



**The University of Winnipeg Collegiate Alumni Association
Annual General Meeting Minutes
September 11, 2023
In-Person & Zoom**

Members in Attendance (In-Person): Quinn Cove (2014); Joshua Hood (2017); Stacey Katz (2005); Harshnoor Mann (2023); Bob Stuebing (1965).

Members in Attendance (Zoom): Mahmud Hassain (1986); Devanysh Sharma (2020); Brenna Shearer (1981); Fatima Sherefa (2023); George Tuck (1959); Adam Williams (2017).

Guests (In-Person):

Elena Anciro (Collegiate Engagement Officer); Kevin Clace (Dean of the Collegiate); Ayla Embury-Hyatt (Incoming Grade 11 Future Alumni Representative), Jennifer Janzen (Faculty); Javier Schwersensky (President, The University of Winnipeg Foundation); Sarah Seniuk (Incoming Grade 12 Future Alumni Representative).

Procedural

As notice was given and a quorum was present, Mr. Bob Stuebing, Chair of the U of W Collegiate Alumni Association declared the meeting to be properly constituted for the conduct of business, and called the meeting to order at 5:35 p.m. CDT.

Report on the Association's Activities

Mr. Stuebing discussed the work of the Collegiate Alumni Association over the past 12 months, including the constating document (Bylaw #1) of the Association, launching the Association itself, commencing e-newsletter communications, developing alumni-specific web pages and a digital annual magazine, and enhancing alumni data.

\$250,000 out of \$300,000 has been raised for the Collegiate Alumni Association Endowment Fund, which will provide an income allocation of approximately \$12,000 - \$15,000 per year to fund the Association's future activities.

U of W Alumni Affairs has put a mentoring program in place called [UWinnipeg Connect](#), which is available to both U of W and Collegiate alumni.

Financial Report

Mr. Stuebing advised that the financial report is “period-ended” versus “year-ended” because the Association was incorporated in August 2022 and was only operational as of September 14, 2022. Next year, the financial report will be for the year end, March 31, 2024.

There is no increase or decrease of funds. The University of Winnipeg Foundation has committed to fund our operations for up to five years and in return, the Association has promised to be sustainable before then.

As long as the Foundation is funding the Association, there will never be a surplus or a deficit and the balance will be zero because the Foundation will provide only enough funds to cover expenses.

The Members had no comments on the financial report.

Election of Voting Directors

Mr. Stuebing advised that the Bylaw provides that the Board of Directors will be composed of five Voting Directors elected by the Members of the Association and four appointed Non-Voting Directors. The appointed Non-Voting Directors are:

1. The Dean of The Collegiate (Kevin Clace)
2. A representative of the University of Winnipeg Foundation (Javier Schwersensky)
3. A member of the faculty of the Collegiate (Jennifer Janzen)
4. A current grade 12 student/future alumni (Sarah Seniuk) and an alternate grade 11 student/future alumni (Ayla Embury-Hyatt).

The Voting Director terms were established so three of the Directors will have terms that expire in one year, and two in the next year to ensure continuity on the Board.

The following Voting Directors are standing for re-election: Joshua Hood (2017) and Devanysh Sharma (2020)

Alison August (1996) will be stepping down as Voting Director and Secretary. The Board thanks Alison for her service.

Fatima Sherefa (2023) will be stepping down as a Non-Voting Director and Grade 12 Future Alumni Representative. The Board thanks Fatima for her service on both the Board and the Collegiate Advisory Committee.

The Board sought out a candidate, Quinn Cove (2014) for the vacant Voting Director position. Mr. Stuebing advised that next year, there will be nominations and a vote (as per the Bylaw #1 proposed amendment).

Mr. Stuebing declared that the nominees were elected by acclamation and he welcomed Joshua and Devanysh to a second term and Quinn to her first term on the Board.

Resolution to Amend Bylaw #1

The Board asked Members to consider and if deemed advisable, approve a resolution to make the following amendments to Bylaw #1:

- Include a mechanism for alumni to nominate fellow alumni to serve on the Board
- 42 days notice must be given for the Annual General Meeting to allow time for the alumni to nominate candidates for election as Directors
- 21 days notice must be given for the Annual General Meeting and all other meetings of the alumni

It was moved by S. Katz and seconded by D. Sharma. Mr. Stuebing called for a vote and the motion adopting the amendments to Bylaw #1 was approved.

Other Business and Termination

Mr. Stuebing welcomed Members to share their comments and questions:

1. Does the Association have a recruitment strategy?

Currently, the Association continues to work with the Foundation to enhance the alumni database. The e-newsletter and other communications will allow the Association to encourage the alumni currently in our database to share them with fellow alumni. Alumni who do not have an email address in our database, but have a postal address will be receiving a mail out with a request for up-to-date contact information.

2. Does the Association have plans for Collegiate scholarships and bursaries?

The Foundation is an independent charity that raises and stewards Collegiate and U of W scholarship and bursary funds. Once the Association is able to strengthen its relationship with alumni, the Association will work with the Foundation to plan either a scholarship / bursary or capital campaign. Once the Association is sustainable through the Collegiate Alumni Association Endowment Fund, any unused income allocations funds in a given year will also go towards Collegiate scholarships and bursaries, as determined by the Board.

3. Other institutions provide access to online library archives. Can Collegiate alumni have access to U of W's library?

Collegiate alumni do qualify for some benefits managed by U of W Alumni Affairs, including library borrowing privileges. Collegiate alumni can email the Alumni Affairs

office at alumni@uwinnipeg.ca to obtain an alumnus card and further instruction on how to access the library online.

4. Providing information on the benefits of Association membership could help engage more alumni.

The Association will work towards determining what kind of benefits will entice alumni to participate. What the Association can provide currently is a connection to the Collegiate through alumni news, updates, and events. The Board is discussing a potential seasonal event and have committed to 5-year spring reunions annually.

5. Will the Association give alumni access to employment and networking opportunities?

Collegiate alumni already have access to U of W's networking platform, [UWinnipeg Connect](#), which includes job postings and mentoring opportunities. The Association is also developing the alumni digital hub on the Collegiate website.

Dean Kevin Clace provided an update regarding the upcoming Collegiate 150 Celebration on September 21, 2023 at 11:00 am. This milestone will be recognized with an opening ceremony, followed by a complimentary lunch, a concert of alumni performances, and scheduled Wesley Hall and Leatherdale Hall tours. A total of 22 alumni have registered to attend so far, along with several dignitaries, faculty, staff and students. The 150 Celebration will be documented in the digital magazine.

Mr. Stuebing declared the meeting adjourned at 6:25 p.m. CDT.