



110(10)

**REVELSTOKE HERITAGE RAILWAY SOCIETY
ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING
April 25, 2023**

In person attendance: George Hopkins, Doug Mayer, Kevin Dorrius, Dave Love, Rowan Hargreaves, Pauline Hunter, Pam Doyle, Jim Cullen, Laura Van Zant, Karen Matthews, Judy Tomey, Jim Maitre, Ed Koski, Ed Palasz, Miriam Williams, Don Hawker, Jacob Geyer, Chris Millar, Ken Campbell, Caroline Campbell and Clarke Traverse

Via Zoom video conference: Wendy Harper, Len Thompson, Robert MacDonald, Len Gushaty, Michelle Gadbois

1. Call to Order: President George Hopkins called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.

2. Acknowledgment and Introductions: President George Hopkins acknowledged the four nations on whose ancestral, traditional and unceded territory we are gathered. A moment of silence was held in honour of Lifetime Member and long-time volunteer Les Handley who had recently passed away. President Hopkins introduced the current trustees and members of the Museum's Leadership Team to the assembly.

Executive Director Jim Cullen explained the voting process with attendance in person and on Zoom. In order to vote, attendees must be members in good standing. Under the Society's bylaws, seconds are not required for a motion.

3. Determination of Quorum: Executive Director Jim Cullen determined a quorum of members in good standing was present.

4. Approval of Agenda: Moved by Pauline Hunter to approve the April 25, 2023 Agenda as presented. **Carried**

5. Approval of the Minutes of the April 26, 2022 Annual General Meeting:
Moved by Trustee Dave Love to dispense with the reading of the minutes. **Carried**
Moved by Treasurer Kevin Dorrius to approve the minutes of the April 26, 2022 Annual General Meeting as written **Carried.**

6. Business Arising: There was no Business Arising.

7. Reports:

Financial Statements for 2022- Reviewed as presented by Clark Traverse, CA from BDO Dunwoody Chartered Accountants. **Moved by** Treasurer Kevin Dorrius to approve the Financial Statements for 2023 as presented. **Carried.**

Appointment of Accountants: Moved by Trustee Rowan Hargreaves that BDO Canada be appointed as the Society's accountants for the 2023/24 year. **Carried.**

President's Report: President Hopkins stated that while 2022 was challenging, it felt like we had passed through a very long tunnel and emerged again into bright sunlight. We had very strong visitation, and our emergence from the pandemic was in part due to the hard work of our people and our access to operating subsidies and grants and the generosity of private donors.

The Society made significant progress and accomplishments in spite of severe challenges from the pandemic. The major new exhibit "Revelstoke is a Railway Town" is a milestone for the Museum, accomplished through the work of curator and deputy director Laura VanZant and several volunteers, and with the support of several public and private donors. Hopkins also noted the success of two major public events, with the work of staff and volunteers and funding by local business, grants, and earnings from our BC Gaming activities.

Significant progress was also made on the Museum's collections and on several important facilities initiatives, including commissioning of the Electrify Canada Charging Station, completion of washroom renovations, and re-roofing the Last Spike Store. Hopkins also noted the efforts of our volunteers and contractors, particularly Lifetime Member and former Trustee Don Hawker and his crew.

President Hopkins concluded by thanking our volunteers, Trustees and employees for their dedication and commitment.

Moved by Doug Mayer that we accept the President's Report as presented. **Carried.**

Executive Director's Report: Museum sustainability depends on a strong combination of its financial sustainability, as well as social, cultural, environmental and health sustainability. Much of our work this year has been to build sustainability.

We have pivoted our attention to Revelstoke and Revelstokians. The pandemic taught us that depending on tourists alone creates vulnerability. Our communities are here for us; if we do a good job for them, more tourists come as well. In 2022 we enjoyed incredible support of our communities: local businesses, volunteers, and our employees. Our new exhibit "Revelstoke is a Railway Town" exemplified something which has our local communities at its heart but which also serves our tourists.

Turning 30 years old for the Museum is a major milestone. Its founding was a bold act of vision and love and guts, including the move of No. 5468 to Revelstoke from Montreal. We are announcing fund raising for restoration of No. 5500, in honour of our 30th anniversary, a project called "Ready for Action". A major kick-start on this project has been provided by a private anonymous donor, who has committed to paying for the roof structure in full over 5500.

The Museum's ongoing success depends on new people coming forward as volunteers and Trustees. You don't have to love trains to be part of our organization, you just need to be interested in your community. Revelstoke is a railway town!

Cullen paid tribute to a key player on our Board, Trustee and Lifetime Member Pauline Hunter and wished her and Jordy well. He thanked outgoing Past President and Lifetime Member Roger Eddy for his support and leadership.

Moved by Pam Doyle that we accept the Executive Director's report. **Carried.**

8. Nominating Report – Election of Trustees: Trustee Dave Love, Chair of the Governance Committee, presented the following seven nominees for re-election: George Hopkins, Kevin Dorrius, Wendy Harper, Pam Doyle, Doug Mayer, Dave Love, Rowan Hargreaves.

Dave Love paid tribute to two trustees. Pauline Hunter is stepping down as Secretary and Roger Eddy is stepping down after his term as Past President. Both were made Lifetime Members of the Society in 2022. We received their resignations with regret.

The Nominating Committee identified two new members to join the Board of Trustees: Mr. Jim Maitre and Mr. Rick Reynolds. Love briefly outlined their biographies.

President George Hopkins stated that while we technically have an election by acclamation with no balloting necessary, he asked for a motion to confirm the re-election of the Trustees who have agreed to serve another term and the new nominees.

Moved by Rowan Hargreaves that we re-elect the Trustees who have agreed to serve another term and we elect the new nominees, Mr. Jim Maitre and Mr. Rick Reynolds. **Carried.**

9. Lifetime Members: President George Hopkins stated that the Society's By-Laws provide for the election of Lifetime Memberships to individuals "in recognition of that person's substantial contribution to the organization through their expertise, time and effort over a period of many years." This is the Society's highest honour and it is not given lightly. It was evident this year that there are several individuals deserving of this honour and we are long over-due in recognizing their service.

Hopkins announced the nomination of the Last Spike Gift Shop Manager Judy Tomey, Trustee Pam Doyle, and Trustee Kevin Dorrius to the position of Lifetime Member of the Revelstoke Heritage Railway Society.

Moved by Dave Love that the RHRS elects the above individuals to the position of Lifetime Members. **Carried.**

10. New Business: None

11. Next Annual General Meeting: April 23, 2024

10. Adjournment: **Moved by** Pam Doyle that the Annual General Meeting of April 25, 2023 be adjourned at 7:04 PM. All attendees were thanked for joining us and for their support of the Revelstoke Heritage Railway Society. President George Hopkins thanked Trustee Kevin Dorrius for his culinary skills in cooking the Brisket of Beef, and also Karen Matthews and Jim Cullen for organizing the setup of the event.

Special Presentation: Jim Cullen invited those in attendance to enjoy and special presentation by Doug Mayer on his recently published Volume Six of his popular book series, specializing on the Connaught Tunnel.