



# Environmental Youth Alliance

## SCRIPT

### ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING OF MEMBERS

### OF THE

### Environmental Youth Alliance Society

DATE: July 10, 2024

TIME: 6:00PM

PLACE: Strathcona Community Gardens (759 Malkin Ave, Vancouver, BC)

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#### 1. **CALL TO ORDER**

**Max Kittner:** “Welcome to the Annual General Meeting of the members of the Environmental Youth Alliance Society. My name is Max Kittner and I am Co-Chair of the Board of Directors of the Society. I am a third-generation settler of Ashkenazi Jewish and mixed European heritage. Prior to settling in Coast Salish territory for school at UBC, I was raised and grew up in Piscataway territory (so-called Washington, DC). I moved here seven years ago for school and currently work for the First Nations Health Authority as a policy analyst in urban health. I love being a part of EYA and have been a board member for the past two years. In February of this year I became the newest co-chair of the board and am looking forward to spending the next few hours with you all!

**Paula Hay:** “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 three years ago, stepping into the Co-Chair role a year later. I feel really lucky to work with the great EYA team and board and I am looking forward to today’s meeting.

I would like to call this 2024 annual general meeting of EYA to order as of 6:21 PM. Max 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.” [12 voting members present]

## 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 hə́ŋqəmiḥəm 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 uncended, ancestral and traditional territory of the xʷməθkʷəy̓əm (Musqueam), Skwxwú7mesh (Squamish), and sə́ilwətał (Tsleil-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

**Max Kittner:** “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**

**Max Kittner:** “May I have a motion to approve the agenda?”

MOVED BY: Gavin, Ross

SECONDED BY: Njoki, Mburu

**Max Kittner:** Now we will ask the membership to vote by raising their hand. “All in favour, please raise your hand? [12 in favour] All opposed, please raise your hand? [0 opposed] The motion is carried unanimously.”

#### 5. **APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF LAST ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING**

**Paula Hay:** “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. Are there any errors or omissions? [no questions or comments]

May I have a motion that the minutes be adopted as read?”

MOVED BY: Njoki, Mburu

SECONDED BY: Caroline, Neufeld

**Paula Hay:** “All in favour, please raise your hand? [12 in favour] All opposed, please raise your hand? [0 opposed] The motion is carried unanimously.”

#### 6. **FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**

**Paula Hay:** “Our Co-Executive Directors and Accountant are present to answer any questions on the financial statements of the Society for the fiscal year ending December 31, 2023. The financial statements were prepared by EYA and subject to a review by an outside accounting firm, Pace Accounting. Are there any questions? [no questions or comments]

May I have a motion in the following terms:

BE IT RESOLVED that the Financial Statements of the Society for the fiscal year ended December 31, 2023, presented to the members, be received.”

MOVED BY: Gavin, Ross

SECONDED BY: Shogofa, Alizada

**Paula Hay:** “All in favour, please raise your hand? [12 in favour] All opposed, please raise your hand? [0 opposed] The motion is carried unanimously.”

## 7. ELECTION OF DIRECTORS

**Max Kittner:** “The Society has 9 directors with remaining time in their board terms. The continuing directors are myself, Max Kittner, Amy Nugent, Madi Bourette-Knowles, Njoki Mburu (En-joke-y Muh-buru), Pravallikha Samuthirarajan, Raymond Au, Sahar Zandieh, Shogofa Alizada, and Wendel Vistan.

The following person is standing for re-election:

Paula Hay for a term of 3 years

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

Amber Grant

Amber sends their regrets, but is not able to attend so here is their bio:

Amber is a white, queer, non-binary settler with mixed Ukrainian and Irish ancestry. They grew up on Treaty 20 territory, the traditional territory of the Michi Saagiig and Chippewa Nations, collectively known as the Williams Treaties First Nations (includes Curve Lake, Hiawatha, Alderville, Scugog Island, Rama, Beausoleil, and Georgina Island First Nations). Amber is a Postdoctoral Research Fellow at the University of British Columbia in the Urban Natures Lab. Their research explores how environmental justice is prioritized and neglected in urban forest planning and practice , as well as the socio-political and institutional conditions that influence community-based urban forest stewardship. You can often find Amber playing basketball, cycling around the city, exploring the outdoors, or dancing to techno with friends.

Shambhavi Arora

Shambhavi sends their regrets, but is not able to attend so here is their bio:

Shambhavi is a fourth-year student at the University of British Columbia. Born and raised in India, she hails from a small village with a farming family, fostering a deep connection to the land of her upbringing. Shambhavi is pursuing a degree in Political Science and Law, with a strong focus on environmental advocacy. Her academic journey is complemented by her active involvement in activism and technological research, aiming to create sustainable solutions for environmental challenges. When she's not immersed in her studies of environmental law, Shambhavi enjoys exploring different parks and beaches, and indulging in the diverse culinary delights the city has to offer. She feels a deep sense of gratitude to live and work on the traditional, ancestral, and unceded lands of the xʷməθkʷəyəm (Musqueam), Skwxwú7mesh (Squamish), and səliłwətaʔt (Tsleil-Waututh) nations.

We really look forward to having them as members of the board.

I now request that someone move and second the following motion:

BE IT RESOLVED that the persons nominated for election and re-election as directors of the Society be hereby elected as follows:

Name	Term Remaining
Paula Hay	3 years
Amber Grant	3 years
Shambhavi Arora	3 years

MOVED BY: Kris, Zalite

SECONDED BY: Gwyn, McIntosh

**Max Kittner:** “All in favour, please raise your hand? [12 in favour] All opposed, please raise your hand? [0 opposed] The motion is carried unanimously.

I declare the following persons to be the elected directors of the Society:

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

**8. CO-EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR REPORT**

**Max Kittner:** “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:** [Provided portion of the 2023 Annual Impact Report].

**Paula Hay:** “Any questions or further discussion?”.

[Kris Zalite asked for other staff to share program highlights. Jess Duncan, Emily Hodgson & Erica Ellis shared stories from Host Nation Plant Gift events, Cultivate program, and Youth Advisory Circle.]

[Njoki Mburu asked about learnings from the Bakau Consulting communications review. Carmen Wong shared highlights from the report and actions taken so far in 2024.]

**9. OTHER BUSINESS**

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

**10. CONCLUSION OF MEETING**

**Paula Hay:** “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 6:59 PM**