

AGM Minutes

Friday, Dec 8, 2023

13:00 EST

1. Approval of agenda
2. Approval of the minutes from the last AGM (Nov. 17, 2022)
3. President's report (Chantal Richard)
4. Secretary-Treasurer's report (Satwinder Bains)
5. Student Representative's report (Emma Croll-Baehre)
6. Other business
7. Adjournment

IN attendance: Chantal Richards, Laura Bisailon, Jean Michel Montsion, Pameal Sing, Emma Kroll-Baehre, Colin Coates, Paul Kellogg and Jane Koustas, Satwinder Bains

President's report, CSN Dec. 8 2023 AGM

Chantal Richards welcomed everyone to the 2023 AGM which was the first AGM under her presidency to which she transitioned in March when Past President, Pamela Sing moved to the position of Past President.

A. Constitution of the Executive committee:

Chantal thanked Pamela for her service as President of the Canadian Studies Network, and her continued assistance to Chantal in her new role as Past President. And she thanked Tony Tremblay in absentia for his thorough and conscientious role as Secretary-Treasurer of CSN.

She welcomed Satwinder Bains, who so graciously accepted the role of Secretary-Treasurer following Tony's departure, et Jean Michel Montsian qui est membre à titre personnel du Réseau. Emma Croll-Baehr, our graduate student representative, has agreed to serve a little longer, but has been diligently recruited her replacement as she winds down her PhD studies.

The position of Vice-President remains open despite numerous calls for nominations and considerable efforts to recruit candidates. It is hoped that someone might be found before March of 2024 and therefore I would ask the members to consider whether someone within their networks might be willing to take this on. Nominations will be by February 1st 2024.

Heartfelt and deep appreciation to the ever-present Karli without whom CSN would be utterly lost. Her kindness and professionalism makes us realize just how important she is to CSN/RÉC. Indeed, we would be lost without her.

b. membership

Some increase to membership has occurred but without much significant change. Among other things, we have extended the deadline for membership renewals to October 1st (it was Sept 1st in the past, which is a time of year when people are still on vacation or just coming back and getting ready for the fall term). We sent out numerous emails reminding people to renew. Our numbers remain steady, but they are not growing which means we are keeping our prize monies at their current levels and continuing the suspension of graduate student travel funding. Institutional memberships are down slightly.

c. Prizes

While jury members continue to be difficult to find, we have successfully adjudicated all six prizes. Submission numbers are solid, and overall, are up slightly from last year in all categories except best PhD which is only down by one.

1. Best Book in Canadian Studies was awarded to Laura Bisailon for *Screening Out: HIV Testing and the Canadian Immigration Experience* (Vancouver, UBC Press). We got 21 submissions in this category compared to last year's 12. It has been submitted to ICCS for the Pierre Savard Award.
2. Best PhD Dissertation in Canadian Studies went to Dr. Claire Thomson for "Digging Roots and Remembering Relatives" (History PhD, University of Alberta). We got 5 submissions for that prize this year compared to 6 last year. It has been submitted to the ICCS for the Brian Long Award.
3. Best Edited Collection Prize went to Ronald Cummings and Natalee Caple, for *Harriet's Legacies: Race, Historical Memory, and Futures in Canada* (MQUP). There were 18 submissions for this prize, up from last year's 15 submissions.
4. Christine Cooling is the recipient of our 2023 Prize for the Best Undergraduate Essay in Canadian Studies for "Reimagining Broadcasting Policy in a Networked Canada: Debating Digital Sovereignty and Democratic Reform". There were 2 submissions this year which is the same number as last year.
5. Best MA was won by David Newland for "Paper Nation: Conceiving Canada in the Confederation Day Globe" who wrote us the most delightful thank you note that I'd like to share with you here:

To the members of the jury and all involved in the Canadian Studies prizes at CSN-REC, Please accept my heartfelt thanks for all your work. I am deeply grateful to be honoured in the MA/MRP category.

This distinction comes at an important time for me and will inspire my efforts as a PhD student in Canadian Studies at Trent.

It's also a thrill for my family and friends, who don't quite understand what I do but support it anyway.

There were 3 submissions in this category compared to a single submission last year.

d. Chantal attended the ICCS AGM via Teams as did a few other participants. It is not ideal for the president of CSN/RÉC not to attend this AGM in person, but our finances do not allow for travel. It was suggested that if our finances improve eventually, future presidents be encouraged to travel to meet the heads of other international Canadian Studies associations though priority should go first to re-establishing student travel grants. We did of course submit CSN/RÉC's annual report to ICCS thanks to Karli's unwavering support.

We want to take this opportunity to formally welcome the new ICCS President Jane Koustas and the new treasurer, John Maher.

Thank you,

Graduate Student Representative Report for CSN-RÉC (2023)
Emma Croll-Baehre

I was accepted in February by the ACQL to speak at an emerging scholars' luncheon about the International Network for Emerging Scholars in Canadian Studies (RIJEC/INES-Canada), as well as about the working group for emerging scholars in the fields of Canadian Studies and Quebec Studies (CSN-RÉC), as part of the Academic Congress at York University (2023).

-The luncheon took place on **May 30th, 2023**. I was able to recruit members of the ACQL to the working group, as well as a new spokesperson for RIJEC/INES-Canada.

I attended the International Council for Canadian Studies' AGM on **June 9th, 2023**, as the Canadian Spokesperson for the RIJEC/INES-Canada (and on behalf of Manuel Sousa Oliveira, coordinator), where I outlined RIJEC/INES-Canada's accomplishments from this past year (2023-2024), including the Network's publications (recent and prospective), roundtables, and so on.

-It was there that I met Dr. Jean Michel Montsion and was brought on board to help envision the Summer School as part of the International Canadian Studies Summit (2024).

-Manuel and I had the opportunity to help conceptualize the Summer School (for emerging Canadianists) within a recent SSHRC Connections Grant application (**August/September 2023**) for the International Canadian Studies Summit (2024).

-I participated in a roundtable organized by Astrid Novat/ Le Réseau international de la Relève académique en études canadiennes on **June 21st, 2023**.

-The roundtable was part of the 46ème Congrès annuel de l'Association française d'études canadiennes (AFEC)

-I was invited as the Canadian spokesperson for the International Network for Emerging Scholars in Canadian Studies

-I had the opportunity to speak about the working group (and the CSN-RÉC) to emerging scholars who were predominantly conducting their research (within Canadian + Quebec

Studies) in French. It thus represented a significant occasion to discuss bridging the gap between folks working in English and French.

-Someone generously volunteered to facilitate working group sessions in French in order for these sessions to accommodate both English- and French-speaking scholars.

-I have recently met with the working group this past month (at this time, there are 10 participants, not including myself). We are set to meet again in December. Folks are excited and grateful for the opportunity to connect, support one another, and network regularly. At this time, we plan to meet monthly or bi-monthly (depending on participants availability).

At the ICCS AGM (2023), I was invited by Dr. Christina Keppie to attend the ACSUS (the Association for Canadian Studies in the United States) graduate student conference in **November (16th-19th) 2023**. There, I will be discussing in a roundtable with Manuel and another spokesperson, the International Network for Emerging Scholars in Canadian Studies, as well as presenting individually on a panel

Secretary-Treasurer’s Report

Satwinder Bains

- A. Membership Numbers
- B. Bank Accounts
- C. Summary of Financial Statements
- D. Projections for Fiscal Year 2023-2024

Financial Addendum:

A. Membership Numbers

Membership Category	2017-18 Numbers	2018-19 Numbers	2019-20 Numbers	2020-21 Numbers	2021-22 Numbers	2022-23** Numbers	2023-24* Numbers
Institutional	22	23	22	20	19	19	19
Regular	112	104	103	108	97	96	76
Graduate Student	33	28	14	17	23	25	34
Low Income	15	17	12	14	12	5	5
Retired	16	16	13	15	13	15	13

Free (Prize/Instit.) Student	3 / 56	2 / 45	4 / 72	5 / 48	6 / 57	6 / 62	6 / 68
Pdoc	na	na	na	na	na	4	9
<i>Total Members (not incl. IM)</i>	235 <i>(not IM)</i>	212 <i>(not IM)</i>	218 <i>(not IM)</i>	207 <i>(not IM)</i>	208 <i>(not IM)</i>	213 <i>(not IM)</i>	211 <i>(not IM)</i>

* From May 1, 2023, to November 16 202 (positive growth)

** Rate change of membership was after AGM Nov 2022 – memberships were renewed in summer/fall 2023 and these numbers do not reflect the lower rates of membership

B. Bank Accounts

Cash balances in previous years:

As Per	CSM-REC bank balance	GIC invested	Total
Nov 16, 2023	\$16,298.01	\$2,094.99(to be re- invested)	\$18,393.00
Oct 2022	\$12,650.37	\$2,071.32	\$14,721.69
Oct 2021	\$16,400.80	\$2,056.15	\$18,456.95
Nov 2020	\$15,545.69	\$2,031.59	\$17,577.28

C. Summary of Financial Statements

Revenues for the Fiscal Year (2022-23)

Membership and Donations:	\$ 10,689.00
Interest from all sources:	\$ 27.00
Total Revenue:	\$ 10,716.00

Expenses for the Fiscal Year (2022-23)

Membership and Web Hosting:	\$ 10,417.00
Book Prizes	\$ 1,200.00
Accounting Fees+ Translations:	\$ 1,030.00

Bank fees:	\$ 23.00
Total Expenses:	\$ 12,670.00
Deficit for the Fiscal Year (2022-23)	\$ (1,954.00)

D. Budget Projections on Operating Revenues & Expenses 2023-2024

	Expected
Revenue	
Grants	
Donations	\$ 50
Membership revenue*	\$ 15,579
Interest	\$ 32
Total Revenue	\$ 15,661
Expenses	
Bank fees/charges	\$ 18
Meeting costs	--
Student Travel Award	--
Office supplies	--
Prizes:	
Best Edited Book Prize	\$ 150
Best PhD thesis	\$ 150
Best MA thesis	\$ 100
Best JCS Article	\$ 75
Best Book	\$ 150
Best Undergrad Essay	\$ 75
Administration	\$ 11,630
Website hosting	\$ 700
Professional fees (allied accountants)	\$ 1,027
Translations (prizes)	\$ 265
Total Expenses	\$ 14,340
2023-2024 anticipated surplus	\$ 1,321

*Membership fees received up to Nov 16 2023 \$ 13,499.34. In previous years more fees come in over the months December-March, proximately 15% of what was already received.

Membership Numbers

To address the persistent structural deficit the membership fees were increased post-AGM 2022; the effect will be reflected in the 2023-2024 budget (and beyond due to 3 year-memberships which were introduced 3 years ago).

	Institutional	Regular	Stud/Low Inc.	Undergrad
New fees \$	275/500	90/250	35/100	20/55
Old fees \$	150/450	80/225	30/90	15/45

Budget / Bank Accounts

CSN-REC bank balance in cash per	Nov 14 2023 \$ 16,298.01
GIC \$ 0.00 Cash available to re-invested per	Nov 14 2023 \$ <u>2,094.99</u>
Total CASH available	\$ 18,393.00

Summary of Financial Statements

At last years AGM it was forecasted that there would be a deficit of \$ 2,269 / \$3,178 for the fiscal year that we are now discussing. This year's financial statements were again prepared by Allied Associates (Accountants in Peterborough, ON) as CSN-REC is registered with the CRA as an Ontario corporation. The review of the financial statements concluded a deficit of \$1,954.00 for the fiscal year ending April 30 2023.

Due to a recurring deficit the following actions were taken after the last AGM (Nov 2022).

- Increase of member ship fees for each category.
- Temporarily suspension of student travel grants.
- Maintaining virtual communications for AGM and other meetings.
- Reduce the value of prizes, one winner per prize and allowing for ties (which will split the money not add to it).

But they would have little effect on the Financial Statement for '22-'23 as most memberships had already been renewed and the prizes had been awarded.

Budget Projections

Projected surplus for 2023-2024 \$ 1,573.00