

**Catholic Centre for Immigrants  
Minutes of the Annual General Meeting  
December 11, 2019**

**1. Reception and Registration 6:00 - 7:00 P.M.**

Mr. Armin Nourozi called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

**2. Opening Prayer:**

Deacon Charles Fink opened the AGM with a prayer, asking God's blessing on all present and to bless CCI and its work.

**3. Welcome by the President:**

Mr. Armin Nourozi welcomed everyone to the Annual General Meeting and introduced Board members at the guest table and also the other Board members present in the audience noting that the board would have a short meeting following the AGM. He acknowledged that the AGM was taking place on Algonquin territory that has never been surrendered and expressed his gratitude to the Algonquians and hope for reconciliation. He then referred to the folder contents distributed to the attendees and the documents included therein.

**4. Approval of the agenda:**

The agenda was approved as presented.

Motion to:

“Approve the agenda”

Moved by Brian Reid

Seconded by Andrew Cardozo

CARRIED

**5. Approval of the Minutes – Annual General Meeting of December 5, 2018**

The AGM Minutes from December 5<sup>th</sup>, 2018 were reviewed and approved as presented.

Motion to:

“Approve the minutes of the December 5, 2018 Annual General Meeting”

Moved by Brian Reid

Seconded by David Pepper

CARRIED

**6. President's Report**

Mr. Armin Nourozi invited everyone to read his written report which was included in the Annual Report. He described his experience coming to Canada as a GAR from India in 1979,

underlining the shock of arriving in Winnipeg MB in November and gratitude for the settlement services in place to enrol in school and to help his Mother get into the workforce. He then acknowledged the strong leadership of ED Carl Nicholson, the senior management team and congratulated CCI Staff "...whose hard work makes a real impact on our clients".

Motion to:

"Accept the President's Report"

Moved by Yew Lee

Seconded by Charles Fink

CARRIED

## **7. Executive Director's Report**

Mr. Carl Nicholson welcomed members and guests. He referred to his annual report included in the handouts, mentioned that it contained highlights for the year and invited everyone to read his report. Mr. Nicholson reported every year, CCI provides thousands of newcomers with programs and services to help them settle and integrate into our community.

During the course of this past fiscal year, our permanent staff complement changed from 105 to 98. They provided integration and support services to 4,954 clients. We did this work with the help of approximately 1,000 volunteers.

Our budget increased from \$7,603,142 to \$8,002,567. We accommodated 561 people at Maison Sophia House (MSH) and found housing for 447 of them while our Integration and Support Services Housing Team supported 683 clients with their housing needs.

The following is a summary of some of our activities during the 2017-2018 fiscal year:

- Our Client Support Services Program served 1,856 Government-Assisted Refugees, marked its 10<sup>th</sup> anniversary, and upgraded its technology in order to better serve our clients.
- Our Mental Health Program provided assistance to 127 clients.
- The Children's Program at MSH provided programs and services to 94 children.
- In Community Connections, our drop-in programs to help newcomers learn English were well attended. More than 650 adults and young people were provided a full slate of activities, field trips and other services.
- The Matching Program organized 30 matches, reaching 130 newcomers.
- Our Pastoral Program helped 84 families connect with the faith community of their choice while our Sponsorship Program, working with the Archdiocese of Ottawa, helped 15 parishes sponsor 51 refugees.
- The Youth Program delivers services to more than 300 young people. Over 120 newcomer youth participated in our first youth soccer league.
- Our Ontario Refugee Resettlement Program had 227 clients access pre-employment preparation services while 106 youth attended a March Break job camp. 481 clients received case management services, with 2,800 one-on-one activities throughout the year.
- Career Transitions for International Health Professionals worked with 151 clients. Fifty-six clients found employment in the health sector while six of our foreign-trained physicians received residency placements across Canada.

Additional highlights include:

- Participated in the Ottawa Local Immigration Partnership Council with several other partners, including the City of Ottawa and the Local Agencies Serving Immigrants.
- Continued to sit on the National Settlement Council, Ottawa Police Service Board and the IRCC Deputy Ministry Advisory Committee.
- Partnerships continued with Carty House, a home for vulnerable refugee women.
- Continued our successful partnership with the Vanier Community Services Centre.
- We continue to sit on the Board and Executive of World Skills, LASI (Local Agencies Serving Immigrants) and the Executive of Refugee 613.

Our sister organization, The Catholic Immigration Centre Foundation, also had a successful year. During the year, the Foundation contributed \$338,228 to CCI's work and ended the year with a surplus of \$27,368. Thanks as well to the Canada Centre for its generous donation of \$140,000.

None of this could have been accomplished without the continued commitment and effort from many people.

First, to our staff, thank you for doing such an exemplary job, for making a difference in the lives of so many people, for creating a welcoming community.

I want to thank the many volunteers and donors who give us their time, energy, commitment, encouragement, money and inspiration.

Thanks to our Board. Our Board members take their task seriously by meeting regularly, working very hard, and providing us with excellent guidance and direction.

A heartfelt thank you to our three church partners — les Filles de la Sagesse d'Ontario, les Soeurs de la Charité d'Ottawa and the Archdiocese of Ottawa — who continue to provide us with generous support.

A special thanks to our funding partners such as the IRCC, the Ministry of Citizenship and Immigration, the City of Ottawa, Pathy Foundation and CC8.

A thank you to the numerous agencies, organizations and companies whom we partner with throughout the year.

On behalf of everyone at CCI, thank you for all of the ways in which you assist us and for the opportunity to work together. Together, we are all creating a more welcoming community.

Motion to:  
"Accept the Executive Director's Report"  
Moved by Larry Hill  
Seconded by Brian Reid  
CARRIED

## **8. Treasurer's Report**

Ms Luise Czernenko Reid referred to the audited financial statement for fiscal year 2018-2019 and to the notes included therein. Ms Czernenko Reid reported that revenues were \$8,678,808 and total expenses were \$8,544,038, resulting in a net operating surplus of \$134,770. She also reported on total assets and liabilities which resulted in net assets of \$1,558,927. Net assets include Building and General Reserves to provide for future building expenses or contingencies.

She acknowledged the valued and continued support of the Soeurs de la Charité d'Ottawa (Sisters of Charity of Ottawa), Les Filles de la Sagesse (Daughters of Wisdom) and the Archdiocese of Ottawa. She also thanked the Finance Department members, Carrie Liu and Dianne Webb. Ms Czernenko Reid reported that CCI is in a stable financial situation and that our short and long term position is very good. As a result, the following was presented:

**Motion to:**

“Accept the Treasurer's Report”

Moved by Luise Czernenko Reid

Seconded by Mohamed Delmar (sp?)

CARRIED

**Motion to:**

“Approve the 2017-2018 Audited Financial Statements”

Moved by Christine Aubin

Seconded by Armin Nourozi

CARRIED

## **9. Appointment of the Auditor**

Motion to:

“Re-appoint Ouseley Hanvey Clipsham Deep as Auditor”

Moved by Meiz Majdoub

Seconded by David Pepper

CARRIED

## **10. Nomination Committee's Report & Elections:**

Mr. Armin Nourozi presented the Nominations Committee Report. He explained the committee is charged with the mandate of bringing to the AGM recommendations to fill vacancies in any of the nine elected director positions on the Board of the Catholic Centre for Immigrants (CCI). The Nominations Committee also informs the AGM of any appointments of partner representative Directors.

The terms of office of 6 directors end at the 2019 Annual General Meeting.

- Caroline Andrew - Elected to the Board in 2013 for a 3-year term and re-elected to the Board in 2016 for a three-year term. She does not want to stand for election to a third term.
- Anna Du Vent - Appointed in March 2019 for a one-year term.
- Charles Ghadban - Appointed in March 2019 for a one-year term.
- Luise Czernenko Reid - Appointed in 2019 for a one-year term.
- Armin Nourozi - Elected in 2016 for a three-year term. He does not want to stand for re-election for a second term.
- David Tobin - Elected in 2017 for a one-year term.

There are therefore 6 elected director 3-year term vacancies on the CCI Board at this time.

The Nominations Committee recommends as follows:

- That Anna Du Vent be elected to the Catholic Centre for Immigrations Board of Directors for a term of three years.
- That Charles Ghadban be elected to the Catholic Centre for Immigrants Board of Directors for a term of three years.
- That Luise Czernenko Reid be elected to the Catholic Centre for Immigrants Board of Directors for a term of three years.
- That David Tobin be elected to the Catholic Centre for Immigrants Board of Directors for a term of three years.

It has been verified that each of the above candidates are CCI members in good standing, are eligible for election or re-election in accordance with CCI Bylaws and have consented to stand as directors.

Motion to:

“Accept the Nominations Committee Report”

Moved by: Michael Molloy

Seconded by: Andrew Cardozo

CARRIED

### **11. Staff and Board Recognition:**

Mr. Carl Nicholson presented an award to Ms Anna Szymanowicz, who retired in October 2018 after 25+ years of service and commitment to CCI. He noted that Ms Szymanowicz had seen the best and worst of times and without her dedication, CCI would not enjoy the secure position that is today.

**12. Other Business:** No business to discuss.

**13. Adjournment:**

Motion to “Adjourn the meeting”

Moved by Brian Reid

CARRIED

The meeting was adjourned at 8:05 p.m.