



Ontario Camps Association

Board of Directors Meeting – October 25, 2016

10:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.

OCA Office – 70 Martin Ross Avenue, Toronto, ON M3J 2L4

Present: Adam Kronick, President  
Jonathan Nyquist, Vice President  
Craig Perlmutter, Vice President  
Rob Carmichael, Director  
Julie Gallie, Director  
Karen Hartnett, Director  
Eric Shendelman, Director  
Mike Stewart, Director

Regrets: Leon Muszynski, Secretary/Treasurer, Jeff Brown, Director, and Mark Diamond, Director

Staff: Heather Heagle, Executive Director

1. Welcome & Introduction  
Adam welcomed everyone to the meeting.
2. Confirmation of Agenda  
Two items were added to the Agenda: OCA Nominations Committee Report and Canada's 150 Birthday.

3. Approval of September 28, 2016, Board Meeting Minutes

**Motion #1:** Recommend, That the September 28, 2016, Board Meeting Minutes be approved as presented.

Moved by: Mike Stewart

Seconded by: Julie Gallie

**CARRIED**

4. President's Report Adam Kronick

i. Board Member Resignation

Stu Saunders contacted Adam and officially resigned. Stu explained that he cannot make the fall meetings with his busy schedule. At this time, the Board decided not to fill the position as there are only three meetings left for this term of office.

Stu was working on an OCA video. Adam stated he would like to contact Cineplex regarding the 30 second ads.

**Action Item:** Eric has a connection with Cineplex, Ellis Jacob, and will contact him.

Adam will contact Stu regarding Cineplex. Adam will send Eric a snap shot of what had been proposed. One of Adam's staff created this short video.

ii. Brian Blackstock's Memorial

Brian's memorial will take place Saturday, November 5 at 1:00 p.m. at Yorkminster Park

Baptist Church, 1585 Yonge Street in Toronto, ON M4T 1Z9, just north of St. Clair Avenue.

**Action Item:** A donation will be sent to Kids In Camp.

iii. Annual General Meeting (AGM) – Memorials

In a Board discussion at the September meeting, the Board decided to have a memorial at the end of the Annual General Meeting for the following members who passed away this year: Dave Stoch, Camp Kodiak; Taylor Statten II, Taylor Statten Camps; David Bale, Camp Tamakwa; and Brian Blackstock, Past President and Honourary Life Member. Their families have been contacted regarding the details of the memorials and their families and friends, who may be giving the presentation on behalf of the family, have been invited to attend the Awards Dinner following the AGM.

iv. Induction of New Board – Past OCA President

Adam contacted Rick Howard, Past OCA President, to ask him if he would present the induction for the new Board at the 2017 AGM. Rick agreed to this request.

5. Treasurer's Report Leon Muszynski  
Leon was not able to attend the meeting, so Heather presented the reports.

i. September - Financial Report

OCA's September month-end is also OCA's year-end. The Auditor has been in the office since October. The financial report for this month is incomplete at this time as it does not include any adjustments such as the Auditor's fee, depreciation expenses and the following new charge received in October from CCA for \$8,107.75 for Tactix (lobbyist's fees - April to August fees). In the spring of 2016 Adam Kronick, Rob Carmichael and Mark Diamond met with Dave Graham, CCA's Treasurer, to discuss payments to Tactix's. CCA committed to \$20,000.00 and OCA \$22,000.00 for 2016. These fees will be negotiated again next year. The OCA has completed the Association's financial commitment to lobbying for 2016. Eric Shendelman asked if Tactix had provided a report for Federal and Provincial issues. Rob said the latest report had been sent to all CCA Board Members and the Government Relations Committee. Eric requested that this report be shared with all OCA Board Members.

**Action Items:** The Board requested that Rob Carmichael, OCA-CCA representative, speak with CCA regarding CCA's commitment next year to the lobbying budget.  
Rob will send Tactix's recent report to Heather to be sent to all Board Members.

Adam stated that Tactix doesn't lobby on behalf of the Association, they advise the Association on a process, or provide the contact names of specific government representatives to be contacted. He explained that the government wants to hear from the organization rather than the lobbyists.

Eric stated that the Ontario Provincial Government, Ministry of Health and Long-Term Care opened Regulations 565 and 568. He explained that both he and Heather had attended meetings. Currently we are waiting for further direction. Also, the Early Years Ministry is

reviewing after school programs for 6 to 12 year olds. This review could affect many camps' before and after camp programs. Heather has been working with Tactix to have a meeting with the new minister and in addition would like to have an OCA representative on the review committee.

ii. Dara Kahane would like to be on the Government Relations Committee as a provincial committee representative.

iii. 2015-16 Audited Preliminary Financial Statements

The Auditor will have the preliminary statements ready the week of November 7<sup>th</sup>.

Draft statements will be sent to Board Members on November 8<sup>th</sup> for their review prior to a conference call meeting scheduled for Thursday, November 10<sup>th</sup> at 1:30 pm.

Sam Marinucci will present the draft to the Board.

6. Executive Director's Report Heather Heagle

Heather presented her report which included all of the work being completed in the office and a list of camps that were no longer operating in 2017 or who are not renewing with the OCA.

7. Business Arising

There was no past business to report at this time.

8. Committee/Event Reports:

**Awards**

Jeff Brown

i. Award Nominations

Jeff Brown was absent from the meeting; Heather Heagle presented the Awards report with all of the candidates endorsed by the Awards Committee. The Board was asked to approve the recommended candidate for the Dorothy Walter Award of Excellence, Bev Unger.

**Motion #2:** Recommend, That the OCA Board approve Bev Unger as the 2016 Dorothy Walter Award of Excellence recipient.

Moved by: Julie Gallie

Seconded: by Karen Hartnett

**CARRIED**

**Educational Events**

Karen Hartnett

Karen stated that the 2017 Annual Conference is organized and ready to go. All of the Speakers, Keynote Speakers, Socials and Exhibit Hall details are now in place. The emails being sent out by the office have been very clear and full of exciting information. Karen also reported that 2017 is Canada's 150th anniversary and grants in small amounts have been allocated to each area in Canada. In addition, the government is looking for "Snap Shots" of how people or possibly camps are celebrating this anniversary. There is a unique hashtag that Karen will share with the camps community. Karen suggested it could be as easy as encouraging OCA Accredited Camp Members to have their campers wear red and white on July 1, 2017, take pictures and then send them to the 150th Anniversary Committee.

**Government Relations**

Jonathan Nyquist

i. Temporary Foreign Worker Program

Jonathan described his latest meeting with the government regarding the Temporary Foreign Worker program. He went to Ottawa on Thursday, September 29th, thinking that government representatives would be ready to present options for the OCA. Instead, Jonathan was introduced to a new person, who had not been briefed and was asking the same question as were asked in previous meetings. They still have to make a decision on the Labour Market Impact Assessment (LMIA) classification. They understand that we are a unique industry. Now we just have to wait for their decision.

Adam thanked Jonathan for all of his time and work and for taking the lead role on this initiative.

Jonathan stated that he and Mark Diamond were scheduled for a call on Thursday this week with Michael Levitt. It seems that the government is making a lot of changes; they are not tightening the rules, they seem to be loosening them.

#### ii. Preferred Vendor Meeting

Approximately 24 Preferred Vendors met on October 18<sup>th</sup>. It was a good meeting and to add value to their membership, Bruce Phillips and Jonathan will be presenting, in early January 2017, a panel discussion at the OCA office, on selling techniques that work well with camps. New vendors may not know how to approach senior camp staff and may want examples of how to get involved in this industry. Once you are involved you are part of a family. They would like Directors to come and talk to the group. Jonathan said if anyone was interested they should contact him.

#### **Marketing**

Mike Stewart

Mike explained that the taskforce was starting with a small project which will be a resource that OCA can share with different organizations and school boards across Ontario. It will be called Camp in a Box, which will be a small box of games, hands games with experiential learning goals, promoting Accredited Camps. At this time there is a small group of people who will work on drafting the content of each box.

Karen Hartnett stated that Physical Literacy is a hot topic today. Kids are missing steps with sports and physical activities. Schools are mandated to have daily physical activities for one hour.

Eric suggested that if classes or schools as a unit complete all of the games in every section they should receive an OCA certificate. To get buy-in for the Camp in a Box project, Eric will work with School Trustees in Toronto and Karen will work with Trustees in Hamilton and Halton.

#### **Nominations**

Craig Perlmutter

Nominations for this year's election will close on October 20th. Currently, Eric Shendelman has been nominated for the President's position and Rob Crew for the Vice-President's position. Approximately eight members are running for four Directors' positions. The Board discussed the possibility of opening the OCA Bylaws again to change the voting procedures. Most non-profits vote for Director positions only. Once the Board is elected, the Board Members select the

President, Vice Presidents and Secretary/Treasurer. With a more open system, more experience and qualified people would be open to running for election.

**Special Needs**

Julie Gallie

Julie provided the Board with the date of April 20<sup>th</sup> for the next Campfire of Inclusion which will be held at the Toronto Botanical Garden.

Julie also explained that Camp Robin Hood had received a letter from Accessibility for Ontarians with Disabilities Act (AODA) this summer asking them if they were complying with the new regulations and also requiring them to provide concrete evidence of their compliance. At this time, the Camp needed only to provide completed paperwork.

**Action Item:** Julie was asked to send the templates to Heather who will share it with Rob Crew, Standards Review Chair.

**Standards**

Eric Shendelman

Eric informed the Board that he was going to speak with Matthew Bernardo about being the next Standards Chair person. If Matthew accepts the position, Eric will work with Matthew over the next few months to assist him with the transition. Eric also let the Board know that there were three new members on the Standards Committee: they are Christina Bossart, Heather Davidson, Kelley Ruys de Perez. In addition, Jen Dundas has returned to the committee after a short sabbatical.

i. Standards Visits (2016)

**ACCREDITED → REACCREDITED**

**Motion #3:** To accept the recommendation of the Standards Committee that, based on the results of the recent standards visits, the following camps be re-accredited for four years:

Arrowhead Camp	CNIB Lake Joseph Centre
C.Y.O. Camp Brebeuf	Cairn Presbyterian Music Camp
Cairn: Glen Mhor, Iona	Galbraith Optimist Camps for Kids
Girl Guides of Canada, Ontario Council: Wyoka	Hashomer Hatzair/ Camp Shomria
Huron Church Camp	Interprovincial Music Camp
Lakefield Camp International	March of Dimes Canada
Olympia	Safari Zoo Camp
Trails Youth Initiatives Inc.	Trillium Day Camp
Trillium Rainbow Lake	Wabikon
Wapomeo - Taylor Statten Camps	Widjiitiwin
Wilvaken	YMCA Hamilton Burlington Brantford - Hamilton Downtown
YMCA Hamilton Burlington Brantford - Ron Edwards	YMCA Hamilton Burlington Brantford - Tansley Woods
YMCA Hamilton Burlington Brantford –	YMCA Niagara - Carleton School

Wanakita	
YMCA Niagara - Ferndale School	YMCA Niagara - Fireman's Park
YMCA Niagara - Great Lakes Christian High School	YMCA Niagara - St Ann's School
YMCA Oakville - Valens Lake Conservation	YMCA Simcoe/Muskoka - Kitchikewana
YMCA Western Ontario - Centre Branch YMCA	YMCA Western Ontario - Komoka Branch YMCA
YMCA Western Ontario - Stoney Creek Branch Day Camp	YMCA Western Ontario - Strathroy - Caradoc Branch

Moved by: Jonathan Nyquist

Seconded by: Julie Gallie

**CARRIED**

**Standards Review**

Rob Crew

The Town Hall meeting held on Thursday, October 13<sup>th</sup> provided a lot of really positive comments as did the emails from members around the province. An added benefit to this exercise is the fact that more people are looking at the Standards because of this process. In addition, there has been positive feedback from OCA's school board partners. School Boards around Ontario are looking specifically to OCA Camps to provide their outdoor education programs/facilities.

Rob stated that changes had been made to the definitions for Short Term Overnight Camps and Rentals. He explained that the word "Overnight" had been taken out of the definition in an attempt to clarify the differences between a short term program and rentals.

Karen Hartnett added that she thought the new description was much better and was a lot less confusing.

A week after the Town Hall Meeting, Eric and Rob met with the YMCA to discuss the proposed Year-round Standards. They didn't have any changes at this time. They were looking for clarification as they do not rent their properties. They were taking the draft to their camp meeting and requested a follow up meeting in November.

It was made clear at all the meetings that individual Rental Agreements should be built into each camp's protocols. Understanding that each camp operates differently for each of the rental groups, drafting their own Rental Agreements gives them flexibility in making their own contracts.

The Board discussion on the draft Year-round Standards began at 11:30 am and ended at 12:50 pm. Rob thanked all members for their contributions to the draft document.

Rob again outlined the process for input on the proposed Year-round Standards:

- Email with draft Year-round Standards sent to Board Members at the end of August

- Discussion with the OCA Board, September 28<sup>th</sup>

- Revisions from the Board Meeting, September 29<sup>th</sup> and 30<sup>th</sup>

- Email to all Members that included the proposed Year-round Standards and information regarding the Town Hall Meeting

Email reminders to Members in October  
Town Hall Meeting, October 13th  
Board Meeting Discussion, October 25<sup>th</sup>  
Revisions made October 26<sup>th</sup> and 27<sup>th</sup>  
Webinar reminder emails sent October 27<sup>th</sup>, November 1<sup>st</sup>  
Webinar, November 9<sup>th</sup>  
Revisions to be made  
Legal review of the format by lawyers  
Board meeting November 22<sup>nd</sup>  
Posted on OCA website the last week of November

Adam thanked Rob and the Committee for all of their work on this initiative.

**Canadian Camping Association**

Rob Carmichael

. CCA-National Leadership Forum

Rob reminded the Board of the CCA's National Leadership Forum Meeting taking place November 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup>. Representatives from all provinces will be attending the meeting. This year the agenda includes CCA's Marketing initiative and the progress on their new database. Stéphane Richard will be chairing the meeting. Rob also spoke about ICDC training and CCA's continued research regarding new revenue sources.

9. New Business

The two items added to the Agenda were the Nominations Committee Report and Canada's 150<sup>th</sup> Birthday were discussed under Committee Reports.

10. Next Meeting Dates: Conference Call Meeting: Thursday, November 10<sup>th</sup> at 1:30 pm  
In Person Meetings: Tuesday, November 22<sup>nd</sup>  
Thursday, December 15<sup>th</sup>  
Tuesday, January 17<sup>th</sup> AGM and Awards Dinner

11. Adjournment

Motion to Adjourn: Eric Shendelman at 1:00pm

Date the Draft Minutes are approved: \_\_\_\_\_

*November 22/16*

Signatures: \_\_\_\_\_

*[Signature]*  
OCA President

*[Signature]*  
Executive Director

