

**Minutes of the
Annual General Meeting of
the Champlain Society
Saturday, November 7, 2015
City of Toronto Archives, Toronto, Ontario**

Present: Patrice Dutil, in the Chair, Don McLeod, Secretary, and thirty-five members of the Society and their guests.

The meeting was called to order at 2:15 p.m.

1. Report of the President: Patrice Dutil

Patrice D. gave a brief PowerPoint overview of the Society's activities during the year 2014–15.

Objectives for 2015 included:

- continuing to restore the balance between the Society's expenses and revenue;
- rejuvenating the Society's Council;
- continuing innovation through such projects as *Findings/Trouvailles*, and the digital collection;
- marketing the Society's 2015 volume, *'Another World': William Ord Mackenzie's Sojourn in the Canadas, 1839–1843*, edited by Sandra Alston and Cicely Blackstock;
- seeking promotional opportunities for Thompson 2, edited by William Moreau, which was published extra series in Spring 2015.

These objectives were reached during 2015. *'Another World'* is due for release in November 2015; *Findings/Trouvailles* continues to appear regularly; and new book projects have been signed up. In addition, the Society increased its public outreach during 2015 by sponsoring four successful events:

- March 11: to mark the 400th anniversary of Champlain’s visit to Huronia, an evening with David Hackett Fischer (*Champlain’s Dream*) and the launch of TFO’s docudrama, *Le Rêve de Champlain*, held at Grano Restaurant;
- May 20: Christopher Moore’s discussion of his new book, *Three Weeks in Quebec City: The Meeting that Made Canada* (Allen Lane), held at Grano Restaurant;
- September 22: a panel discussion on “Champlain: The Man, the Explorer, the Enigma,” held as part of the ROM Speaks series, Royal Ontario Museum;
- November 1: “On the Path of Champlain,” an evening of music from the time of Champlain performed by the Aradia Ensemble, held at the Alliance Française Theatre.

Patrice D. thanked members of the Society’s Council and also the Executive Committee (Michel Beaulieu, Peter Davis, Jane Errington, Douglas Hunter, and Don McLeod) for their work during the year, and also the staff at University of Toronto Press-Journals.

Patrice D. asked if there were any questions from the floor. There were none.

2. Report of the Treasurer: Peter Davis and Patrice Dutil

Peter D. used PowerPoint to present a summary of the financial state of the Society for the year ended December 31, 2014, and subsequent financial reports.

The financial state of the Society continued to improve between 2013 and 2014 through implementing various streamlining and cost-cutting

measures. The Society posted a loss of \$9,137 during fiscal 2013, but posted a gain of \$11,477 for fiscal 2014. Revenues increased through a rise in membership numbers, and expenses for volume production costs were reduced, as were general and administrative costs.

Peter D. reviewed the Society's financial goals for fiscal 2015, which included:

- continuation of the austerity plan;
- raising membership numbers through additional promotion. The Society set aside \$3,500 for promotion in 2015, and worked with UTP-J on cross-promotion ads with journals such as *Canadian Historical Review*;
- raising donations. Donations are essential to the Society's financial wellbeing and must be upheld and increased;

The proposed budgets for fiscal 2015 and 2016 anticipate a small surplus in each year.

Peter D. asked if there were any questions from the floor about the financial report. There were none.

Financial Statements and Review Engagement

Patrice D. noted that at the Society's AGM on October 18, 2014, the Society's membership had unanimously supported a motion that the Champlain Society forego the preparation of audited Financial Statements for the year ending December 31, 2014, and that, in lieu of audited Financial Statements, the University of Toronto Press-Journals be asked to provide a review engagement of the state of the Champlain Society's accounts for the year ending December 31, 2014.

The Society's Council in its meeting this morning, November 7, 2015, unanimously supported the provision of a review engagement by UTP-J

for the fiscal year ending December 31, 2015, subject to the conditions of the Canada Not-for-Profit Corporation Act (2012).

Moved by Peter Davis, seconded by Ken Lund, that the Champlain Society forego the preparation of audited Financial Statements for the year ending December 31, 2015, and that, in lieu of audited Financial Statements, Shawn O’Grady, Vice President of Finance, University of Toronto Press, be asked to provide a review engagement of the state of the Champlain Society’s accounts for the year ending December 31, 2015, subject to the conditions of the Canada Not-for-Profit Corporation Act (2012).

Patrice D. asked if there were any questions from the membership. A member asked if the review engagement would be placed on the Society’s website. Patrice D. replied that it will appear on the website as soon as it is completed, likely in February or March 2016.

Another member asked if the review engagement is more cost effective for the Society. Patrice D. noted that it saves the Society about \$3,000 per year, and is much faster than an audited review.

The motion was called. Carried unanimously.

3. Committee Reports

Report on Membership: Patrice Dutil

Patrice D. reviewed the Society’s membership numbers. Membership stood at 461 in October 2014 and is 524 a year later, which is a good increase. During 2015 members of Council conducted research into the recent history of the Society’s membership and will form strategies to increase the membership further. In particular, Council has been working with UTP-J on promotional advertising.

Report of the Publications Committee and the General Editor: Don McLeod and Jane Errington

Don M. thanked the members of the Publications Committee for their work during the year: Sandra Alston, Peter Davis, Jane Errington (General Editor), Roger Hall, Don McLeod (Chair), William Moreau, Carolyn Podruchny, Germaine Warkentin, and David Wood.

Don M. reviewed that publications released during 2015:

The Writings of David Thompson. Volume 2: The Travels, 1848 Version, and Associated Texts, edited by William E. Moreau, was published extra series in Spring 2015. It was co-published with McGill-Queen's University Press (MQUP).

'Another World': William Ord Mackenzie's Sojourn in the Canadas, 1839–1843, edited by Sandra Alston and C.M. Blackstock, is due from the printer on November 16, and copies will be mailed to members by the end of November, with a renewal notice.

Jane E. remarked on forthcoming volumes in preparation. We have signed contracts for the following projects and will finalize production dates as they come in:

- *'Do What You Must': Selected Editorials from Le Devoir under Henri Bourassa, 1910–1932*, edited by Pierre Anctil; translation by Tono Onu (scheduled for 2016);
- *Papers from the Halifax Relief Commission*, edited by David Sutherland, Shirley Tillotson, and Peter Twohig (scheduled for 2017);

- *Life and Death by the Frozen Sea: The York Factory Journals of Captain James Knight, Governor of Hudson Bay, 1714–1717*, edited by Arthur J. Ray (contract in progress; scheduled for 2018);
- *The Moravians in Labrador*, edited by Linda Sabathy-Judd (scheduled for 2019?);
- *The Hudson's Bay Company and the Coast Trade, 1826–1846*, edited by James R. Gibson (scheduled for 2020?);
- *The Letters of James Wolfe, 1740–1759*, edited by D. Peter MacLeod (scheduled for 2021?);
- *John Holmes: A Canadian in Foreign Affairs*, edited by Hector Mackenzie (scheduled for 2022?);
- *The Writings of David Thompson. Volume 3*, edited by William E. Moreau, will be extra series and co-published with McGill-Queen's University Press (MQUP) (publication date to be determined).

Don M. noted that a Call for Project Proposals was released widely throughout 2015, through e-lists and our website. We have generated some talk about potential projects, and received five formal proposals during the year. The Publications Committee rejected one proposal, and is in negotiation with the proposed editor for a second project. Three projects were supported by the Publications Committee, and were later approved by Council: Anctil, MacLeod, and Ray (see above). We will continue to distribute the Call to try to attract new formal proposals.

Jane Errington succeeded Roger Hall as General Editor on January 1, 2015, though Roger H. coordinated publication of the Alston/Blackstock volume as editorial work on it began before 2015. Roger H. will remain a member of the Publications Committee.

Resolution to Appoint Members of Council

Patrice D. reviewed the membership of Council and the Executive Committee.

Douglas Hunter resigned from Council during 2015 and Bill Waiser will be leaving Council at the end of 2015 to move to Australia for a year; Patrice D. thanked them for their service to the Society.

Returning members of Council are:

Michel S. Beaulieu (to December 31, 2016)
Heidi Bohaker (to December 31, 2017)
Peter Davis (to December 31, 2016)
Patrice Dutil (to December 31, 2017)
Jane Errington (to December 31, 2016)
Janet Friskney (to December 31, 2017)
Roger Hall (to December 31, 2016)
Gregory P. Marchildon (to December 31, 2017)
Nicole St-Onge (to December 31, 2017)
James Paxton (to December 31, 2016)

The following members have agreed to be appointed for a three-year term to Council, ending December 31, 2018:

Danièle Caloz (first term)
Don McLeod (fourth term; with partial term before)
Stacy Nation-Knapper (first term)
Germaine Warkentin (second term; several terms before)

The Council of the Champlain Society may have a maximum of twenty-four members; as of January 1, 2016, it will have fourteen members. At the Council meeting held the morning of November 7, 2015, Council agreed to accept the slate presented by the Nominations Committee, and

agreed that a few additional members may be named and approved by Council later in 2015 and early 2016.

Patrice D. presented the names of the proposed members of the Executive Committee, beginning January 1, 2016:

Patrice Dutil: President, and Chair, Nominations Committee
Michel Beaulieu: Vice-President, and Chair, Chalmers Award
Committee (on leave from Chalmers, 2016)
Don McLeod: Secretary, and Chair, Publications Committee
Peter Davis: Treasurer
Janet Friskney: Member-at-large
Stacy Nation-Knapper: Editor, *Findings/Trouvailles*
Jane Errington: General Editor

Patrice D. asked if there were any nominations from the floor. There were none.

Moved by Roger Hall, seconded by Germaine Warkentin, that the membership of the Council and Executive of the Champlain Society for the period beginning January 1, 2016, be as presented by the Nominations Committee, with some additional members to be named and approved by Council later. Carried.

4. Presentation by Ms Sandra Alston on the Society's 2015 Volume, 'Another World': William Ord Mackenzie's Sojourn in the Canadas, 1839–1843

Sandra A. presented an illustrated talk on her volume on Mackenzie. There were several questions from the audience. Patrice D. thanked Sandra A. for the presentation. *Members of the audience applauded.*

5. Presentation by Dr Marti Latta (Professor of Anthropology, University of Toronto) on "Archaeological Findings in Huronia"

Dr Latta's illustrated lecture focussed on recent archaeological discoveries in Huronia, and their interpretation. There were questions from the floor. Patrice D. thanked Dr Latta for her presentation. *Members of the audience applauded.*

6. Presentation of the Floyd S. Chalmers Award in Ontario History for 2014

Michel Beaulieu served as administrator of the Chalmers Award committee for 2014. Members of the jury were: Prof Roger Hall (Professor Emeritus, Department of History, Western University), Prof Jan Noel (Associate Professor, Department of Historical Studies, University of Toronto at Mississauga), and Prof Brian S. Osborne (chair; Professor Emeritus, Department of Geography and Planning, Queen's University, and Adjunct Research Professor, Carleton University). Michel B. offered thanks to members of the jury on behalf of the Society, and to Lauren Naus of UTP-J for her help.

There were fourteen books submitted for 2014; the winner was Dr Daniel Macfarlane (Western Michigan University) for *Negotiating a River: Canada, the U.S., and the Creation of the St. Lawrence Seaway*, published by UBC Press.

Patrice D. presented the award citation, the prize of an Inuit sculpture, and a cheque for \$1,000 to Dr Macfarlane, who thanked the Society and made brief remarks about the book. *Members of the audience applauded.*

7. Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 4:10 p.m. It was followed by a wine and cheese reception to celebrate the winner of the Floyd S. Chalmers Award in Ontario History, held in the Atrium.