Cosmopolitan Learning Centre



50 Years

2020 ~ 2021 Annual Report

Agenda

ITEM #1 ~ CALL MEETING TO ORDER

ITEM #2 ~ MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING, JUNE 30, 2020

ITEM #3 ~ BUSINESS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES

ITEM #4 ~ NEW BUSINESS & RESOLUTIONS

ITEM #5 ~ ELECTIONS

ITEM #6 ~ CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

ITEM #7 ~ AUDITOR'S REPORT

ITEM #8 ~ ADMISSIONS & TRANSITION COMMITTEE REPORT

ITEM #9 ~ PROGRAM REPORT

ITEM #10 ~ SARCAN REPORT

ITEM #11 ~ HUMAN RESOURCE REPORT

ITEM #12 ~ EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Cosmopolitan Learning Centre

Annual General Meeting

Tuesday June 30, 2020

Minutes

Meeting called to order at 6:30 p.m.

Present

Sharla Schofield	*Connie Lang~Schuette*	*Mindy Strom*	*Bart Dixon*
Shirley Bugg	*Keith Shepherd*	*Karen Shepherd*	*Christine Shepherd*
Rick Hack	*Dennis Friesen*	*Wei Xiao*	*Perry Kirton*
Catherine Duczek	*Nicole Henrion*	*Henry Baier*	*Marguirite Baier*
Joe Kazeil	*Lorne Wirth*	*Dan Stinnen*	*Jerry Grywacheski*
Ryan Cavan			

Virtual Attendees

Bev Bartok	*Chelsea Kentel*	*Cheryl Wall*	*Keith Leippi*
Michelle Houston	*Rosa Smith*	*Stacy Richardson*	

Regrets:

Rick Watson *Duncan Louttit*

Supporters of the Centre 2020 ~ 2021

Regina Capital Cosmo Club

Regina Cosmopolitan Club

Wascana Cosmo Couples Club

Signature Print It Centre

Regina Food Bank

J.R. Lane

C. Sagin

Able Busing

Douglas & Marilyn McLeay

Myrna & Dale Graham

Virginia & Donald Punga

Thomas Hardy

Marjorie Williams

Paul Carles

Regina Paramedics with Heart Foundation

Benevity Community Impact Fund

Harry Allen Life Member Club

Perry Kirton

Sean Carrick

Darlene & Barry Rorbeck

Cheryl Luther

E.H. & Mary Struthers

Ann Hamilton

Marion R. Evans

R.E. & M.A Bachelu

Ian & Carolann Louttit

Lori Berner

Bob Evans

Debra Hengen

Myrna & Joseph Frank

Terry & Cheryl Wall

Sharon Obyrne

Lorna Sandberg

Brent Van Iderstine

Tim & Edith Lozinsky

William & Wanda Matheson

Clara D. Acres

Noreen & Richard Leitner

Marion Moffat

Arthur & Marjorie Wakabayashi

Maureen Cline

Dale Fisher

Brenda Novenski

Thank you for your continuing support!

Minutes from June 30, 2020 AGM

Item #1: Call Meeting to Order

Mr. Rick Hack introduced himself as the chairman of the board of directors and called the 2019-2020 Annual General Meeting to order and thanked those who could attend the meeting virtually.

Item #2: Minutes of the last Annual General Meeting from June 21, 2019

Mr. Dennis Friesen made a motion to accept the minutes of the June 21, 2019 Annual General Meeting as circulated. Seconded: Mr. Perry Kirton. Carried.

Item #3: Business Arising out of the Minutes

No new business arising from the meeting minutes.

Item #4: New Business and Resolutions

No new business.

Item #5: Elections

Mr. Rick Hack presented the members who will stand on the board for the 2020 – 2021 year. Rick Hack listed the current board members who will be continuing to serve:

Rick Hack, Lorne Wirth, Rick Watson, Karen Shepherd, Duncan Louttit, Dennis Friesen, Catherine Duczek, Perry Kirton, Jerry Grywacheski and Dan Stinnen.

Rick Hack asked a total of three times if there are any further nominations for the board of directors. No further nominations were brought forward.

Mr. Dan Stinnen made a motion to cease the call for nominations and to accept the 2020-2021 list of the members of the board of directors.

Seconded: Mr. Lorne Wirth. Carried.

Item #6: Chairman's Report

Mr. Rick Hack would like to thank the management team during the challenging pandemic. Rick said that one day we will move forward as we did before the pandemic and would like to say thank you to all the staff of the organization as well.

Item #7: Auditor's Report

Mr. Ryan Cavan from Crowe MacKay introduced himself and reviewed his role in the completion of the audit. Ryan presented the auditor's report and is pleased to report that results of the Cosmopolitan Learning Centre's audit shows a clean audit report. Ryan stated that the financial operations of the Centre are shown to be in good standing, reflecting sound financial practices. Ryan stated that it was a clean audit in their professional opinion and that the audit statements present fairly. There are no deficiencies and it was a successful year for the organization.

Mr. Joe Kazeil asked why the reports show dispersments as cash. Ryan explained that it is to condense operations as to where cash went. As per Ryan, the word "cash" is standard wording in accounting principles. Joe Kazeil believes that the word "cash" is a bit misleading. Ryan said that they will take changing the word "cash" under advisement with management.

Mr. Ryan Cavan invited a member of the board to make a motion to approve the auditor's report.

Mrs. Catherine Duczek made a motion to approve the auditor's report. Seconded: Joe Kazeil. Carried.

Mrs. Catherine Duczek made a motion to appoint Crowe MacKay as the auditor for the Cosmopolitan Learning Centre for the 2020-2021 fiscal year. Seconded: Mr. Perry Kirton. Carried.

Item #8: Admissions & Transition Committee Report

As per report book.

Item # 9: Program Report

As per report book.

Item # 10: Sarcan Report

As per report book.

Item # 11: Human Resource Report

As per report book.

Item # 12: Executive Director's Report

Ms. Connie Lang-Schuette reviewed the Executive Director report. This year has brought much success and challenges. The centre is currently constructing another parking lot space on the south side of the property. We have been planning a new building space and working together with an architecture company. The cost came in significantly above budget therefore we have had to put the build on hold temporarily. We will be revisiting the footprint of our new building in the upcoming year, and possibly plan for a smaller footprint that would be more affordable.

We were presented with some unprecedented challenges regarding the Covid-19 health crisis. To maintain safety for everyone, the organization was closed beginning March 18, 2020 and the individuals and employees remained home. During the early stages, employees worked from home completing a variety of professional development opportunities. Some employees completed window visits, phone calls, social distance walks, sewing masks, delivering Meals on Wheels to seniors and delivering food boxes to those unable to get to the Food Bank. There were many other safe supports that were provided to some individuals while the centre had been closed. Employees did receive temporary lay-off notice during this health crisis; many were very thankful that they could work remotely for as long as possible. We are so thankful that everyone has remained healthy and safe. The Centre has started its gradual re-open with a 3 phase plan.

We unfortunately had one of our long term board members pass away recently. Dwight Blomander passed away and we would like to acknowledge his dedicated support to the Centre over the many years. He will be missed. Gord Williams also passed away this year, and he was a dedicated supporter of the Centre as well.

The Sarcan Depot also experienced challenges during this pandemic and closed its doors on April 1, 2020. The Depot will be back to full operation effective June 15, 2020.

The Centre will celebrate its 50th year of providing person-centred supports in 2021! We are planning to celebrate this milestone at the 2021 AGM as well as a kick-off party that will be planned in the upcoming months. We are working with Munz Media to produce a video about our first 50 years. Thank you to everyone for their support and dedication.

Mr. Joe Kazeil suggested that the Centre celebrate long term board members such as Lorne Wirth within our 50 years celebrations. Connie said that will be in the plans.

Mr. Rick Hack called for a motion from the floor to approve reports 8 through 12 as written, as per AGM report booklet.

Mr. Dennis Friesen made a motion to approve the AGM reports 8 through 12, as per AGM report booklet. Seconded: Mrs. Catherine Duczek. Carried.

Mr. Rick Hack made a motion to adjourn the Annual General Meeting.
Seconded: Mr. Perry Kirton. Carried.

Board Chairman Report

The past year has been a challenge as we dealt with the global pandemic. It took what we considered our normal life and turned them upside down. The Learning Centre was certainly not immune to this. We did and continue to adapt to this changing environment. As per usual the staff and management have successfully handled the situation with the flexibility and determination required to keep the participants and staff as safe as possible. The Provincial vaccine program is starting to make headway and we may finally see a light at the end of the tunnel. Lets all hope and pray for a successful return so we can once again see all those smiling faces at the Centre.

2021 marks the 50th Anniversary for the Centre. The changes to the organization over these years is significant and amazing. From very humble beginnings in 1971 we have continued to grow and thrive. We are constantly striving to provide the best services possible for our participants. On behalf of the Board of Directors I want to congratulate and thank the management and staff. Without your commitment none of this would be possible. Let's celebrate this monumental achievement loudly and proudly as we continue to build for the next fifty years and beyond. I am proud to say I am a part of such a great organization.

Thank you all and congratulations.

Rich Hack ~ Board President

Board Members 2020 ~ 2021

Rick Hack ~ President
Dennis Friesen ~ Director
Lorne Wirth ~ Treasurer
Connie Lang-Schuette ~ Secretary
Karen Shepherd ~ Director
Catherine Duczek ~ Director
Duncan Louttit ~ Director
Perry Kirton ~ Director
Jerry Grywacheski ~ Director
Rick Watson ~ Director
Dan Stinnen ~ Director

Board Members Resigning

Nominations

Program Report

The programs offered at the Cosmopolitan Learning Centre saw a lot of change and adaptation to accommodate for the Pandemic. It was a year of starting, stopping and evaluating then starting over again. Some participants have not returned to the program since the start of the pandemic while others have been supported both at home and from the centre throughout the year. We have carried on with some of the programs such as Meals on Wheels and the Good Food Box (thanks to those staff who picked up doing these jobs in the absence of participants and some of our business partners have had us continue working with the addition of masks, social distancing, and reduced numbers of participants at the job location.

One day that will remain in most people's memories will be the day we were all able to go and line up at the drive through vaccination site and get our first vaccine shots. To see all the happy faces in the other cars around us it gave us hope that we may get to see each other soon.

One thing we will take away from this year it is how much each staff and participant gets from the centre socially. There have been many questions of "when can I return?". The missing of the friendships and activities. We all feel that there is an end in sight, and we are excited to move forward into the future with a sense of relief and accomplishment for having made it through a historical event. We have had a year that nobody would have ever predicted, and we will all be glad to see life return to a more normal.



Home Visit



Walk in the park



Bingo



Getting Covid Shots

Sarcan Report

Greetings from the Victoria Ave East Sarcan. The 2020-2021 fiscal year has been a very strange and extremely busy year.

In 2019-2020, we did 20.67 million containers, this fiscal year we did 20.93 million. Which is not bad considering we were closed for the first 3 months of the fiscal year. We are officially the only depot now in the east end, as the Fleury location has moved to Parliament Ave in the south end. We have had to hire a lot more staff, due to this development. Currently we have 37 employees, who work tirelessly but we still have lots of fun doing it day in and day out.

Drop N Go is still going strong as ever. We had 17,335 Drop N Go customers last year, which is 25.6% of the total customers that have entered the building. E-transfer is now available! We are very excited about this, especially the supervisors who no longer have to write over 100-150 cheques a day!

Head Office is developing a new Drop N Go website and support portal. It will give the customer more control of their Drop N Go account, checking previous orders, changing personal information, etc. Watch for that coming very soon!

Congratulations to Bobbie Poitras celebrating her 20th anniversary with Sarcan! Amanda Hehn, Nadine Buburuz and Jeff Wiebe celebrating their 10 year. Shofiqul Sikder and Brendon Geis celebrating 5 years! I hope that very soon we will be able to celebrate properly with a huge party for them (and with the ones from last year who unfortunately did not get to celebrate).

Have a safe and happy summer from all of us at the Victoria Ave East Sarcan!!

Admissions, Review & Transition Committee Report

The Admissions and Review Committee is comprised of members from Community Living Service Delivery, Cosmopolitan Learning Centre Board of Directors, the Executive Director of the Cosmopolitan Learning Centre, and the Program Manager of the Cosmopolitan Learning Centre.

The Committee reviews existing participant's status with the centre and new applications for service. New applications are currently being placed on a waitlist for service. The waitlist for service currently has over 70 applications.

Currently 229 participants are being supported by the Cosmopolitan Learning Centre.

We look forward to serving more participants in the future.

Cosmo at work and at play!



Western Pizza 9th Ave. N.



Visiting the RCMP Depot



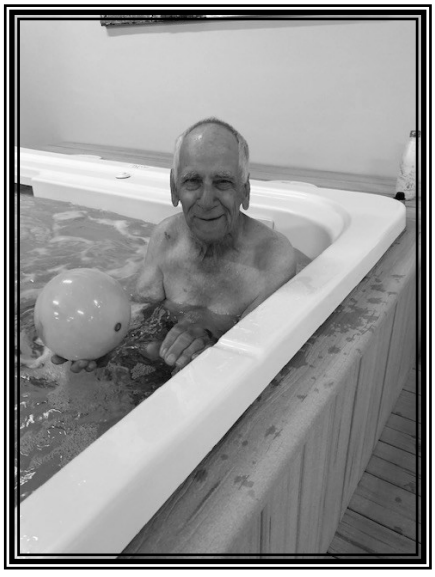
Argyle Park Housing



Taking a break around the fire



HBI



Relaxing in the Pool

Human Resource Report

The Organization takes pride in the variety of professional development opportunities provided to its Employees and actively promotes and invests in the skills and knowledge development of every employee to ensure services of the highest quality.

This past year has brought many challenges, yet also opportunity for Employees to enhance their professional skills through a variety of online webinars (ex. Diversity and Culture), material reviews, and virtual training programs. They coordinated their professional development while also supporting Individuals throughout this past year. Training has included Safe Food Handling, Policy and Occupational Health reviews, Assessments, Supported Decision Making, Building Evacuation Protocol, Transfers Lifts and Repositioning training, Professionalism, Health Services review, and Article Readings/Self-Reflective exercise, and its application to this field. In addition, Employees worked hard on researching and developing program supports and ideas in some of the work areas and expanding our Centre resources for Individuals.

We also have one of our Employees who has become a Transfers Lifts and Repositioning Trainer! Thank you to that new trainer! We look forward to working with you in delivering the TLR training to team members.

This fall, we are going to be introducing a new training opportunity for both Employees and Individuals receiving services! It is called Open Future Learning. We are looking forward to having this training program available to the team!

Thank you to all Employees for your dedication to your professional development in support of the Organization and balancing your work life and home life during this challenging year! Your creativity and enthusiasm are noticed, and we see the commitment that all of you make to the Individuals supported at the Centre!

Cosmopolitan Learning Centre Service Awards 2020

We would like to extend congratulations to the following people for their long-term service with the Organization for 2020.

5 Years of Service: Kenneth Ehrmantraut, Michael Galgan, Stevi Galenzoski, Michelle LaRocque, Nelson Ogu, Lauren Wall, Judy Hennen, Kcenya Walbaum, Cecilia Palma, Amy Schneider, Reece Dixon, Cara Ann Rathje.

10 Years of Service: David Wright, Don Laliberte, Abdul Mohamed, Wayne Main, Richard Moreau, Ann Schubert, Sharon Jestin.

15 Years of Service: Bonnie Goodwill, Nathan Hubick, Jordan Steinhubl, Amanda Parisien.

20 Years of Service: Gerrit Barnard, Jennifer Borschowa, Fabian Douglas, Nathan Pinay, Shirley Bugg.

25 Years of Service: Amber Johnson, Bruce Kaufmann, Becky Moore, David Psiurski, Jayson Wessner, Jeannette Skibicki.

<u>30 Years of Service:</u> Paige Carney, Akio Kocks, Stephanie Pelly.

3<u>5 Years of Service:</u> Gwen Geigle, Grant Schaffer.

<u>40 Years of Service:</u> Robert Paraschuk.













Executive Director Report

2021 marks a very special year for the Cosmopolitan Learning Centre. The Centre opened its doors on August 9th, 1971, which makes this year our 50th anniversary! While celebrating this milestone and while we remember all of the great things that we represent and have created, it is our hope that we can get back to normal and continue on with another great 50 years.

The 2020 – 2021 fiscal year has been the most challenging year in our history due to the global pandemic. We have had employee layoffs, decreases in services, as well as a short period of complete closure for the organization. It challenged us to increase our creativity to a level of no other in our effort to support people remotely while incorporating the public health guidelines to work toward a balance in quality of life and the safety for each person. Throughout the year we have learned that plans can be very temporary and as we would make one decision, another question would arise. Moving the organization through this health Crisis could not have been possible without the help from every team member from the Board of directors, Leadership Team, employees, participants, and parents/caregivers. We would like to give a huge thank you to all of you as it has been extremely difficult to navigate supports throughout this year.

While the Centre saw a few temporary closures we took the opportunity to complete some much needed improvements to our building. We upgraded two kitchens, replaced flooring, upgraded exterior painting on the outside of the building, and tackled some landscaping in the yard next door.

At this time, we are working toward safe returns for all individuals to Cosmo and are hopeful that we can be back in full swing to our new normal by the fall of 2021.

We plan to celebrate our 50th anniversary with a tailgate party in our parking lot with all participants and staff members and hope that we can also invite guests to join in the fun!

We would like to thank the Wascana Cosmo Club for their donation of jackets to our Supported Career Initiatives program. The clubs' efforts have put a lot of smiles on the faces of the hardworking participants in our supported employment program! They proudly wear their jackets!

We would also like to thank Help Homes of Regina for their donation of another wheelchair accessible van to the Centre. We truly appreciate this wonderful gift.

In this fiscal year we have also developed a new Mission Statement that our staff and Board Members feel better suits what we represent! Our new Mission statement is as follows: "The Cosmopolitan Learning Centre will build a culture of respect and compassion while empowering people to live a fulfilled life as defined by the individual. We will cultivate connections and genuine relationships within their community".

I want to thank the Board of Directors, our employees, and of course our resilient, beautiful, participants who to us are rays of sunshine that we can't wait to see every day!!

Special Days!



Special Lunch



BBQ in the park



Halloween



Pink Day



Elvis Party



Special Birthday

In Memorium

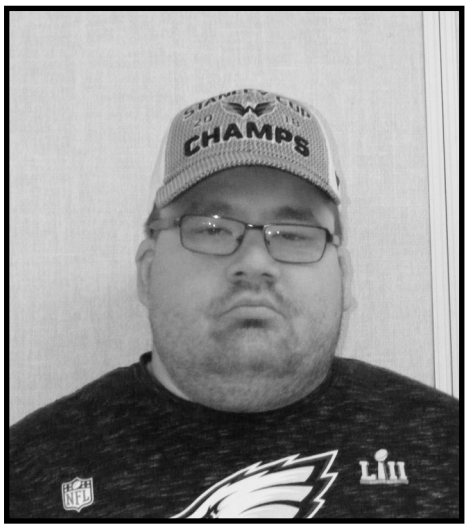
Victor Donnelly ~ October 4, 1960 ~ October 6, 2020



Victor was a sweet, kind, gentle man. He enjoyed spending time with his friends at Cosmo. He was a quiet guy that had no trouble expressing himself. He was almost always smiling. Victor loved bowling, Bingo, going on outings and dancing. He was everyone's favorite dance partner and could dance for hours. Life slowed down for him before he retired but his love of socializing never seemed to dwindle. He still loved having conversations with his friends. If you asked him for $5.00 his most common response was, 'What do you want $5.00 for? I don't have $5.00". Victor was a true joy to spend time with, so caring and fun. He had the sweetest smile, and we miss him dearly.

Dylan Nargang ~ December 5, 1985 ~ February 20, 2021

Dylan was a compassionate man and cared for others ,especially his family. He really enjoyed watching sports highlights in men's club. He enjoyed doing different activities with his peers, especially when they went on tours like STARS and the Firehouse. Dylan always had a bottle cap in hand and sometimes liked to sit by himself where it was quiet. One thing he really enjoyed was the bumps on the bus ride and looked forward to that daily, unless his mom was picking him up which was exciting to him as well. Dylan enjoyed playing beanbag toss in physical activity,. He truly was a big part of Connections and is missed daily.



Jean "Lola" Pylypow ~ March 3, 1943 ~ April 23, 2021



Lola was a sweet, kind, loving lady who enjoyed joking around. Her heart was as big as her smile. Lola loved to sing, two of the songs she sang best were Tennessee Waltz and This Little Light of Mine. When she sang, she shined! Singing brought her so much joy that brightened the day of everyone around her too. Lola loved shenanigans. She enjoyed teasing us lovingly and enjoyed when we would tease her back. Lala would laugh her big heartfelt contagious laugh until she was in tears. Lola was a chatterbox who was often at your side and wanted to tell you a story.

Lola brough joy to everyone she met. We were lucky to have her in our lives. She had a way of connection, always welcoming new friends. We will miss her kind, generous, caring nature and her ability to make everyone smile. Lola was one of the most considerate, happy, accepting women who made others around her feel special. We will never forget her and how she touch everyone of us.

Kelly Bohay ~ September 13, 1962 ~ February 28, 2021

Kelly started at Cosmo in September 1984. She worked in the Satellite program for a short time before moving to the Production area. There she excelled at tabletop job contracts and was a very precise and detail-oriented worker. Kelly was very determined to get each job exactly right. She was soft spoken and loved Abu from the movie Aladdin, she used to get off the bus looking for that monkey Abu! Kelly was also an avid collector of pom poms and pens. Kelly touched many lives at Cosmo and will be forever in our hearts.



Cosmopolitan Learning Centre ~ 1971



Cosmopolitan Learning Centre ~ 2021

