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Annual General Meeting Canadian Committee on Labour History Ottawa, Ontario, 2 June 2015

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MINUTES / PROCÈS-VERBAL

Annual General Meeting
Canadian Committee on Labour History
Ottawa, Ontario, 2 June 2015

IN ATTENDANCE:

Christo Aivalis
Richard Allen
Sean Cadigan
David Camfield
Geoffrey Ewen
Alvin Finkel
David Frank
Larry Hannant
Craig Heron
Greg Kealey (Treasurer)
Kathy Killoh
Jeremy Milloy
Myron Momryk
Jim Naylor
Kirk Niergarth
Bryan Palmer
Jason Russell (First Vice-President)
Joan Sangster
Julia Smith (Second Vice-President)
Janis Thiessen (President)
David Tough

Minutes recorded by Jason Russell

1. CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order at 12:00 by Janis Thiessen.

2. APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA

The agenda for the meeting was unanimously approved; moved and seconded by Jim Naylor and Alvin Finkel.

3. APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES OF THE 2014 ANNUAL MEETING

The minutes of the 2014 annual meeting were unanimously approved.

4. BUSINESS ARISING

There was no business arising from the minutes of the previous meeting.

5. PRESIDENT'S REPORT

Janis reported on the committee's activities over the past year. The CHA has invited CCLH to convene a panel or other event that relates to the 150th anniversary of Confederation, as well as something similar on labour and World War I. These initiatives relate to CHA forming a 2017 Confederation committee. The 2016 Congress meeting will be at the University of Calgary, and the 2017 meeting will be at Ryerson University in Toronto.

The Forsey Prize committee received excellent submissions this past year. Martha Buffton was the winner of the graduate prize and Joe Dauphineé was the recipient of the undergraduate prize. 2015 was also the first year that CCLH awarded an article prize, and Jeremy Milloy was the recipient. While the committee had a vibrant year, Janis stressed that we should endeavor to involve more people in the committee's activities. The president's report was unanimously approved.

6. EDITOR'S REPORT

Sean Cadigan reported on *Labour/Le Travail*. Submissions to the journal are at a healthy level, and the journal has experienced a rise in e-subscriptions. As with many scholarly journals, there is a decline in print subscriptions to *Labour/Le Travail*. The Spring 2016 issue (volume 77) will be produced in conjunction with the Canadian Association for Work and Labour Studies. Craig Heron and Bryan Palmer moved approval of the editor's report, and it was unanimously approved.

7. TREASURER'S REPORT

Greg Kealey delivered the Treasurer's report. There was a slight increase in subscription revenues along with a similar increase in the SSHRC grant. CCLH has also benefited from improved royalties through Project Muse and J-Stor.

Greg also noted the decline in print subscriptions, but this was partially counter balanced by enhanced royalties from the CCLH book series.

The new relationship with CAWLS means that the members of that association will also become members of CCLH and subscribers to *Labour/Le Travail*. CCLH and Athabasca University Press retain financial responsibility for the journal. Overall, Greg indicated that the committee is in fairly robust financial shape. He and Bryan Palmer moved approval of the Treasurer's report and it was unanimously approved.

8. REPORT ON THE CCLH WEBSITE

The website is up to date. Jason Russell and Ben Isitt have moderator access to it. Julia Smith suggested that we reach out to scholars in other disciplines, as many are producing research in labour and working-class history without necessarily identifying themselves as part of the field. Joan Sangster further suggested that CCLH consider organizing conference panels with other scholarly associations. Janis recommended scheduling one common day between CCLH and CAWLS at Congress 2016. Bryan Palmer noted ensuring that CHA provides dedicated panel time to CCLH is important.

The importance of social media was stressed by several members. Jim Naylor began this discussion, and Bryan suggested that we do some joint social media initiatives with CAWLS. Jeremy Milloy offered to create a Twitter account for CCLH. The committee also has a Facebook page.

9. LABOUR HISTORY WORKSHOP

Julia Smith felt that we should convene a panel at Congress 2016 on the current state of labour history in Canada. Labour history workshops have been held prior to the start of Congress over the past several years, and Bryan discussed the idea of having them every other Congress. There was then some general discussion about perhaps holding the workshops depending on the Congress location. For example, Craig Heron felt that we should consider holding workshops on a year-by-year basis.

10. ELECTION OF OFFICERS

Julia Smith, Ben Isitt, and Greg Kealey were all acclaimed in their current roles.

11. OTHER DISCUSSION AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

CCLH, CAWLS, and Athabasca University Press co-hosted an event in honour of Bryan Palmer and Greg Kealey at the Heart and Crowne Pub in Ottawa's Byward Market. The event was very well-attended and exceeded the organizers' expectations. Two special panels on the work and legacy of Bryan and Greg were also held during Congress, and they were also very well-attended.

12. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 13:15.