



Environmental Youth Alliance

MINUTES

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING OF MEMBERS

OF THE

Environmental Youth Alliance Society

DATE: July 26, 2023
TIME: 6:00PM
PLACE: Strathcona Community Gardens (759 Malkin Ave, Vancouver, BC)

1. **CALL TO ORDER**

AMY: “Welcome to the Annual General Meeting of the members of the Environmental Youth Alliance Society. My name is Amy Nugent and I am Co-Chair of the Board of Directors of the Society. I’m a sixth-generation Irish settler and uninvited guest living on unceded Musqueam, Squamish and Tsleil-Waututh territories. Both sides of my family came to Canada from Ireland via Ellis Island into NYC and then up to Ontario to farm. I’ve been in so-called Vancouver for 19 years. My wife, daughter Ruthie and I live across Prior on the Union bike path of Strathcona and became acquainted with EYA through the Cottonwood Gardens and now frequent the nurseries and learning areas of Strathcona Community Gardens regularly and love running into the welcoming faces and vibrant programming of EYA here.

I was appointed to the Board in August of last year and stepped into the Co-Chair role with Paula. I look forward to being a member of the board for at least the next 2 years.”

PAULA: “My name is Paula Hay. On my dad’s side I’m a 12th generation settler living on Nexlelexem (Bowen Island) on unceded Squamish territory. I got to know about EYA during COVID and was so impressed by their work and commitment to continuing their work through that trying time. I joined the board two years ago and feel really lucky to work with the great EYA team and board. I recently stepped into the Co-Chair role. I am looking forward to today’s meeting.

I would like to call this 2023 annual general meeting of EYA to order as of 6:30 PM. Amy and I will act as co-Chairs of this meeting.

Please raise your hand if you would like your registration and attendance at this event to count as a new or renewed member of the organization. This will allow you all to vote in the meeting

tonight.”

2. LAND HONOURING

CARMEN: “My name is Carmen Wong, I use they/them pronouns and I am the Co-Executive Director of Fundraising & Operations at EYA. From my mother, I am Secwepemc from High Bar First Nation as well as mixed European including French, German, Spanish, Austrian and Romani. Family names from that side of the family include, Tressiera, Kostering and Isnardy. From my father, I am Chinese & Japanese. My grandpa grew up down the block from here on Pender Street and worked in the restaurants in Chinatown before moving further south in Vancouver with my grandma, who carries the family name, Asahina. She was born in Vancouver, but grew up in Greenwood, BC, after being sent to the Japanese internment camp established there in 1942. I was raised in what is now known as Burnaby, on the traditional, ancestral and unceded territories of many different hə́nqəmiṇəm and Skwxwú7mesh speaking nations.

It is important for us to set aside time at the beginning of this gathering to honour the land we are on and those who have stewarded it for generations. Here, we are on the unceded, ancestral and traditional territory of the xʷməθkʷəy̓əm (Musqueam), Skwxwú7mesh (Squamish), and sə́ilwətał (Tseil-Waututh) Nations. These host nations have dedicated a wealth of knowledge and time to the protection and restoration of the spaces where we live and work. Prior to European contact, this place looked a lot different. The entire space was a salt marsh with underground springs coming up into it, and was connected to what is now known as False Creek. The traditional Squamish place name of this area is Skwachays, meaning whirlpool or water coming up from the ground, referencing those springs. Chief Ian Campbell of the Squamish Nation has said that the springs were regarded as portals to the spirit realm, and the area was felt to be a place of transformation. We are so lucky to be able to work in this space and watch our program participants transform with the space as they connect to the land and each other through hands-on stewardship work, medicine-making, discussions, and shared meals in the garden. Although part of why we are able to gather here today is due to colonial violence and structures of oppression, we continually work to dismantle these systems as an organization in our youth programs, stewardship work, fundraising practices, and organizational structures. I encourage you all to consider your relationship to this place and what you are doing to support the original stewards of this land and other spaces you interact with.”

3. ESTABLISH PRESENCE OF QUORUM

AMY: A quorum for a meeting of members of this Society is 3 members and 3 directors being present.”

“A quorum is present and as notice has been given in the proper manner, I declare this meeting regularly and duly called and ready for the transaction of business.”

4. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

AMY: “May I have a motion to approve the agenda?”

MOVED BY: Njoki. Mburu

SECONDED BY: Max, Kittner

AMY: Now we will ask the membership to vote by raising their hand. "All in favour, please raise your hand? All opposed, please raise your hand? The motion is carried."

5. APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF LAST ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

PAULA: "The minutes were made available to those who RSVP'd prior to the meeting. At this time if there are no errors or suggested changes, I will call to motion."

PAULA: "Are there any errors or omissions?"

"May I have a motion that the minutes be adopted as read."

MOVED BY: Dan, Bowditch

SECONDED BY: Shogofa, Alizada

PAULA: "All in favour, please raise your hand? All opposed, please raise your hand? The motion is carried unanimously."

6. FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

PAULA: "The Co-Treasurers are present to answer any questions on the financial statements of the Society for the fiscal year ending December 31, 2022 as approved by the Directors."

"The financial statements were prepared by EYA and subject to a review by an outside accounting firm, Pace Accounting. They have been unanimously approved for presentation to the members by the Board and if there are no questions..., then, may I have a motion in the following terms:

'RESOLVED that the Financial Statements of the Society for the fiscal year ended December 31, 2022, as approved by the Directors, and presented to the members, be received.'

MOVED BY: David, Palmer

SECONDED BY: Deandra, Atmojo

PAULA: "All in favour, please raise your hand? All opposed, please raise your hand? The motion is carried unanimously."

7. ELECTION OF DIRECTORS

AMY: “The Society has 6 directors with remaining time in their board terms. The continuing directors are myself, Amy Nugent, Paula Hay, Shogofa Alizada, Wendel Vistan, Njoki Mburu, and Max Kittner.

We also have four new nominees standing for election as a director for a term of 3 years.

Madi Bourette-Knowles

Madi sends her regrets, but is not able to attend so here is her bio:

Madi is a white queer settler with English and French ancestry entangled in local food on Ləkʷəŋən lands where she lives on sxʷeŋxʷəŋ family lands. Her tired, full, silly days in the dirt started as a youth in the juicy berry fields of Ka'tarokwi on Anishinaabe and Haudenosaunee lands. These days, Madi works as one of the Co-Executive Directors at Growing Chefs while her two doggos lie at her feet. If she's not mid-culinary indulgence, catch her biking, jumping into water, or in full lizard-mode soaking up the mid-summer sun.

Pravallikha Samuthirarajan - would you like to introduce yourself?

Raymond Au - would you like to introduce yourself? [If no, Chair to read bio]

Raymond is a first-generation settler from Hong Kong with ancestry from China. He is grateful to be living and working on the traditional and unceded territories of the xʷməθkʷəy̓əm (Musqueam), Sk̓wx̓wú7mesh (Squamish), and səliłwətał (Tseil-Waututh) nations. As a Chartered Professional Accountant, Raymond enjoys working with people in the not-for-profit sector. He has been in various leadership roles and is currently the Finance Manager at YMCA BC, working on financial planning and analysis, scenario modeling, and performance reporting. Raymond can be found biking or exploring new restaurants in the city, and possibly playing badminton with his friends during Sundays.

Sahar Zandieh - would you like to introduce yourself?

Thank you, we really look forward to having you as members of the board.

“I now request that someone move and second the following motions:

BE IT RESOLVED that the persons nominated for election as directors of the Society be hereby elected as follows: Pravallikha Samuthirarajan for a term of 3 years, Raymond Au for a term of 3 years, Sahar Zandieh for a term of 3 years, and Madi Bourette-Knowles for a term of 3 years.

BE IT RESOLVED that for purposes of updating the list of directors with the Charities Directorate, the members acknowledge the resignation of Joey Levesque, effective June 30,

2023. We honour the gifts of time and knowledge that Joey gave to EYA over the past three years and thank him for being part of the EYA board.

MOVED BY: Niki, Westman

SECONDED BY: Dan, Bowditch

AMY: “All in favour, please raise your hand? Opposed, please raise your hand?
The motions are carried unanimously.”

“The motions are carried. I declare the following persons to be the elected directors of the Society:

Name	Term Remaining
Paula Hay	1 year
Myself, Amy Nugent	2 years
Shogofa Alizada	2 years
Wendel Vistan	2 years
Njoki Mburu	2 years
Max Kittner	2 years
Pravallikha Samuthirarajan	3 years
Raymond Au	3 years
Sahar Zandieh	3 years
Madi Bourette-Knowles	3 years

8. CO-EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR REPORT

PAULA: “The next item of business is a report from our Co-Executive Directors, Carmen & Erica, that presents some of the highlights since our last AGM.

CO-EDs: Provides portion of the [report](#).

PAULA: “Any questions or further discussion?”

9. OTHER BUSINESS

PAULA: “Is there any other business that may properly be brought before this meeting?”

10. **CONCLUSION OF MEETING**

PAULA: “This concludes the business brought before the meeting. I wish to thank you for attending and, if there are no objections, I shall declare this meeting concluded.”

Meeting Adjourned at 7:02 PM