



ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING MINUTES

Date: April 5, 2020

Time: 2:00 - 2:45 pm

Location: Virtual via Join.Me

1. Call to Order

On behalf of the Emerging Leaders for Biodiversity board of directors, we welcome you all to the 2020 ELB annual general meeting. The meeting is called to order.

2. Welcome and Introduction

The Emerging Leaders for Biodiversity Chair Thomas McAuley-Biasi opened the meeting by welcoming all members present to ELB's Annual General Meeting and thanking them for attending. Each current Board of Director's member introduced themselves.

3. Financial Report

We had limited funding available over the past fiscal year. Currently we have no grants, but have applications under review with Lush, Loblaw, and High Park. Our expenses for this past fiscal year (2019/2020) were approximately \$1,900 for events and we made \$275 in revenue through ticket sales for the Career Workshop. We still have \$2,400 available in our account for the 2020/2021. Although this is a net loss, ELB did not plan to make money from our events, it is more a service that we provide for our members. In order to continue beyond the 2020/2021 fiscal year, ELB will need to find a source of income.

4. Events Report

Our first event of the year was the Wetland Nature Walk at Evergreen Brickworks in Toronto. It was a great event that focused on the wetland restoration at the site. This is an event that could be replicated in the future with a different focus area and a new location. The second event was ELB at Green Drinks Toronto. Green Drinks is an event that takes place on the third Wednesday of the month where people in the environmental field come together to share ideas and to build connections while enjoying a drink. Our biggest event of the year was our Annual Career Workshop in which we had Gregg from WorkCabin talk about resume and interview preparation, followed by a panel discussion. Although we had some issues with panelist cancelling at the last minute due to weather and strikes blocking transit, we found replacements from our board and overall had positive feedback from the participants about the event. We did send out

surveys after the event. The take home form for the event was to diversify our environmental focus to include other career areas (less field work focused), issues and expense of parking at the University of Toronto and to

include a resume swap. The last event was the Nature Works! Forum where ELB had a booth to network with those attending. We met some great contacts and made connections that might be valuable in the future including WWF (In the Zone) and CPAWS.

5. Looking Ahead

This current fiscal year our focus will be on securing grant funding. This may be an issue in the aftermath of the Covid-19 outbreak as companies may no longer have money available to offer grants. We hope to run the Career Workshop again in 2021 as well as other events using the funds that remain. The Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD) conference has been delayed to 2021. The new strategic plan for 2021-2030 is currently being drafted. For more information visit: <https://biodivcanada.chm-cbd.net/>

6. Departing Board Members

Thank you to departing Board Members: Emily Dutton (Treasurer/Fundraising), Jacob Ke (Events Co-Lead), Nadine Price (Resource & Development) and Katherine Wright (Resource & Development). We thank you for all your work over the past few years.

7. Nominations/Election of New Board of Directors

We reviewed the two nominees that wish to join the Board of Directors: Elizabeth Latimer and Charlotte Gill. Elizabeth has been acting as a Temporary Officer for the last few months and been assisting with the transition as part of the Resource & Development working group. Charlotte Gill is a student at Concordia studying sustainability and hopes to join the board to build her skills. We opened the floor to AGM attendees to see if anyone else wished to join the board. Members have 24 hrs to send us an email at: el4biodiversity@gmail.com before we send out a Survey Monkey to members for the official vote.

8. Adjournment

With no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 14:45.

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Looking Ahead

FY21, Post-2020, and beyond COVID-19

- » Reflection and mental health
- » Grants and fundraising
- » Career workshop, and capacity building events
- » The CBD and post-2020
- » What is the world we want to see

Emerging Leaders for Biodiversity

Participants:

- All
- Emerging Leaders for Biodi...
- ED Emily D
- K Katherine
- J Jacob
- M Monica
- V4 Viewer 4
- E Elizabeth

Chat with everyone

Jackie at 2:30 PM

Hi everyone, I'm just a listener today but wanted to add some ways I could get involved and help out moving forward. I currently work at Ontario Nature in policy.

Grant ideas: #RisingYouth grants (up to 1500), ongoing deadlines but currently only funding virtual engagement projects due to COVID or the next couple of months; TD Friends of the Environment, due July 15; and Google Non-Profits allows any org that signs up to have \$10,000 to spend in online marketing

Also CPAWS Wildlands League in Ontario is currently focusing on online engagement as well so

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Thanks to our Departing Board Members

<p>Emily Dutton</p>  <p>Treasurer/ Fundraising</p>	<p>Jacob Ke</p>  <p>Events Co-Lead</p>	<p>Katherine Wright</p>  <p>Resource & Development</p>	<p>Nadine Price</p>  <p>Resource & Development</p>
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- M Monica
- V4 Viewer 4
- E Elizabeth

Chat with everyone

Jackie at 2:34 PM

btw i pitched this to Thomas already but would love to see ELB join Ontario Nature's Nature Network. would open up possibilities to connecting with various naturalist groups around Ontario, but would also keep the group up to date with provincial policy changes

Nadine at 2:35 PM

All great ideas, thanks Jackie!

Sorry everyone, what was the name of the organization that is trying to build wildlife corridors through Ontario?

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