

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

Minutes of a Meeting of the Board of Directors
Wednesday, November 19, 2025 at 11:00 a.m.

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

ABSENT: Linda McLaren, David Baker

AGENDA:

- **MOVED by Lois and SECONDED by Christina THAT the agenda be adopted. APPROVED.**

MINUTES:

- **MOVED by Lois and SECONDED by Eric THAT the minutes of the September 2025 meeting be approved with revisions. APPROVED.**

PRESIDENT'S REPORT - Dianne

- Dianne reported on the garden team meeting and noted that the teams were pleased with the collaboration with AAFC. High school students will be welcome to join the teams and a new shed closer to the rock garden area is proposed. Another suggestion is that more signage is required.

TREASURER'S REPORT: Heather

- No issues were found with the October statements.
- Heather reported that the Donations of Security form has been updated for the website and information about the benefit of this type of donation will be added as well.

ITEMS FOR BOARD DECISION

- Yves presented the **Membership Advantages**. A number of the advantages had been approved previously. The Newsletter will be available on the website for all. Members will receive discounts of 20% on select FCEF events and 10% on Boutique items. **MOVED by Yves and SECONDED by Elizabeth THAT the Membership Advantages document be approved. APPROVED.**
- Gift Certificates for membership will now be available.
- A Christmas e-mail greeting will be sent to all volunteers. One message will be sent to volunteers who are members and a separate message to encourage non-members volunteers to become members.
- **INVESTMENT POLICY** – Heather updated us on this topic.
 - A vote was taken on the rate of return

o Rate of return	o 4-5%	o 3-5%
o # votes in favour	o 8	o 2
o # votes against	o 2	o 8

A vote was taken on the proposed asset mix:

o Asset Allocation range	o Option 1	o Option 2
o Cash and equivalents	o 10%	o 10%
o Fixed income	o 45%	o 50%
o Equities	o 45%	o 40%
o # Votes in favour	o 4	o 6
o # votes against	o 6	o 4

- **Moved by Heather and seconded by Elizabeth THAT the 2025 Investment Policy be approved with amendments. APPROVED.**
- It is recommended that ESG investments be reviewed every 2 years.
- **Moved by Heather and seconded by Lois THAT the \$63K GIC's (interest included) become part of Safeguard the Future Fund and be managed by our RBC financial advisor. APPROVED.**

IEMS FOR DISCUSSION

- The Annual Review will be held over until the December meeting and will incorporate the discussion of the 2026 budget and the proposed Arboretum Interpretation Projects.
- Yves gave an update on the integrated system for FCEF. He is gathering the information so he can identify the requirements and come up with a proposal. He has yet to speak with Mark and Randy. Yves would like to have the system in place by April 1, 2026.

ITEMS FOR INFORMATION

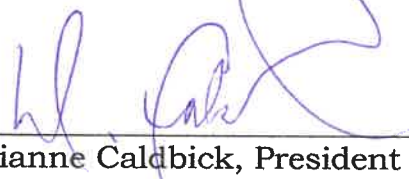
- The non-dinner invitations will go out on November 20, 2025.
- The Wreathmaking event on December 6, is sold out with 90 participants in the three sessions.

ACTION ITEMS


- Yves will continue to work on the integrated system for FCEF.
- Dianne will present a greening of the organization.
- Dianne to set up a second meeting for the working group on the AGM.
- CelebriTree committee will gather information from the successful donors.
- Greetings with a 'Thank You' to go out to our volunteers.

NEXT BOARD MEETING – December 17, 2025 at 11:00 a.m.

The meeting was adjourned at 1:00 p.m.



Dianne Caldbeck, President



Shirley Ewen, Secretary