

# Island Nature Trust (INT or the Trust) Annual General Meeting MINUTES September 19, 2023 6:00pm | Beaconsfield Carriage House, Charlottetown

Chair, Gordon MacKay	Secretary, Patricia Caporaso	Scrutineer, Janell Smith
	Bianca McGregor	

# **CALL TO ORDER & WELCOME**

The Chair welcomed members to the 44<sup>th</sup> annual general meeting of the Trust, introduced himself and offered a land acknowledgement. The Chair announced the following housekeeping items:

- 1. Patricia Caporaso is the secretary and minute taker aided by Executive Director Bianca McGregor.
- 2. Janell Smith, Land Acquisition and Finance Manager for Island Nature Trust is today's Scrutineer and has confirmed that there is a quorum present.
- 3. Every member present has been given voting cards; green for yes, red for no and yellow for abstain.
- 4. Notice of the meeting was duly given on or before August 29<sup>th</sup> by:
  - a. Paid publication in The Guardian
  - b. Email notification sent to all members (active and lapsed). The email contained a link <a href="https://islandnaturetrust.ca/AGM">https://islandnaturetrust.ca/AGM</a> to download the following documents:
    - i. Agenda for 2023 AGM
    - ii. Minutes from the 2022 AGM
    - iii. Copy of INT By-Laws
  - c. The audited financials and Impact Report were uploaded to the shared link when they became available. Hard copies were available for all in attendance.
  - d. Notice was also posted in The Buzz and a follow up reminder email was sent to all current and lapsed members.

It was noted that as per the Trust's bylaws, due notice is set at 14 days, but the Trust observes 21 days to give members ample time to plan to attend and read the provided required documentation.

Notice having been duly given and quorum being present, the Chair declared the meeting open for transaction of business at 6:05pm.

Before moving onto the next agenda item, the Chair noted that a member had reached out prior to the meeting wanting to add an agenda item under "other business", pointing out that "other business" was not on the circulated agenda.

The Chair indicated that David Cairns would be provided time after circulated agenda items to address the membership and that it would be considered "other business". Having not provided proper due notice, the subject would be for informational purposes and consideration rather than debate or resolution.

# **APPROVAL OF 2022 ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING MINUTES**

The Minutes for the Annual General Meeting held on September 20, 0222 were presented. The Chair noted an issue with motion 09-22.03. It approves the treasurer's report instead of the audited financial statements. Amended wording was presented - "be it moved that the 2021-2022 audited financials prepared by Fitzpatrick and Company be approved as presented".

**AGM Motion 09-23.01:** Be it moved to approve the change to motion 09-20.03 from to the Annual General Meeting Minutes from September 20, 2022, to the recommended new wording to properly reflect the intent of the motion. Moved by Roger Coffin. Seconded by Keila Miller. All in favour. Motion carried.

**AGM Motion 09-23.02**: Be it moved that the minutes from Island Nature Trust's annual general meeting, held on September 20, 2022, be approved as presented with suggested changes. Moved by Kim Horrelt. Seconded by Patricia Caporaso. All in favour. Motion carried.

# **INTRODUCTION OF BOARD MEMBERS**

The Chair introduced the INT Board of Directors

Executive: Gordon MacKay (President), Kim Horrelt (Vice President), Patricia Caporaso (Secretary) and George Mason (Treasurer) and Marie-Ann Bowden (Past Vice President).

Members at Large: Andrea McManus, David Hooley and Roger Roy.

Appointed Members: Keila Miller (PEI Wildlife Federation) and Jeannie Maki (Nature PEI).

# **RECOGNITION OF OUT-GOING MEMBERS**

The Chair recognized out-going members Roger Coffin and June Jenkins Sanderson.

# **OPERATIONAL REPORT**

Bianca McGregor, Executive Director provided a brief overview of accomplishments during the fiscal year ending March 31, 2023. Highlights included accomplishments in land protection, stewardship, species at risk monitoring, donor/partner relationship management, marketing

and communications, the Trust's current organizational chart, as well as activities related to Human Resource policy development. All in attendance were provided with a hard copy of the latest Impact Report for reference.

### TREASURER'S REPORT

#### **Presentation of Audited Financial Statements**

George Mason (Treasurer) presented the audited financial statements for 2022/23. They were prepared by Fitzpatrick and Company Chartered Accountants. The Treasurer summarized the audited financial statements by provided an overview of revenues, expenditures and assets. A chart showing the value of land over time (at fair market value at time of acquisition), along with acreage count by end of fiscal year dating back to 2013, was presented.

**AGM Motion 09-22.04** Be it moved that the 2022-2023 audited financial prepared by Fitzpatrick and Company be approved as presented. Moved by George Mason; seconded by Linda Gaudet. All in favour. Motion carried.

# **Appointment of Auditors for 2023/2024**

**AGM Motion 09-22.54**: Be it moved that Fitzpatrick and Company Chartered Professional Accountants be appointed as the auditor for Island Nature Trust for the fiscal year 2023/2024. Moved by George Mason; seconded by Marie-Ann Bowden. All in favour. Motion carried.

# NOMINATING COMMITTEE REPORT

Kim Horrelt, Vice President presented the Nominating Committee's report. First order of business was to re-appoint Gordon MacKay, Marie-Ann Bowden and Patricia Caporaso to second terms on the Trust's board of directors. As per the bylaws, board members are allowed to serve two back-to-back, three year terms.

Kim also put forward the following two nominees for consideration from the membership:

- 1. Dr. Kathy Martin
- 2. Dwaine Oakley

A call for nominations from the floor was made three times with no further nominations put forward.

**AGM Motion 09-22.65**: Be it moved that Gordon MacKay, Marie-Ann Bowden, Patricia Caporaso, Kathy Martin and Dwaine Oakley be appointed to the board of directors of Island Nature Trust to serve terms in accordance with the bylaws of Island Nature Trust. Moved by Kim Horrelt; seconded by Keila Miller. All in favour. Motion carried.

# **VISION FOR THE FUTURE AND CLOSING REMARKS**

The Chair outlined some of the Trust's plans for the current fiscal year including:

- The Trust reached a milestone of 10,000 acres protected for perpetuity in June, 2023.
- All conserved land on PEI amounts to about 5% or halfway to a collective target of 10%.
- The board and staff will be reassessing the current strategic plan.

- An updated map of current acquisitions was presented showing prospective land to be put under protection.
- The Trust continues to offer donors and partners various avenues to support Trust activities through the Saving our Island Campaign and a new Seed Tree Sponsorship Program.
- Plans are being considered for a large major donor campaign.

# **OTHER BUSINESS**

David Cairns, Life Member of Island Nature Trust and former board member addressed the membership raising concerns over non-profits collaborating with alcohol companies.

# **ADJOURNMENT**

The Chair adjourned the meeting at 7:08 pm.

Drafted by: Bianca McGregor and Patricia Caporaso

Approved for circulation by: Gordon MacKay