



**80th Annual General Meeting
of the Ontario Camps Association
held at Sheraton Parkway Hotel, Richmond Hill, Ontario
Monday, January 14, 2013
4:00 pm**

1. Welcome

Howie Grossinger, OCA President, welcomed everyone to the 80th Annual General Meeting and asked the OCA's Executive Director, Heather Heagle, to act as the Recording Secretary for the meeting.

2. Quorum

Howie announced that a quorum had been established in person and by proxies received for the meeting. He also confirmed that Notice of the Meeting had been mailed to Members on December 5, 2012.

3. Introductions

Howie asked Past Presidents and OCA Honorary Life Members in attendance to please stand to be acknowledged. He thanked them for their continued contributions to the Association.

Howie also acknowledged and congratulated Jocelyn Palm who recently received the Order of Canada.

Colleagues who had passed away this year were acknowledged:

Wren Blair, Holiday Haliburton Haven Hockey Camp; Sara Petker, Director, Religiously Affiliated Sub-class, and Director of Forest Cliff Camp, who passed away in August; Cliff Labbett, Camp Oconto, Honorary Life Member who passed away in June of 2012; Melinda Evans, Executive Director of Camp Awakening; Gwen Morawetz, Camp Ponacka, who passed away July 2012; and Rochelle Wise, former Director of Crestwood Valley Day Camp, who passed away last week.

Howie asked if there were any other remembrances at this time to be recorded. There were none.

Howie then requested additional items for the Agenda be brought forward at this time.

Qasem Mahmud, Long Bay Camp Arts By The Lake, added an item to organize a nation-wide Camp Celebration Day. Howie confirmed the Agenda with the additional item added to the list for discussion.

4. Approval of Minutes

The President asked the Members to turn their attention to the Wednesday, January 25, 2012 Annual General Meeting Draft Minutes, previously circulated by mail, and which were distributed at this meeting. Howie asked if there were any amendments to the Minutes of January 25, 2012. He also reminded the Members to use their voting cards (green for Accredited Camp Members; yellow for Individual Members) when votes are called to confirm a Motion. There were no changes.

Howie asked for a Motion to approve the Minutes of Wednesday, January 25, 2012.

MOTION #1: That the minutes of the 79th Annual General Meeting held Wednesday, January 25, 2012 be approved as presented.

Moved by: Skip Connett, Canadian Adventure Camp
Seconded by: Marjorie Booth, Mooredale Day Camp
Motion: **CARRIED**

5. Report of the President – Howie Grossinger

Howie shared his report with the Members and drew their attention to the printed Annual Report in their packages. He thanked all volunteers and office staff who worked on creating and capturing all of the activities which took place in 2012. He said he was proud of their accomplishments and the report. Howie noted that his term as President was coming to a close at this Annual General Meeting. Throughout his tenure, Members continually asked if everything was okay or was the position what you thought it was going to be. He replied, yes it was and more! It was a great two years; and after eight (8) years on the OCA Board, it is a great and gratifying way to extend his involvement in the organization. Howie's report in the 2012 Annual Report outlined the successes of the Board, with new focuses on new issues. He noted that there was still a lot of work to be done.

This past year Service Canada had identified non-student camp staff as Recreational Specialists in a National Occupational Code (NOC). Through the significant lobbying efforts of Leon Muszynski, Mike Sladden, Jonathan Nyquist and others, the non-student worker wage was lowered to \$10.25 from \$15.75 for this year. This Committee also worked with Service Canada to create a wage survey. Howie thanked all of the camps who participated in the survey.

In addition, there was an OCA delegation who met with Transport Canada and government bureaucrats in Ottawa to discuss Commercial Vessel Regulations regarding operators licensing, vessel licensing and construction. Transport Canada has shown a willingness to listen to the issues greatly impacting and impeding the camp industry.

Howie spoke about one of the new issues currently affecting camps. In Ontario, Teachers' "Work to Rule" actions were financially impacting camps who offered Outdoor Education programs for school groups at their sites. The OCA sent letters to the Premier's office and to all candidates standing for the Liberal Premier Position election outlining the impact of this action on the Camps Industry.

Volunteerism in the OCA is high on the Board's radar. Tracy Morley, in coordination with the Human Resources Committee, will be advising the Members of a new process and opportunities for volunteering in 2013. Howie thanked everyone involved for their great work.

Howie remarked that OCA's financial stability continued to be solid. Thanks to Heather Heagle and Brian Blackstock, there have been many meetings with potential new Members in an effort to get them ready for their initial visit in the summer of 2013. Howie also thanked Heather for working with Nancy Brown, Firstbrook, Cassie and Anderson Insurance, to provide sponsorship dollars for OCA's 2013 Educational Programs. Howie thanked Nancy Brown and said, "OCA was proud of their relationship with Nancy Brown and looked forward to working with her on future initiatives".

Marketing of camps has always been an issue. How to inform the public about the OCA and the Camps Industry, what type of marketing tools to use and how to represent all OCA Camps continues to be an enigma. The Board examined the use of OCA's resources for marketing and government lobbying, trying to strike the right balance or best use of OCA's limited resources. One of the new marketing initiatives was with a Chinese Language Newspaper, The Epoch Times. The OCA partnered with the newspaper for one year. The partnership included ads in Mandarin highlighting the importance of choosing an OCA Accredited Camp and information about upcoming events.

The website has been an on-going topic. There were a lot of people working hard on this project. Many obstacles had to be overcome and changes had to be made in order to move forward. Leon Muszynski, OCA Treasurer, will address this issue in his report. Thank you to everyone who worked on this committee; we have made positive strides to getting the site to where we want it to be.

In the December Newsletter, Howie provided a link to the current strategic plan with key focus areas.

Howie thanked Brian Edmonds, Chair of the Standards Committee, for his expertise and on-going dialogue with the Board which has provided insight about the Standards process and future initiatives.

Howie acknowledged the following active Committees and thanked them for their work: Special Needs Resource Committee for providing substantial information to Members and for implementing AODA Training Workshops; the Day Camp Committee for their very successful workshop in October; and the Human Resource Committee for their continued support.

In conclusion, Howie expressed his gratitude to all Board Members for their expertise, time and participation. He recognized Vice Presidents, Eric Shendelman and Brian Blackstock for their constant source of knowledge and assistance and Secretary/Treasurer Leon Muszynski for his contributions, not only as Treasurer but, additionally for his professional writing skills in letters to government officials. Howie acknowledged Ellen Nash as being a huge resource in all of her volunteer capacities and for her dedication to the Association. As Past President, Ellen served two terms as President, two terms as Past President and was Acting Executive Director during the search for an Executive Director. He thanked the OCA staff Lydia Coy, Robin Perlmutter, and Nicole Markowitz for their continued efforts. In addition, he recognized Heather Heagle for her professionalism, her constant communication, and friendship. The Board is looking forward to working with Heather and has appreciated her professionalism in all aspects, to which many of the Members in the audience can attest.

Lastly, Howie thanked all of the camps he is affiliated with for their extra efforts which allowed him the time to volunteer for the OCA. He also thanked his wife Sari for being a sounding board with communications sent out over the past many years. Howie then thanked all of the Members for their support and stated he was looking forward to assisting the new President, Adam Kronick.

Howie asked the Members for a Motion to receive his report.

MOTION #2: That the President's Report is received by the Members.

Moved by: Jocelyn Palm, Glen Bernard Camp
Seconded by: Keith Hadigate, Camp Cherith
Motion: **CARRIED**

6. Report of the Executive Director

Howie asked Heather Heagle to come and share her report.

Heather Heagle, Executive Director, thanked everyone this year, especially Members, for their support of the OCA office's work and the staff. This year the office was very involved with both Federal and Provincial Governments issues. Transport Canada had begun to enforce Small Commercial Vessel Regulations for construction and for licensing. Service Canada created a new National Occupational Code, Recreation Specialist (NOC), which included non-student camp staff. This new NOC imposed a hourly wage of \$15.75 for all non-student camp staff which was reduced to \$10.25 (minimum wage) through the efforts of Leon Muszynski and Jonathan Nyquist. Though it has been a challenging year, Heather thanked the Association for giving her the opportunity to be a part of all of the activities.

Heather thanked the OCA Staff for their work. She introduced Anjali Desai, the OCA's new senior Accountant. Marina Seliverstova, for personal reasons, had to accept a full-time job. Anjali brings with her an extensive Accounting background and will be an asset to the OCA. Nicole Markowitz has volunteered her time and expertise since the fall. Her organizational and editing skills, plus her camp experience were greatly appreciated. Robin Perlmutter, as always, is a source of information, has many years of experience and knowledge of the camps industry and brings very positive energy to all tasks. She is detailed and creative, plus Robin's great understanding of the importance of customer service has

been invaluable. Lydia Coy has been with the OCA for almost two years. When she started, the office was in the midst of compiling and ensuring all of our Membership and financial data was correct. In addition, Lydia provides much needed support for the Standards Committee.

Heather stated it was a pleasure to work with all of the Committees this year. She also acknowledged the continued hard work of all of the OCA Board Members. Heather thanked Leon Muszynski for his leadership with Service Canada and Transport Canada, and Eric Shendelman for his constant thoughtful approach to issues. In conclusion, Heather stated the OCA was very fortunate to have had Howie Grossinger as President. His knowledge of the industry and perceptiveness has been outstanding and led to many positive changes. Heather recognized Ellen Nash who continues to be a great asset for the OCA, always coming to the forefront whenever and where ever she is needed.

MOTION #3: That the Members receive the Executive Director's Report.

Moved by: Jeremy Laverty, Mooredale Day Camp
Seconded by: Lisa Wilson, Camp Oconto
Motion: **CARRIED**

7. Report of the Secretary/Treasurer

Howie Grossinger welcomed and introduced Sam Marinucci, Marinucci and Associates, OCA's Auditor and Leon Muszynski, OCA's Secretary/Treasurer and thanked them for their continued work.

Leon proceeded to share his Treasurer's Report.

Annual Meetings are a time to give thanks and to have an opportunity for questions. At this time, I would like to thank Marj Booth for her work on organizing OCA's financial processes and for developing a list of monthly duties for the next Treasurer. I would also like to thank the Finance Committee Members Marjorie Booth, Rob Carmichael, Kim Smith, and Howie Grossinger. There was only one meeting this year, but it resulted in some very forward thinking for revenue development and in fee structures. Leon recognized Marina Seliverstova, OCA's previous Senior Accountant, who developed all of the functional integrated spreadsheets and reports. Leon also thanked Heather Heagle for her very careful management of the Associations' finances.

Leon detailed line by line the 2011-12 Audited Financial Statements and also referred to his Treasurer's report in the 2012 Annual Report. He noted that the new website had not been launched. In October 2012, the Website Committee reviewed and compared YourMembership's progress in building the website and its capacity to meet the OCA's needs; the Committee found that the project was too ambitious and exceeded their grasp. This meant we had to change plans; the result was that some of our spending was not as productive as it should have been. Thanks to Sol Birenbaum, we have made significant progress in moving towards providing a final product with an exciting new design and valuable search tools. Approximately \$20,000 was invested in this site last year. The site will be up and running in the near future. Regarding educational events, there is a long-term trend in the reduction of a financial benefit from OCA's educational programs. Leon suggested the Association should not rely on net profits to fund educational programs.

Leon asked for a Motion to approve the 2011-12 Audited Financial Statements.

Question: Jeff Brown, Camp Otterdale
Why are legal fees over budget for 2011-12?

Leon responded that this was due to the continuing struggle with Transport Canada regarding government officials questioning the safety of passenger carrying vessels' licensing for both the vessel and the operator. OCA camps are dramatically affected. Police began to enforce the Shipping Act by

restricting the number of passengers vessels could carry. Also, legal assistance was sought for Transport Canada's proposed changes to the Marine Insurance Regulations which again negatively impacted camps. All of these additional fees increased legal costs above the budgeted amounts for the OCA name change and Trademarking the historical and current OCA logos and names. With respect to Transport Canada, we should recoup some revenue from camps that are most affected by these regulations, who have been approached and agreed to assist in funding this initiative.

MOTION #4: That the 2011-12 Audited Financial Statements for year ending September 30, 2012 be accepted.

Moved by: Leon Muszynski, Camp Arowhon, OCA Secretary/Treasurer
Seconded by: Elana Martins, YMCA of Simcoe/Muskoka
Motion: **CARRIED**

MOTION #5: To approve the appointment of Auditors for 2012-13, subject to a Board of Directors' review of the offerings and costs for services rendered.

Moved by: Leon Muszynski, Camp Arowhon, OCA Secretary/Treasurer
Seconded by: Lisa Wilson, Camp Oconto
Motion: **CARRIED**

8. Reports of Committees and Task Forces

Howie Grossinger stated that the Committees' reports were available in the printed 2011-12 Annual Report. He thanked all of the Committees and Task Forces for their work and contributions.

Howie then asked for a Motion to accept the reports.

MOTION #6: That the Committee and Task Force Reports be accepted as presented in the 2012 Annual Report.

Moved by: Luc Cousineau, YMCA YWCA of Guelph, Camp Nagiwa
Seconded by: Sari Grossinger, Camp Robin Hood
Motion: **CARRIED**

9. Resolutions of Thanks

Eric Shendelman, Vice President, expressed his appreciation, on behalf of the OCA Membership, for all of the time and expertise volunteers have generously donated over the past year to help meet the Association's initiatives and goals. Eric encouraged all Members to volunteer for the OCA.

Howie then asked for the following Motion:

MOTION #7: That a resolution of thanks to the Association's Volunteers be recorded.

Moved by: Eric Shendelman, Crestwood Day Camp
Seconded by: Jeff Brown, Camp Otterdale
Motion: **CARRIED**

Brian Blackstock, Vice President, acknowledged the work of the OCA staff. He thanked Lydia Coy, Robin Perlmutter, Nicole Markowitz and Heather Heagle for providing their knowledge and expertise on a daily basis to not only Members, but to the public-at-large.

Howie asked for the following Motion:

MOTION #8: That a resolution of thanks to the Association's Staff be recorded.

Moved by: Brian Blackstock, Honorary Life Member, OCA Vice President
Seconded by: Jocelyn Palm, Glen Bernard Camp
Motion: **CARRIED**

10. Report of the Nominating Committee

Howie Grossinger introduced and thanked Ellen Nash, Past President, for her work as Nominating Chair and for her support as Past President over the past two years.

Ellen Nash presented the Nominating Committee Report which included Members remaining on the Board for one more year and Board positions open for election.

Ellen reported the following information:

i. Board Members remaining on the 2013 Board of Directors are:

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|------------------|---|
| Howie Grossinger | Past President |
| Brian Blackstock | Vice President |
| Leon Muszynski | Secretary/Treasurer |
| Elana Martins | Director, Day Camps Sub-class |
| Tracy Morley | Director, Special Needs Camps Sub-class |
| Jonathan Nyquist | Member-at-Large |

ii. Ellen then thanked the Board Members whose terms had ended and presented them with a token of appreciation:

| | |
|------------------|------------------------|
| Howie Grossinger | President |
| Ellen Nash | Past President |
| Eric Shendelman | Vice-President |
| Alex Robertson | Agency Camps Sub-class |
| John Malcomson | Member-at-Large |

Ellen explained Dave Graham had vacated his position in August 2012; Mark Diamond graciously accepted the position of Private Camps Sub-class, to complete Dave’s term of office.

In addition, Ellen stated that Sara Petker had passed away in August. Mike Greenfield, Religiously Affiliated Sub-class, willingly stepped forward to complete Sara’s term of office.

iii. Acclaimed Board Positions:

| | | |
|------------------|-----------------|----------------|
| Adam Kronick | Camp White Pine | President |
| Craig Perlmutter | Camp Tamakwa | Vice President |

Ellen thanked all Members who let their names stand for the 2013-15 term of office. She reminded them to keep their enthusiasm and desire for wanting to participate in OCA affairs and encouraged them to volunteer their expertise in other capacities.

iv. Ellen then announced the vacant Board positions and candidates standing for those positions.

Director, Agency Camps Sub-class

- 1) Luc Cousineau, YMCA-YWCA Guelph, Camp Nagiwa
- 2) Sarah Shaw Dougald, Autism Ontario –York Region
- 3) Fiona Fisher, Camp Trillium
- 4) Andrew Young, Canadian Diabetes Association
- 5) Kim Vallieres, Easter Seals - Camp Woodeden

Director, Private Camps Sub-class

- 1) Patrick Birnie, Arrowhead Camp
- 2) Mark Diamond, Camp Manitou

Director, Religiously Affiliated Camps Sub-class:

- 1) Rob Crew, Sparrow Lake Camp
- 2) Mike Greenfield, Camp Widjiitiwin

Member-at-Large

- 1) Jeff Brown, Camp Otterdale
- 2) Jeremy Laverty, Mooredale Day Camp

v. Ellen followed this announcement with the election results:

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|------------------|--------------------|---|
| Luc Cousineau, | YMCA - YWCA Guelph | Director, Agency Camps, Sub-class |
| Mark Diamond, | Camp Manitou | Director, Private Camps, Sub-class |
| Mike Greenfield, | Camp Widjiitiwin | Director, Religiously Affiliated Camps, Sub-class |
| Jeff Brown, | Camp Otterdale | Member-at-Large |

Ellen Nash congratulated the Members and then introduced Janet Adamson, Past President, to induct the new Board.

10. Introduction and Induction of Board

Janet Adamson, Past President, announced the new Board of Directors for 2013-2014:

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|------------------|--|
| Adam Kronick | President |
| Brian Blackstock | Vice President |
| Craig Perlmutter | Vice President |
| Leon Muszynski | Secretary/Treasurer |
| Howie Grossinger | Past President |
| Luc Cousineau | Director, Agency/Not-For-Profit Camps Sub-class |
| Elana Martins | Director, Day Camps Sub-class |
| Mark Diamond | Director, Private Camps Sub-class |
| Mike Greenfield | Director, Religiously-Affiliated Camps Sub-class |
| Tracy Morley | Director, Special Needs Camps Sub-class |
| Jonathan Nyquist | Member-at-large |
| Jeff Brown | Member-at-large |

Janet gave a short presentation to the new Board outlining some of the challenges they may have and highlighted the satisfaction they can expect volunteering for the Association in this capacity.

Janet then made the following Motion:

MOTION #9: To destroy the ballots associated with this election after a week and not more than a month after this meeting.

Moved by: Janet Adamson, Past President
Seconded by: Sam Butcher, Onondaga Camp
Motion: **CARRIED**

Howie thanked Janet for her encouragement to the new Board and moved on to New Business.

11. New Business

Howie asked Qasem Mahmud, Long Bay Camp Arts By The Lake, to come forward with his proposal.

Qasem asked the OCA Board consider organizing a Camp Day for March 21st the first day of spring. He said that with the Board's permission, he would have the day acclaimed by politicians he worked with.

Howie thanked Qasem for his proposal and suggested he speak with the new Board about organizing such an event.

Howie asked if there were any other items for discussion. There were none.

12. Announcements

Howie Grossinger announced the following important events:

a. Constitutional Change

Howie outlined the process taken that led to the development of the current draft By-laws. It began with meetings with constitutional consultants Dr. Julie Morton and Ron O'Brien and ongoing discussions with the constitutional committee of Alex Robertson, Dave Graham, and Heather Heagle. The first draft was sent to a Constitutional Lawyer at Borden, Ladner and Gervais, LLP, for review and changes which were made. Next, there was a meeting with an advisory group of OCA Past Presidents. Their comments and changes were again sent to Borden, Ladner and Gervais, LLP for feedback and implementation. In December 2012, prior to the AGM, Board Members were given another opportunity to review the draft.

Howie suggested the next steps in the process: distributing the draft By-laws to the Membership, asking for their suggestions/changes/additions by March 31, 2013; in early April, the Board would review the submissions with the support of legal advice; if everything was in place, a Special Meeting of the Members would be called for the end of April. From January to March 2013, the Policy and Procedure Manual, which would accompany the draft Constitution, would be completed.

b. 2013 Annual Conference

Howie announced that the OCA and ACA, Upstate New York Annual Conference is February 20 -23, 2013, at the Sheraton-on-the-Falls Hotel in Niagara Falls Ontario. Conference information has been available since October 2012 and the Program Booklet would be online by the end of January.

3. 2013 Educational Programs:

Howie provided Members with the following list of Educational Programs for the spring of 2013:

1. Facilities and Maintenance – March 18 & 19
2. Food Services - March 20
3. Health Care Workshop - May 4
4. Counsellor Conference - June 8

4. Awards Dinner

Howie invited everyone to attend the Awards Dinner immediately following the AGM. If Members had not purchased their tickets they may do so at the door of the Vaughan Room.

14. Adjournment

Howie asked for a Motion to Adjourn.

Moved by: Liz Greenway, YWCA – Toronto, Camp Tapawingo

CARRIED

The meeting was adjourned at 5:15 pm.