

**Fredericton Chamber of Commerce  
Annual General Meeting  
Wednesday, June 14, 2017  
Fredericton Convention Centre**

**Attendance:**

Mayor Mike O'Brien	Keir Clark	Paul Simmonds	Stephen MacGillivray
Jason White	Krishna Khaitan	Stephen Hill	Wendy Hallihan
Ali Reid	David Eisnor	Brenda Perrin	Roger Lenton
Karen Grant	Dan Pike	Ken Critchley	Amit Virmani
Robert Burroughs	Jeff Lingley	Mark Mahoney	Randy Desjardins
Ryan Boyer	Jill Stairs	Bob Chisholm	Jeff Saunders
Danielle Harding	Erin Flood	Mark Scaplen	Sheri McKillop
Dan Myers	Ali Reid	Meaghan Seagrave	

**Staff:**

Krista Ross	Morgan Peters	Layla Rahmeh
Wendy Morrell	Tanya Senechal	Susan Randall
Christine Little	Janet Moser	Alex Dee

**1) Welcome and Call to Order**

President Paul Simmonds called the meeting to order at 8:00 am and welcomed all those in attendance that the 2017 Annual General Meeting. Copies of the Agenda, AGM report and the audited financial statements were distributed to all in attendance.

**a. Approval of Agenda**

The agenda had been distributed via email prior to the meeting. Paul asked for a motion to approve the agenda as circulated. MOTION: Stephen Hill made a motion to accept the agenda, seconded by Andrew Steeves, motion approved.

**b. Approval of the Minutes**

The minutes of the June 14, 2016 meeting had been distributed via email prior to the meeting. Paul asked for a motion to approve the minutes as circulated. MOTION: Jill Stairs moved to accept the minutes, seconded by Bob Chisholm, motion approved.

**2) Treasurer's Report**

Jill reported that her first year as treasurer was a busy one with a lot going on. The Succession Connect program was launched and overall everything went smoothly. The chamber ended the year with a surplus which is due to successful events and projects and responsible fiscal management. This savings will be passed on to the membership as membership dues will stay at the same rate for the upcoming year. This strong financial

position will also allow the chamber to create a reserve fund for future sustainability and allow 10% of the surplus to go towards the chamber scholarship. MOTION: Karen Grant moved to accept the treasurer's report, seconded by Jeff Saunders, motion approved.

### **3) Presentation of the Audited Financial Report**

Jill presented the audited financial statements completed by Shannon Buffett. This was the first year for their firm to perform the audit and it went smoothly. As mentioned in the Treasurer's report, the chamber ended the year in a surplus position due to successful events and responsible fiscal management. The Balance Sheet is strong as is the cash and cash equivalent. The BIMP/HIVE program is funded by the Province and the Succession Connect programs is funded by ACOA, the City of Fredericton and the Province of New Brunswick and these programs also ended the year in a strong position. MOTION: Paul Simmonds moved to accept the audited financial statements as presented, seconded by Jeff Saunders, motion approved.

### **4) Appointment of Auditors for 2015-2016**

MOTION: Jill made a motion to appoint Shannon & Buffett as auditors for the 2017-2018 year, seconded by Keir Clark, motion approved.

### **5) President's Report**

President Paul Simmonds remarked how he started his year as president with a trip to Ottawa to observe how the national chamber of commerce works. He stressed the importance of having a strong active membership and expressed a heartfelt thank you to all members. It was a busy year for the chamber with major events like the State of the Province and the State of the City, numerous educational and social event and new this year we hosted a Parliamentary Breakfast with our MP Matt DeCourcy. Our chamber was also fortunate enough to be able to host a Town Hall meeting featuring Prime Minister Justin Trudeau as part of his cross Canada tour.

Our board of directors met and formulated an extensive strategic plan and has met regularly to keep our chamber on track with the key issues in the business community. The chamber's moto - Community Prosperity through Business is always prevalent when shaping policies to highlight challenges and opportunities to our members. Paul thanked the Board of Director, the Executive and the staff of the chamber and outgoing president Stephen Hill for all their hard work over the past year. Paul ended by saying that the Fredericton Chamber of Commerce is a great organization and don't hesitate to take an active role.

- a) Paul took an opportunity to recognized the outgoing directors:  
Stephen Hill, Charit Khatri, Victoria Andrews, Dave Watt, Jason LeJeune, Bronwyn Mulherin and Roger Bannister.
- b) Paul presented the Chamber's 2017 President's Award. This award is given to an individual or team who have made a difference and made the tenure of the president easier.

Paul presented the award to the team of the Fredericton Chamber of Commerce and made a donation to the chamber's scholarship fund.

## **6) Chief Executive Officer's Report**

Krista began by thanking Paul for presenting the President's Award to the chamber team. She then reported that the chamber had another great year and reflected on the successes and accomplishments of the past year. She thanked Paul for being a great leader for the team over the past year and stated that she looks forward to working with Keir as in-coming president.

Krista recognized the hard work of the many chamber volunteers and she thanked the outgoing board members and Stephen Hill for all the hard work over the past year. She also recognized the community partners, Ignite Fredericton, Business Fredericton North, Downtown Fredericton, the City of Fredericton as well as many others including the Greater Moncton Chamber of Commerce and the Saint John Chamber of Commerce for a great year of collaboration.

It was a big year for our advocacy efforts and Krista recognized Morgan for his excellent work on many different advocacy files. Krista said that she was proud of the chamber's work on the worksafe file and is hopeful that the costs to employers is sustainable.

She recognized Janet for providing top quality training to the city's newcomers. This month the 17th cohort completed the project and she is looking forward to working with cohort 18. The Hive continues to thrive with 8 new clients. In November the Succession Connect program was launched and this program has been recommended to the federal government to roll out nationally. She also acknowledged the two team members for our immigration efforts Layla Rahmeh and Monique Hong for their dedication and work towards to the goals of the programs.

Krista thanked Wendy for continuing efforts to keep our members informed through the chamber's communication vehicles and for keeping the office running smoothly

Krista recognized the hard work that went into planning the chamber's numerous events during the past year. Stacey Murray who was the Event Manager for the past 5 years has moved on and now we welcome Tanya Senechal who will be a great addition to the team.

Krista also recognized Christine for keeping our benefit package up-to-date and stays on top of any new benefits that are offered at the maritime and national levels. She also congratulated her on attracting 100 new members over the past year and continuing to grow the chamber's social media presence.

Krista closed by informing everyone that the chamber will be hosting the Canadian Chamber of Commerce Annual General Meeting and Conference in September. It will be a great

opportunity to showcase Fredericton and the business community. There are still sponsorships available so contact the chamber if you are interested.

Krista presented Paul with a gift to commemorate his year as chamber president.

## 7) **Nomination Committee**

Stephen Hill, chair of the nominating committee reported in accordance with the chamber's by-laws the following people following people have agreed to let their name stand as members of the executive committee:

Keir Clark - President  
Ryan Boyer- 1st Vice President  
Karen Grant- 2nd Vice President  
Paul Simmonds- Past President  
Jill Stairs- Treasurer  
Bob Chisholm- Executive Member  
Jeff Saunders - Executive Member

The following individuals agreed to remain as 2nd year directors:

Danielle Harding - Stewart McKelvey  
Erin Flood - The Go Do Project  
Mark Scaplen  
Sheri McKillop - University of Fredericton  
Dan Myers - Crowne Plaza Fredericton  
Ali Reid - Fredericton Animal Hospital  
Meaghan Seagrave - BioNB

The following individuals have agreed to sit as board members for a two year term:

Wendy Hallihan - Exit Realty Advantage  
Dan Pike - The Medicine Shoppe Pharmacy / Liv9 Nutrition Inc.  
Krishna Khaitan - AV Group NB Inc.  
Jason White - Altus Group  
Jeff Lingley - Rainsford Contracting Ltd.  
Ken Critchley - Morneau Shepell  
Brenda Perrin - Holiday Inn Express & Suites

MOTION: Stephen Hill made a motion to accept the 2017-2018 board of directors, seconded by Jill Stairs, motion approved.

**a) Confirmation / Introduction** - Mayor Mike O'Brien came forward to say that he was honoured to be asked to affirm the new board members. He congratulated the board of directors on being a shining example and mentioned that our chamber is recognized on a national stage. He said that he is bursting with pride on the many successes of Fredericton and believes that we are too humble and need to scream a bit longer and be

proud. He talked about the importance of the airport expansion and the building of the new performing arts centre.

The Mayor then called the new board members forward to affirm them as members of the chamber's board of directors. Each director was then presented with Fredericton Chamber of Commerce lapel pins.

#### **8) Confirmation / Introduction - Incoming President**

Mayor Mike O'Brien called upon Keir Clark to affirm him as the chamber's president for the 2017-2018 year.

Paul Simmonds came forward to do the Chamber tradition of 'Passing the Buck' to the new President Keir Clark. A framed \$1 bill that has been passed on to the new President Each year and signed by each President was given to symbolize the new year.

#### **9) Incoming President Report**

President Keir Clark said that he has had the great privilege of being on the chamber's board for a few years now and thanked outgoing President Paul Simmonds, and outgoing Past President Stephen Hill as well as the other outgoing board members for all their hard work and guidance. He is looking forward to working with the new board as this will be an exciting year for the chamber. In September, the Chamber will host the Canadian Chamber of Commerce Annual General Meeting which will showcase Fredericton and the business community. This project has been in the works for a few years now and has been led by Karen Grant, - Keir expressed a thank you to Karen and her team for all of their hard work. He encouraged members to get involved with the chamber. He said that your chamber membership gives you opportunities to - Influence, Access & Profile. Influencing all three levels of government through the chamber's advocacy efforts, access to the chamber's vast network of business leaders and to public officials and to share in the chamber's profile while profiling your business at the same time. He closed by encouraging members to get the most from their membership and to be as active as possible.

President Keir made mention of the upcoming Parliamentary Breakfast on June 27th featuring MP Matt DeCourcy and mentioned that the chamber's Annual Golf tournament is now sold out. He also gave one more mention to the sponsorship opportunities available for the Canadian Chamber of Commerce AGM in September.

#### **10) Other Business**

Keir asked if there was any new business. No new business at this time.

#### **11) Adjournment**

President Keir Clark asked for a motion to adjourn the meeting, moved by Robert Burroughs, Executive Director of the NB Student Alliance.

