



73rd Annual General Meeting
Hybrid Conference
Wednesday, May 10, 3:30-5:00pm EDT

Minutes

Executive Committee at opening of the AGM:

President: Nathalie Gravel
Past-President: Neil Hanlon
Secretary-Treasurer: Joseph Leydon

Division Representatives:

Atlantic: Carissa Brown
Ontario: Joseph Aversa
Prairies: Christopher Malcolm
Québec: Chantal Déry
Western: Craig Coburn

Councillors:

Craig Coburn
Heather Castleden
Matt Dyce
Sinead Earley

Student Councillor:

Leena Lamontagne Dupuis

Welcome

CAG President Nathalie Gravel welcomed the members in attendance, and those from the Executive committee who have joined virtually. She thanked everyone for taking time to participate in the 73rd Annual General Meeting (AGM) and went over some general housekeeping guidelines for the meeting. The quorum is reached.

1. Approval of Agenda*

Motion to accept the agenda of the 2023 AGM

Nadine Schuurman/Joseph Leydon
Motion Carried

2. Approval of the Minutes of the 72nd Annual General Meeting*, Thursday, June 2, 2022. Virtual.

Motion to accept minutes of the 2022 AGM

Susan Elliott/Joseph Leydon
Motion Carried

3. Announcements

- a. **Memorials** – a moment of silence is observed while the names of the deceased are displayed.
- b. **Undergraduate Awards** – the award winners, identified by departments, are announced. They receive a complimentary 1-year membership to the CAG in 2024. Congratulations to all winners, and thank you to all the departments who submitted candidates.
- c. **CAG 2023 Awards** – the recipients of the CAG 2023 awards are announced. Thank you to all who nominated a colleague for a CAG Award, all nominees were deserving of recognition.

REPORTS

4. *Canadian Geographies* – Editor’s Report*

Canadian Geographies Editor Nadine Schuurman presented her report, noting that this would be her last year as Journal Editor in Chief. She presented an overview of the last twelve years working on the journal and highlighted the recent journal name change and the efforts to realize a gender-neutral name for the French title. Open Access papers continue to lead journal downloads, receiving 3 times more downloads and double the citations. In 2022, twelve Open access papers were received and published. There were two special sections in 2022, and an obituary honouring geographer Cole Harris. There is a continued effort to increase submission numbers, but securing book reviewers was significantly more successful in 2022, receiving a total of 16 book reviews. Nadine reported that Research Articles continue to be the journals most popular manuscript type. As of April 2023, the journal had accepted 37 manuscripts and declined 6. The most recent available Impact factor was 1.482 for 2021, the second highest ever for the journal. Publishers are decreasing emphasis on impact factors due to a shift towards DORA but remains an important value for submitting authors. Download numbers peaked in 2021 but displayed a slight decrease in 2022. Overall, the journal remains in a good position. Nadine concluded her report by announcing her replacement as Journal Editor in Chief, Professor Agnieszka Leszczynski, from the University of Western Ontario.

Motion to receive the *Canadian Geographies* Editor’s Report Victoria Fast/Zoe Meletis
Motion carried

5. Officers’ Reports:

- a. Secretary-Treasurer’s Report
- i. Financial Statements 2022*

CAG Secretary-Treasurer Joseph Leydon went over the audited financial statements, noting minimal difference in CAG operations from 2021 to 2022. The increase in assets for 2022 are related to the transfer of funds from the Regional Divisions and Study Groups, as well as increases in returns from money markets and GIC’s, which have ultimately offset previous losses from the volatility of the market.

A breakdown of the CAG’s revenue was presented, detailing the revenue held by the Association and the revenue held in trust, or restricted revenue, of which is not accessible for day-to-day CAG operations. The CAG’s deferred revenue is composed mostly of the 50th anniversary account, which Joseph noted has not been drawn from in the past five years but anticipates needing to draw from here in future years to fund student travel. CAG revenue streams experienced a drop in 2022, highlighted by a decline in Membership revenue. Wiley continues to be an important revenue stream for the CAG through royalty revenue; this revenue expected to remain stable over the next 5 years.

The major expenses, related to publications (*Canadian Geographies* and *GeogNews*) and operations of the central office, have decreased for 2022 due one-time cost savings. The CAG headquarters moved to a home office and the publication of *GeogNews* was included in the Executive Assistant contract. As a result of the pandemic and the adoption of virtual meetings, there were no travel expenses for executive members, no student travel grants, and minimal expenses associated with the Annual Meeting in 2022.

Motion to accept the 2022 Financial Statements Nadine Schuurman/Chantal Déry
Motion Carried

ii. Budget 2023

Joseph presented the budget, with actual revenues and expenses for 2022 and estimates for 2023. A decrease in revenue is projected for 2023 as a result of a loss in membership revenue and the uncertainty of the revenue generated from the 2023 Conference. The revenue from Wiley is anticipated to remain flat for the next five years and if inflation remains high, the CAG will suffer revenue loss. Expenses for 2023

*Les rapports écrits sont disponibles à <http://www.cag-acg.ca/cag-agm-2023>

are expected to remain relatively similar with two notable changes from last year's budget. First, the CAG allocated \$9,000 to support travel expenses for Student to the conference. Second, are the expenses related to the conference itself. Joseph anticipates a deficit of \$4,500 in 2023. To counter this the CAG will draw from the 50th Anniversary fund to cover some of the cost related to student travel grants.

Motion to accept the 2023 Budget

Derrek Eberts/Tom Waldichuk
Motion Carried

Joseph presented the amended proposition to increase all membership fees by 5%, with exemption of fee increase on student and post-doc membership categories.

Motion to approve 5% increase in the membership fee across all membership categories, with exemption of fee increase on student and post-doc membership categories.

Susan Elliott/Camille Ouellet-Dallaire
Motion Carried

Motion to appoint Andrews & Co for 2023

Zoe Meletis/Susan Elliott
Motion Carried

b. President's Report*

Nathalie summarized her report, highlighting her first year as CAG President and the efforts made to ease the transition of the Executive Committee and for new incoming Executive Assistant, Philip Thibault. Nathalie thanked the CAG Mini-Executive for their support throughout the year and during the University of Laval's professors' strike in March. She addressed the success of the 2022 virtual conference at Toronto Metropolitan University and the meetings held by the regional divisions over the past year. Nathalie highlighted the communications offered by the CAG to maintain regular contact with members through the website, CAGlist, Geognews, the Newsletter, Directory, as well as plans to explore opportunities to enhance the CAG social media presence to better serve the membership. The Department Chairs meeting was held in February, in which 24 department heads were in attendance, leading to productive discussions. Nathalie reviewed the progress of recently formed CAG Committees, Study Group Governance Committee, the Decolonizing and Indigenizing Committee (DI), and the Equity, Diversity and Inclusion Committee (EDI) and thanked the respective Chairs for all their work and efforts since the formation of each ad-hoc committee. Nathalie remarked that these Committees were formed in dedication to better understand and respond adequately to member needs and marks a renewal in CAG philosophy. Nathalie cited the ongoing relationships with affiliate organizations, CFES, FHSS and IGU. In the winter of 2022, the CAG signed a joint statement on the crisis in Ukraine in support of Ukrainian people and geographers and Russian geographers who are openly demonstrating against attacks on democracy and human rights. Analyzing the results of the Membership survey conducted in 2022 has allowed the Association to identify member needs and strategize in retaining and recruiting new members. Nathalie presented the composition of the CAG Board of Directors, and the restructuring of Executive meetings being held exclusively in a virtual format. Board members have been offered the opportunity to attend the AGM virtually in an effort promote flexibility and save on travel expenses. Regarding the Conference, the CAG is seeking partners to host in 2024 and 2025. Nathalie proposed the possibility of joining the CFHSS for one of two years, as was done in the past. Nathalie concluded her report reflecting on her first year as President and the changes implemented since her appointment to the CAG Executive, including the importance of bilingual practices, making the association more attractive to French-speaking Geographers. Nathalie finished by thanking outgoing committee members Matt Dyce, Craig Coburn (remaining as WDCAG President), Past-President Neil Hanlon and Secretary-Treasurer Joseph Leydon for their efforts and years of involvement.

Motion to receive the President's Report

Derrek Eberts/Zoe Meletis
Motion Carried



6. Division Reports
 - a. Atlantic*
 - b. Québec*
 - c. Ontario*
 - d. Prairie*
 - e. Western*

Motion to receive all Divisions Reports

Susan Elliott/Jean Hébert
Motion Carried

7. National and International Affairs
 - a. The Federation for the Humanities and Social Sciences (CFHSS) – Nathalie announced she will be attending the upcoming CFHSS conference in June.
 - b. The Canadian Federation of Earth Sciences (CFES)* - Written report available.
 - c. The International Geographical Union (IGU) – Neil Hanlon is the CAG IGU representative. The next IGU General Assembly is scheduled for 2024 in Ireland.

OTHER BUSINESS

8. Updates on special CAG Committees and initiatives

Sinead provided an update on the Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion Committee, reporting on consulting with the CAG membership to begin developing a Terms of Reference. A focus group was held with Bakau Consulting in February, which provided an opportunity for members to offer input anonymously. A draft of the Terms of Reference has been circulated to the Executive Committee and to key leaders in the Association to provide input and additional suggestions. The plan is to circulate an updated draft to the full CAG membership after the Conference and move forward with adopting the Terms of Reference and building a Standing Committee.

Motion to receive all the reports

Camille Ouellet-Dallaire/Susan Elliott
Motion Carried

9. Nominations from the floor to the Elections Committee
In 2024 the CAG will be seeking nominations for two Councillors, and a Francophone Student Councillor. The Elections Committee is composed of four members: Vice President as Chair, two members chosen from the floor at the AGM, and one member of the Executive Committee. CAG members Caroline Barakat and Tom Waldichuk volunteered from the floor.

Motion to appoint nominees to the elections committee

Nadine Schuurman/Derrek Eberts
Motion Carried

10. Adjournment

Motion to adjourn

Camille Ouellet-Dallaire

Executive Committee at closing of the AGM:

President: Nathalie Gravel
Vice-President: Susan Elliott
Secretary-Treasurer: Derrek Eberts



Canadian Association of Geographers
Association Canadienne des Géographes

Division Representatives:

Atlantic: Carissa Brown

Ontario: Joseph Aversa

Prairies: Christopher Malcolm

Québec: Chantal Déry

Western: Craig Coburn

Councillors:

Heather Castleden

Sinead Earley

Christopher Hewitt

Deondre Smiles

Student Councillor:

Leena Lamontagne Dupuis

Jesse Sutton