

**FRIENDS OF THE CENTRAL EXPERIMENTAL FARM
AMIS DE LA FERME EXPERIMENTALE CENTRALE**

Minutes of a Meeting of the Board of Directors
Wednesday, September 17, 2025 at 2:00 p.m.

PRESENT: Dianne Caldbick, Lois Burrows, Christina Fiedorowicz, Linda McLaren, Heather Webster, Elizabeth Atkinson, Liz Lumsden, Eric Jones, Yves Garcia, Shirley Ewen, Mark Vigder, Bill Joyce (office manager)

GUEST: Henry Phan

AGENDA:

- **MOVED by Lois and SECONDED by Heather THAT the agenda be adopted as revised. CARRIED.**

MINUTES:

- **MOVED by Lois and SECONDED by Linda THAT the minutes of the August 2025 meeting be approved with revisions. CARRIED.**

PRESIDENT'S REPORT - Dianne

- No report.

TREASURER'S REPORT: Heather

- Heather presented a review of the 2016 Investment Guideline Policy. A lengthy discussion followed. Before we can move forward the Board has to three decisions to make: what level of risk is the Board willing to tolerate, how much of the capital to preserve, and if they want to maximize the capital or invest in green or ethical financial instruments. Once these decisions have been made, then Lois and Heather can consult with the investment advisor at RBC to get his advice on an investment strategy. Following this the investment advisor could meet with the Board to explain the strategy plus respond to questions. Then the investment policy will be revised. A special meeting will be set up shortly to make the decisions about the investments.

ITEMS FOR BOARD DECISION

Henry Phan gave a brief introduction and explained why he would like to become a member of the FCEF Board.

- **MOVED by Heather and Seconded by Elizabeth that Henry Phan be elected to the FCEF Board for the position of Member at Large in anticipation of becoming Treasurer. CARRIED.**

Winter Event.

- Plans have changed as no one is available to lead the children's events. A wreath making event will take place in the morning and a holiday open house for members, volunteers, and guests in the afternoon.

Outdoor signage.

- Bill presented the options. FCEF decided to use the original outdoor sign as the logo could be changed in the future. The placement of the sign was decided by a vote and the second location was selected, on the lawn west of

the entrance. The second choice was in the landscaping across from the entrance door. For the sign on the door, a smaller sign similar to those for the CelebriTree donor plaques was selected. Bill and Mark will finalize the wording on this sign.

Governance Committee Proposal 2025-2026

- **MOVED by Lois and seconded by Christina that the Board approve the Governance Committee policy review/development for the period September 2025 to May 31, 2025, that the “no-scents” policy and a review of the roles and responsibilities of Board positions be incorporated into this review. CARRIED.**

ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION

- Two items, The Garden Reports and Managing AAFC Budget Uncertainty, will be held over to the October meeting.

ITEMS FOR INFORMATION

Volunteer Luncheon on October 8, 11:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.

- All Board members are asked to attend as the Board is hosting the volunteer luncheon. Members are to submit their name to Bill and he will register us. Linda will invite the AAFC staff. Help with set-up and take-down is required.
- Two items, Membership and CelebriTree, will be held over to the October meeting.

ACTION ITEMS

- Yves will continue to work on the membership file.
- Dianne will present a greening of the organization.
- Work will continue on the Winter Event.
- Board members to attend the Volunteer Luncheon and ask Bill to register them.
- Planning to continue for the Winter Event.
- Board to meet to discuss the investment strategy.

NEXT BOARD MEETING – October 15, 2025 at 2:00 p.m.

The meeting was adjourned at 4:05 p.m.



Dianne Caldbick, President



Shirley Ewen, Secretary