



THE UNIVERSITY OF WINNIPEG
Collegiate

**The University of Winnipeg Collegiate Alumni Association
Annual General Meeting Minutes
September 23, 2024
In Person & Zoom**

Members in Attendance (In-Person): Adam Pollock (2005), Bob Stuebing (1964), Joshua Hood (2017), Quinn Cove (2014), Patricia Nosal (2014); Adam Shapiro (2024); Charlie Peters (1984); Prabhnoor Singh (2022).

Members in Attendance (Zoom): Brandon Murdock (2012); Sarah Seniuk (2024); Stacy Katz (2005); Dev Sharma (2020); Dr. Brenna Shearer (1981).

Guests (In-Person): Gwamile Dhlamini (Incoming Grade 11 Future Alumni Representative); Ayla Embury-Hyatt (Incoming Grade 12 Future Alumni Representative); Osaed Khan (Dean of The Collegiate); Javier Schwersensky (President, The University of Winnipeg Foundation/Treasure of the Collegiate Alumni Association).

Guests (Zoom): N/A

Procedural

As notice was given and a quorum was present. Mr. 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 5:10 p.m. CDT.

Approval of Minutes

- Approval of the minutes of the 2022 Inaugural Meeting held on September 14th, 2022
- Approval of the minutes of the 2023 Annual General Meeting of the Association held on September 11th, 2023.

The Members had no comments on the minutes of the 2022 Inaugural Meeting of the Association nor the 2023 Annual General Meeting.

Approval was moved by J. Hood and seconded by Q. Cove. Mr. Stuebing called for a vote to approve the 2022 and 2023 Meeting minutes. The Members unanimously approved the minutes.

Financial Statements for year ended March 31, 2024

Mr. Stuebing presented the financial statements for the year ending March 31, 2024, which were previously approved by the Board of Directors. He reported that the Association does not hold any assets or liabilities, and there has been no significant increase or decrease in funds. Throughout the fiscal year, the University of Winnipeg Foundation has provided continuous support to the Association. As long as the Foundation continues to fund the Association, there will be no surplus or deficit, as the balance will always remain zero, with the Foundation providing only the necessary funds to cover operational expenses.

Regarding Note 3, Mr. Stuebing noted that the \$17,000 in investment income represents market appreciation in the endowment fund, which serves as a potential hedge against future market declines. It is important to note that the Foundation distributes funds as a 4.25% cash allocation on the contributed capital, but not on the market appreciation.

The Members had no comments on the financial report.

Election of two Voting Directors for terms of two years

The Collegiate Alumni Association Board of Directors has two vacancies, and there are two nominees, Adam Pollock and Brandon Murdock. Bio sketches of both individuals were included in the meeting materials. As there were no other nominees, Mr. Stuebing declared Adam Pollock and Brandon Murdock elected by acclamation.

Report on the Activities of the Collegiate Alumni Association

The Collegiate marked its 150th anniversary on September 21st, and the Collegiate Alumni Association played an active role in the celebration, which highlighted the institution's long-standing history and significance.

The Collegiate Alumni Association published a magazine in November 2023, followed by newsletters in May and July 2024. The next issue is scheduled for release in October 2024. The Board made the decision to continue with a newsletter format rather than a full-scale magazine, given the high production costs of the latter, which amounted to \$2,000. Additionally, the Association has resolved to increase its engagement with current Collegiate students, and the newsletter will henceforth be distributed to them as well.

In December 2023, the Association hosted a Seasonal Reception at Convocation Hall. Although attendance was modest, the event was deemed successful. The reception was organized by Jennifer Janzen, Stacy Katz, Sarah Seniuk and Ayla Embury-Hyatt, and was emceed by Joshua Hood. The evening featured student entertainers, an art sale, and a variety of refreshments, both alcoholic and non-alcoholic. The next reception is planned for the first week of December 2024, subject to venue availability (either Convocation Hall or the University Club). The date will be announced in the upcoming October newsletter.

In April 2024, the Association held a welcome event for the graduating class of 2024. However, due to scheduling conflicts with other events during the lunch hour, the Board has decided to host future welcome events earlier in the year.

As of the fiscal year ended March 31st, 2024, the Association's Endowment Fund stood at \$185,000. Following additional contributions, the Endowment Fund has grown to \$308,000. With a 4.25% distribution from the Foundation, the Endowment Fund will now generate sufficient funds to ensure the Association's financial self-sufficiency in future fiscal years. A temporary financial arrangement has been established to address a bridging issue. As the Foundation pays out the return on the Endowment Fund on March 31st of each year, while the Association incurs expenses throughout the year, the Foundation will act as a financial intermediary, disbursing funds throughout the year and receiving repayment at the end of the fiscal year.

The Association had significant change on the Board of Directors:

- Jennifer Janzen has stepped down as Faculty Nominee
- Stacy Katz, who was a Voting Director, has become Faculty Representative (Non-Voting Director)
- Kevin Clace resigned as Dean of the Collegiate as he took on a new role as Superintendent and CEO of Prairie Rose School Division
- Osaed Khan is now the Acting Dean of the Collegiate and so becomes a Non-Voting Director.
- Sarah Seniuk graduated from Grade 12 and steps down as the Student Representative
- Ayla Embury-Hyatt became the Grade 12 Student Representative, moving from the position of Grade 11 Student Representative.
- Gwamile Dhlamini is the new grade 11 Representative
- Bob Stuebing is not standing for re-election as a Voting Director and will be stepping down as Board Chair
- Joshua Hood will be the new Board Chair
- Adam Pollock and Brandon Murdock have now been elected as Voting Directors to replace Bob Stuebing and Stacey Katz.

The Collegiate Alumni Association wishes to extend its sincere gratitude to Sarah Seniuk, Kevin Clace and Jennifer Janzen for their dedication and significant contributions to the Association. The strength and vitality of the Board are essential to the continued success of the Association, and the efforts of all involved have been greatly appreciated.

Membership Update

Since the Association's inception two years ago, the number of valid alumni email addresses has grown from 2,000 to 2,330. Each year, the Association welcomes 100-120 new alumni from the graduating class. To further enhance communication, the Association has decided to send postcards to the 830 alumni who graduated between 2000 and 2022, for whom the Association does not have a valid email address but does have a physical address on file.

Mr. Stuebing offered his closing remarks, emphasizing that the primary mission of the Collegiate Alumni Association is to support the institution and give back. He will write the 'Giving Back' column in the upcoming October newsletter, drawing extensively from the Foundation's 2023-2024 Annual Report. Mr. Stuebing highlighted that Collegiate alumni contribute more to the University of Winnipeg Foundation than any other alumni segment. He attributes this to the success of Collegiate graduates, many of whom are major contributors, and he extended his thanks to all those who have generously supported the school.

Other Business and Termination

Mr. Stuebing welcomed Members to share their comments and questions

1. Will the postcards be sent out to parents' addresses of the alumni?

The postcard will be sent out to the addresses that the Foundation had on file when the alumni attended The Collegiate. These may be addresses of parents, and hopefully they will pass along the postcards to their children. It must be noted that postcards will only be sent out to alumni for whom the association does not have a valid e-mail address.

2. Mr. Schwersensky gave a special thank you on behalf of the Collegiate Alumni Association to Mr. Stuebing for not only being the first President of the newly established Association, but for the financial contribution he has provided.
3. How many of the 2,300 alumni are graduates from Model School?

The Model School was established in 2007. Since then, the Model School has 144 graduates to date (the first graduating class was Spring 2009). On average, the number of Model School graduates is 10-15 annually.

Mrs. Dhlamini shared her experience as a current model school student "In grade 9, you start with Life Works, CPR training, different homework support, life skills, career paths, free lunches." Overall, Model School students are getting a higher level of support than what is available to the general population of the school.

4. When the Collegiate advisory Committee was established, it was discussed to have a committee for Model School & the Royal Winnipeg Ballet, specific to their segments and attributes.

That is something the Association is planning towards in the future. In the meantime, Mr. Stuebing has been working towards establishing a scholarship program for Model School graduates with direct access to business/economics in university.

There being no further comments or questions, Mr. Stuebing declared the Annual General Meeting of the University of Winnipeg Collegiate Alumni Association adjourned at 5:44 p.m.
CDT