

## **YWCA Halifax AGM (Annual General Meeting)**

**Wednesday, September 25th, 2024 4:45 p.m. - 5:30 p.m.**

**St. Mary's Boat Club, 1641 Fairfield Road, Halifax NS, B3H 2A6**

**Present:** Miia Suokonautio, Sylvia Parris Drummond, Nikki Martin, Kate Shewan, Jennifer Ashton, Sumaya El-falah, Eva Parada, Sharon Ishimwe, Ceilidh Bray, Barrinique Griffin, Camilla Quaglia, Leslie Bishop, Daniella Sam

**Regrets:** Hanaa Al Sharief, Chika Chiekwe, Alma Khalouf

**Minutes:** Sandra Pineda

**1. Welcome and Land Acknowledgement: Jennifer Ashton**

**2. Review of Voting Procedures: Jennifer Ashton**

**3. Approval of Minutes from June 2023:**

**MOTION:** Be it resolved that the minutes of the 2022 AGM (held in 2023) are approved as presented.

Moved by Jennifer Ashton. Seconded by Sylvia Parris Drummond.

**MOTION CARRIED**

**4. President's Year in Review: Jennifer Ashton**

**5. 2025-2030 Strategic Plan: Miia Suokonautio**

Miia presented the Strategic Plan, outlining its key points and goals. She emphasized that equity and inclusion are at the core of the plan. Our focus will be on five main priorities: Excellence in Programming, Financial Strength, Staff and Workplace Culture, Operational Systems and Policies, and Excellence in Governance. Miia also noted that while the goals are ambitious, we will achieve them with our values remaining the top priority.

**6. Presentation of Audited Financial Statements: Kate Shewan**

Kate presented the 2023-2024 financial statements and highlighted that the finance staff team prepared the financial statements as audited by Grant Thornton. Kate noted that the statements were presented to the Board Directors at the most recent Board meeting and Grant Thornton expressed no concerns in the statements as presented. The Board approved the draft statements in advance of the Annual General Meeting. Kate walked through the statements, noting that the addition of the child care centres impacted the final numbers. Kate shared that the year end result was overall positive and that YWC reserves remain sufficient to operate for three months if need. Kate concluded by noting that there were no significant risks or irregularities in the financial statements.

**MOTION:** Be it resolved that the Audited Financial Statements are approved as presented.

Moved by Kate Shewan. Seconded by Sylvia Parris Drummond.

**MOTION CARRIED**

**7. Appointment of Auditor: Kate Shewan**

**MOTION:** Be it resolved that YWCA Halifax appoint Grant Thornton as auditor for 2024/2025 fiscal period subject to the Board's authority to pursue other options in the interests of cost saving.

Moved by Kate Shewan. Seconded by Nikki Martin.

**MOTION CARRIED**

**8. Nominating Committee & Election of New Board Members & Officers: Nikki Martin**

Nikki Martin presented the Board Slate for elections.

**AMENDED:** Corrected error Camilla Quaglia (not Camilla Paglia) and removed Daniella Sam for re-election who is in second year of 2-year term.

**MOTION:** Be it resolved that the slate of directors, officers and nominating committee are approved as amended.

Moved by Nikki Martin. Seconded by Jennifer Ashton.

**MOTION CARRIED.**

**9. Recognition of outgoing Board members: Miia Suokonautio**

- Hanaa Al Sharief
- Haneen Al-Noman
- Jennifer Ashton
- Alma Khalouf

**10. Closing Remarks & Adjournment: Jennifer Ashton**

**AGM adjourned: 5:30 p.m.**