susan explained that the association has never had a formal procedure or policy covering the guidelines, the criteria or the decision process for awarding honorary life membership. CARRIED, with 5 abstentions.

11. Motion to award honorary life membership to QAC member Jonathan Paterson

MOVED by Lee d'Anjou, seconded by Frances Peck, that honorary life membership be awarded to QAC member Jonathan Paterson. (Lee's nomination text is appended to these minutes.) CARRIED, with one abstention.

There was a warm round of applause for Jonathan.

12. Motion to approve Rule 1: Code of Conduct

MOVED by Maureen Nicholson, seconded by Rosemary Tanner, to approve Rule no. 1: Code of Conduct. Maureen explained that the rules and regulations have long been referred to in the EAC constitution, but haven't actually existed. The absence of a code of conduct has been an issue in the past year as the national executive council has attempted to address the troublesome conduct of a member in one branch. CARRIED, with 19 abstentions.

13. Motion that the newsletter of the national association be made available to the public

Brendan Wild read the following background statement:

The association's national newsletter, *Active Voice/La Voix active*, features a variety of articles, columns, reviews and news. It is published in the password-protected members' section of the website. Feedback received from members shows a growing concern for declining readership and a growing support for publishing AVA to the public side of the website.

Reasons for making the newsletter a public document include easier access for members, increased readership, and a higher profile for the publication, the association and the contributors. As a public document, the newsletter will present a professional face to the outside world and be used as a marketing and public relations tool.

MOVED by Brendan Wild, seconded by Jennie Worden, that the newsletter of the national association be made available to the public. Some members pointed out the distinction between EAC's actually making the newsletter public, and merely giving itself permission to make the newsletter public. The current motion doesn't specify how the newsletter will be made public. Maureen Nicholson explained that for now the newsletter will probably just be made available on the public side of the website. It was also pointed out that a distinction must be made between future newsletters and existing editions, particularly because of the possibility that authors of articles intended for use in a private newsletter might object to public circulation. MOTION AMENDED. MOVED that the membership permits future newsletters to be made available to public. CARRIED, with 5 opposed and 1 abstention.

14. Motion to approve the revised proposal for the coordination of committee and council work as reflected in the 2005 council and committee documents

MOVED by Jennifer Latham, seconded by Dianne Smyth, to approve the revised proposal for the coordination of committee and council work as reflected in the 2005 council and committee documents. Jennifer stated that since 2003 council members and staff have been working to revise and review these

documents, which describe the council positions and the committee mandates. Now that the documents have been completed and made available on the website for review, the national executive council asks the members to approve the documents. CARRIED, with 3 opposed and 9 abstentions.

Lee d'Anjou asked the meeting to recognize executive director Lynne Massey for managing to incorporate many comments into readable, useable documents. There was a warm round of applause for Lynne and her work on these documents.

15. Motion to approve a new Saskatoon branch

MOVED by Perry Millar, a voting member of the Editors' Association of Canada, on behalf of some 20 EAC members in Saskatoon, all currently members of the Prairie Provinces branch, that the Saskatoon group be recognized as an independent branch within EAC and known as the Saskatoon branch. Seconded by Rosemary Tanner.

Perry provided a brief history of the Saskatoon group. It was organized within the Prairie Provinces branch in 2001 and began holding meetings. Meetings have continued since then with the support of the PPB. In fall 2002 the group held its first professional development workshop, and since then it has held one each fall and one each spring; these have been very popular. Membership has stood at around 20 for the last year. The group already has a chair, a treasurer, a secretary, and coordinators of public relations, membership and professional development. The group has four voting members.

Responding to a question about the boundaries of the branch, Perry explained that the branch will serve Saskatoon and environs, although it's likely that some people outside Saskatoon will identify with this branch. The new branch hopes to work together collaboratively with other branches and members. Perry also said that it's probable a Regina branch will be formed in the future.

To the question of whether the Saskatoon branch would send a representative to the national executive council, Perry said they would like to send someone. Perry had been invited to attend the following day's national executive council meeting.

Brendan Wild confirmed that the Prairie Provinces branch would not be changing its name at this time.

CARRIED.

16. Motions from the floor

a) Motion to make a membership list available

MOVED by Elizabeth d'Anjou, seconded by Bea Baker, that in its ongoing consideration of communication with members, the national executive council try to make the membership list available in a portable, accurate format. Elizabeth explained that the membership list, which hasn't been distributed in a couple of years, had always felt like an integral tool to help editors associate. Jennifer Latham explained that the national executive council had already been working on this, and that the current upgrade of the website includes a plan for a searchable, printable, password-protected members' directory to help members look each other up. Some members expressed a preference for receiving a centrally printed document versus printing one themselves; members of the council explained that the decision was made to use a printable web-based system because of the cost savings to the association and so that the document remains up to date. CARRIED, with 1 opposed and 6 abstentions.

b) Motion to commend and thank the employees

MOVED by Rosemary Tanner, seconded by Greg Ioannou, to commend and thank the association's staff. CARRIED, with a warm round of applause.

17. Elections

Jennifer Latham introduced the elections.

a) National executive council

i) Elected positions

Six positions on the national executive council are elected annually at the AGM.

The following members were elected by acclamation:

President	Maureen Nicholson (BC)
Vice-President	Susan Davis (NCR)
Secretary	Greg Ioannou (Toronto)
Treasurer	Gillian Watts (Toronto)

The membership cast their votes for the three nominees for the two member-at-large positions:

Jane Kidner (Toronto)	36 votes
Peter Moskos (BC)	58 votes
Tom Vradenburg (NCR)	63 votes

Peter Moskos and Tom Vradenburg were elected as members-at-large.

ii) Appointed positions

The national executive council has six voting members who are not elected at the AGM:

Past President.....	Faith Gildenhuis (BC)
British Columbia branch representative	TBC
Prairie Provinces branch representative	Brendan Wild
Toronto branch representative	Jennie Worden
National Capital Region branch representative	Moira White
Quebec/Atlantic Canada branch representative	Suzanne Aubin

b) Committee chairs

The following committee chairs are elected by the membership. They are not members of the national executive council.

Francophone Affairs Committee chair	no nominations
Online Job Tools (formerly Directory) Committee chair	no nominations

The membership cast their votes for the two nominees for the list monitor position:

Lee Hunter (NCR)	29 votes
Ken Weinberg (Toronto)	32 votes

Ken Weinberg was elected as list monitor.

Marketing and Public Relations Committee chair..... Suzanne Morphet (BC)

Suzanne was elected by acclamation.

Membership Committee chair

no nominations

Member Communication Committee chair

Doug Linzey (QAC)

Doug was elected by acclamation.

Newsletter Committee chair

no nominations

Training and Development (formerly Professional Development) Committee chair

..... no nominations

There was some discussion of why the name of this committee was changed; Lynne Massey explained that it was for the sake of clarity in the committee documents: partly to avoid confusion with the name of the group of related committees.

Publications Committee chair..... no nominations

Jennifer explained that a number of other positions are appointed by the national executive council. The formalization of those appointments would occur the following afternoon at the council meeting.

18. Adjournment

MOVED by Moira White to adjourn. CARRIED.

The meeting was adjourned at 5:49 p.m.

**Editors' Association of Canada
Nomination for EAC/ACR Honorary Life Membership
From: Lee d'Anjou (TO), April 2005**

I nominate QAC member Jonathan Paterson for honorary life membership, to be voted on at the June 2005 AGM. Enthusiastically supporting this nomination are QAC members Jane Broderick, Joan Irving, and Käthe Roth and NCR member Louis Majeau.

Honorary life membership is a way of recognizing a member who has made a sustained, significant contribution to EAC/ACR—someone who, as Jean Wilson used to say, goes “the extra mile, and then another and another.” Jonathan has gone many extra miles for the association, though he is so self-effacing that some members may never have met him.

I know best Jonathan's work with the Standards Committee. For it, he started by participating in the expert review of an early draft of *Meeting Editorial Standards* and ended up designing and desktopping almost the entire set, including the covers, for both the first edition (1996) and the first revision (2000). And he is scheduled to desktop the second revision that is now underway.

Also for the Standards Committee, he participated in the revision of *Professional Editorial Standards* (2000), insisting that all the standards be phrased so that Certification could test them (e.g., “recognize and correct,” “understand and apply”). And when I was leading the committee without a co-chair (roughly, 1998–2003), he often gave me a much-needed hand with tasks such as mentoring MES study groups and provided an equally needed sounding board when I was grappling with reports and tricky reprint requests.

At the national level, in addition to his work with the Standards projects, Jonathan

- Was a valued member of the 1996–97 Accreditation Committee, which led to the Certification referendum.
- Proposed and refined the evaluation system that will be used in Certification.
- Was the Certification Committee's first chair; then acted as its co-chair with Peter Moskos and later with Rosemary Shipton; continued to serve on its steering committee until 2004 and was much involved in developing its exemplar book.
- Has served on the Subcommittee on French Standards since Louis Majeau became its chair in August 2002. (Jonathan had been watching the subcommittee's work since its inception several years earlier, but he felt originally that the participation of someone whose mother tongue was not French would be impolitic.)
- Essentially invented the French e-forum, and has often given excellent, useful answers to questions posted on its English counterpart.
- While serving on the national executive, was gently adamant about being careful not to overlook francophone members.
- Has provided technical advice to the national office on many topics, including the handling of French in the online directory.

At the branch level, Jonathan was QAC chair during 1995/6 and 1996/7. I knew he did many other things for the branch but was not sure exactly what and when, so I asked Joan Irving, who consulted Käthe Roth and Jane Broderick. All three of these QAC members have had much branch and national experience with EAC/ACR, and their admiration for Jonathan matches mine. They remembered, Joan wrote, that he

- Acted as vice-chair when she was chair (1997/8).
- Was editor of the QAC newsletter for a couple of years in the early 1990s and often laid it out when others served as editor.

Beyond those official posts, Joan said, Jonathan, who has often been the only anglophone at the branch's French-language meetings, "long did anything necessary to keep the francophone group on its feet," including goading the local and national executives to make EAC/ACR more bilingual and ensuring that the French newsletter was written, proofed, and printed. His "sensitivity to editing issues in both French and English makes him unique." He was and still is the unofficial link between the two language groups in QAC.

He is never too busy to help, Joan continued. He's always been at the end of a telephone line to talk editors through problems, notably those related to technology. And he still attends local meetings and chats quietly with new and old members, a solid and welcome presence.

In summary, Joan said, "Jonathan has been a benefit of EAC membership that I've often called on." That line captures my own thought so well that I wish I'd written it myself.