

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

Minutes of a Meeting of the Board of Directors
Wednesday, January 21, 2026 at 11:00 a.m.

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

AGENDA:

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

MINUTES:

- **MOVED by Lois and SECONDED by Heather THAT the minutes of the December, 2025 meeting be approved. APPROVED.**

PRESIDENT'S REPORT - Dianne

- No report this month

TREASURER'S REPORT: Heather

- No report this month.

ITEMS FOR BOARD DECISION

- Renate Fischer introduced herself and emphasised why she would be a good candidate for the FCEF Board of Directors.
- **MOVED by Heather and SECONDED by Christina THAT Renate Fischer be nominated to the position of Member-at-Large with the view to becoming Treasurer. Carried.**

ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION

- Discussion of the progress of the objectives achieved for 2025 and proposed objectives for 2026 continued from the December and January meetings. Details of the initiatives are included in the Objectives and Initiatives document.
- #2 Enhance the Infrastructure, Design, and/or plant collections of the public gardens and the Arboretum through targeted new projects and investments. Retained for 2026.
- #3 Expand awareness-building and educational initiatives to better inform the public about the Farm's plant collections, its historical significance and its contribution to human well-being and environmental stewardship. Retained for 2026.
- #4 Enhance collaborative relationships with Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada and like-minded organizations to increase our capacity to deliver on our mission. **MOVED by Dianne and seconded by Eric THAT this objective be deleted and that collaboration with AAFC and like-minded organizations be pursued as an integral part of our activities.** The result of the vote was 4

to retain it and 6 to delete it. This objective will be deleted.

- The new fifth objectives (now the fourth) will be addressed at the February meeting. All Board members are asked to review this objective and the initiatives before the next meeting.

ITEMS FOR INFORMATION

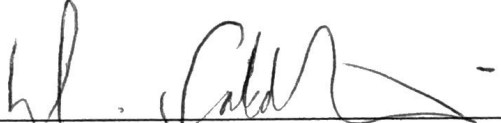
- The membership and donation management statuses document is available on the Shared Google drive.
- Linda agreed to be the board member responsible for the Plant Sale.
- David Baker has stepped down from the Board and the position of Events Director.

ACTION ITEMS

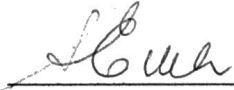
- The working group to assist with the integrated system solution for FCEF will continue under Yves leadership.
- Dianne will present a greening of the organization.
- Dianne to set up a second meeting for the working group on the AGM.
- Board members are required to lead the book sale and the yoga sessions.
- Review the new fifth (now fourth) objective from the objectives and initiatives document.

NEXT BOARD MEETING – February 18, 2026 at 11:00 a.m.

The meeting was adjourned at 1:15 p.m.



Dianne Caldbick, President



Shirley Ewen, Secretary