



DRAFT

31st Annual General Meeting

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING OF MEMBERS OF THE POTTON HERITAGE ASSOCIATION

HELD ON APRIL 30, 2023, AT SAINT-CAJETAN CHURCH IN MANSONVILLE

1. Opening of the meeting

The President of the Association called the meeting to order and welcomed everyone. Pierre Léonard was introduced as the facilitator appointed to lead the meeting. The President also introduced Taïssa Hrycay as a co-opted director for 2022, who will be nominated during the election of directors later in this meeting.

Secretary's note: 21 members who have paid their annual dues for 2023 are present and in good standing and therefore constitute a quorum for this meeting.

2. Adoption of the agenda

The agenda was presented; on a motion by Denis Lamontagne, seconded by Béatrice Baass, it was adopted unanimously.

3. Adoption of the minutes of the 29th Annual Meeting – 2019

The minutes of the 2022 Annual General Meeting were presented and on motion by Martine Barolet, seconded by Chantal Ethier, they were approved unanimously. See Appendix 1.

Note to the meeting secretary: make sure to send the minutes of a meeting to the members together with the notice of the meeting at which they should be approved.

4. Directors' Report

The President gave an overview of the PPA's activities for the period April 2022 to the present (April 30, 2023). She spoke of the success of the panoramic video Potton's mountains, recalling the project initiated by the late Carol Bishop; she also recounted the success of the guided tours of the village of Mansonville, which were very much appreciated; she spoke of the ongoing effort to index the many archival photos in the Potton family collections; then she briefly presented the new Potton Discovery Podcast project of the PPA and gave the floor to Pierre L'Heureux, project coordinator. Pierre L'Heureux, the project coordinator, explained the progress made with a presentation on the web.

Finally, the President mentioned the problem of the HPH journal, whose publication has been decided every two years (rather than annually): the lack of collaborators, for what is a major effort, and consequently, the doubt on the future of this publication.

5. 2022 Annual Financial Statements

The Treasurer presented the annual financial statements for 2022. The surplus accumulated since 2019 due to a marked slowdown in JPA activities during the pandemic has begun to be used for projects. For the year 2023, the JPA did not apply for the annual municipal grant, due to its excellent financial situation.

Members asked for some clarification on some items in the expense lines, resulting in text changes for clarity.

Following a question on the non-application of the 2023 grant, several members expressed their contrarian opinion on this decision of the Board. The situation cannot be changed for 2023 but Council will ensure that a proper application is made for 2024.

On a motion by Michelle Payette and seconded by Francisco Ruiz, the financial statements for the year ended December 31, 2022 were unanimously adopted as amended. See Appendix 2.

6. 2023 Budget Estimates

The Treasurer presented the budget forecast for 2023. The forecast anticipates that funds will be used for all current projects, resulting in a significant deficit for 2023 - almost \$5,000. The main projects noted for allocation of funds are the Potton Mountain Panoramic Photo Exhibit and a provision for the Discovery Podcast project (additions, modifications, etc.). See Appendix 3.

7. Report from the ad hoc committee on the financial governance

Claude Bouffard, member of this ad hoc committee, reported on the intervention of the latter with the Secretary Treasurer. It was confirmed that the members of the committee had questioned and obtained all the information and answers required concerning the accounting records and the financial statements for 2020 to 2022 and were satisfied with them.

It is proposed that this committee be renewed for another year and renamed as follows: Financial Governance Oversight Committee. It is also proposed that the Board appoint the members who will serve on the committee, with the understanding that no Board member will serve on the committee except the Treasurer. The latter's only role will be to present the accounts to the committee members, answer their questions and show them all the documents and vouchers requested.

**Proposed by Michelle Payette
Seconded by Denis Lamontagne**

Carried unanimously.

8. Perspective 2023

The President, Lorraine Rouillard, took the floor.

Given the overview given in item 4 of this meeting, she focused her remarks more on the limitations the Association faces in the current state of participation by members. For example, social activities have seriously slowed down, but after the death of Carol Bishop, it has been difficult to find replacements - the current solution is still partial.

The Board, unless there are new candidates, will be reduced to five members again, with the anticipated departure of François Hébert. Again, the Board members alone cannot take on all the tasks that the PPA would like and hope to accomplish.

The proposed Potton Mountains exhibit is intended as a tribute to Carol Bishop. It should take place in the fall of 2023, but there is little time left to design everything.

The Round Barn remains a predominant interest of the Association. The President noted that, finally, the municipality decided that the mission of the Round Barn would be primarily an interpretive center. After all this, Lorraine presented a project to hold a public consultation of the citizens of Potton, members and non-members included (see attached text). There followed a series of interventions by

the members present, on all aspects of this proposal. The final conclusion is that the draft resolution can be withdrawn from this meeting, because, according to the vast majority of the members present, it is up to the members of the Board of the Association to make this decision.

9. A tribute to Carol Bishop

Sandra Jewett, former president and friend of Carol Bishop, spoke. She gave an overview of the commitment and work that Carol brought to the Association during her 30 years of involvement. The members gave a hearty round of applause for this elegy by a former president of the Association.

10. The floor to the members

In view of the participatory nature of the meeting throughout, as members were free to intervene at each stage, the question period was abrogated, by mutual agreement.

11. Election of the members of the Board of Directors 2023

Mention was made of the outgoing director, François Hébert and those who are seeking reappointment in 2023. Lorraine Rouillard presented the candidacy of Mrs. Taïssa Hrycay, as a new administrator.

It was therefore proposed by Hans Walser

And seconded by Marie Temperley

That Lorraine Rouillard, Taïssa Hrycay, Pierre L'Heureux, Pierre Giroux and Thierry Roger be elected as directors of the Potton Heritage Association until the next annual meeting of members.

Carried unanimously.

The President thanked François Hébert for his contributions to the board.

12. Adjournment of the meeting

Lorraine Rouillard thanked Pierre Léonard for his role as facilitator and the members for their participation; she closed the meeting.

*Thierry Roger
Board Secretary
Treasurer for the Association
May 10, 2023*

MINUTES TO BE APPROVED DURING THE NEXT MEETING OF MEMBERS