

December 7, 2023

Four Seasons Resort & Residence, Whistler

1. Call to Order

Christopher Vick, Chair of the Board, calls meeting of the 2023 Annual General Meeting to order 11.01am.

The Chair acknowledged that the meeting was held on the traditional, unceded, shared territories of the Squamish Nation and Lil'wat Nation. By acknowledging the Squamish Nation and Lil'wat Nation as traditional and ongoing custodians of these lands, it is a reminder of our responsibilities. Our responsibilities to each other, to the land, and to building enduring relationships through truth and reconciliation. The Ambassadors from the Squamish Lil'wat Cultural Centre will join the lunch session for a formal welcome.

Ascertainment of Quorum

Quorum confirmed of more than 20 Members present.

2. Adoption of the Rules of Order

**Motion carried.**

3. Approval of the Agenda

**Motion carried.**

4. Approval of the Minutes of the last meeting

That the minutes of the Annual General Meeting for the Whistler Chamber of Commerce held December 8, 2022, be approved as presented.

**Motion carried.**

5. Report of the Board

This year, your board met for six regularly scheduled meetings, along with two additional meetings and multiple active committee meetings and discussions throughout the year.

The board conducted a review of the strategic plan, which was updated to more clearly identify the Chamber's unique value proposition, and better reflect current post-COVID and Whistler resort contexts. With a vision of thriving businesses in a resilient mountain resort community, our mission is to help our members achieve business success. The Whistler Chamber supports businesses through four key pillars:

- 1) **Business Supports:** We provide the resources, services and programs to support talent development and successful business operations.

- 2) **Advocate for Business:** We provide a unified voice for business on issues within our influence that help enable business success.
- 3) **Create Connections:** We make it easy and fun to create strong and meaningful B2B and community relationships within Whistler and beyond.
- 4) **Organizational Excellence:** We are an exemplary organization and strong leader and partner.

The Chair recognized the important work from the Chamber team, Alisa Feuz, Chris Maloney, Jackie McLean and Louise Walker. Following a change in leadership, the team had worked hard to rebuild programs and services to support the business community. Over the last year, we saw the return of in-person events, workshops and networking opportunities.

The Chair acknowledged the incredible work of the volunteer directors and thanked Diana Chan, Sarah Strother, Stuart McConachie and Shane Holland, all of whom were stepping down from the Board.

## 6. Financial Report and Financial Statements

Diana Chan, Treasurer, provided a report of the Chamber's financial results and year end statements.

The Chamber remains in a strong financial position, closing with a net contribution of \$47,498. The year-end income was stronger than expected, with new staff joining mid-year to support the delivery of programs. The increase in revenue was a result of more members, increased participation in the Whistler Experience and the return of in-person events.

Much of the Chamber's financial strength comes from the significant current assets and limited liabilities. Our current unrestricted fund balance creates opportunities to invest in new programming and initiatives which benefit the business community.

The Board has approved a conservative budget for the year ahead. The Chamber is well positioned financially to invest in new opportunities that creates value for the business community.

The board approved financial statements were available on the Chamber's website for member's review.

There were no questions from the membership regarding the year end statements.

## 7. Appointment of Accountant

As required by our bylaws and recommended by the Finance Committee of the Board, there was a motion to approve BDO Canada LLP as the accountant for the fiscal 2024 year and authorize the board to set the remuneration.

**Motion carried.**

## 8. Election of Directors

The Chair of the Nomination and Elections Committee, Sarah Strother, provided the report of the committee and the result of the nominations and election process.

In accordance with our By-laws, the Nomination committee was struck in September 2023, more than 30 days before the AGM and our members were notified of the call for Nominations as of September 26 through emails, websites, media release and numerous social media posts.

Through a combination of terms ending as of this Annual General meeting and resignations from the board, there were seven director positions to be filled for the coming year. As at the close of Nominations on October 13, a total of twelve complete nominations were received. With more nominations than vacancies, an election was held (one nominee stepped down from the process prior to voting). Each member in good standing received an electronic voting link.

As per bylaws, the nominees with the most votes were elected for the upcoming year:

- Christopher Vick, GM Hilton Resort & Spa, Whistler (incumbent)
- Amy Mac, Owner/Operator, Picnic Whistler
- Jackie Dickinson, ED, Whistler Community Services Society
- John Holton, GM, Nita Lake Lodge
- Shona Pare, Groups Manager, Pare Restaurant Group
- Kerren Bottay, GM, Listel Hotel / Bearfoot Bistro
- David Low, Director, Community Futures

Joining returning directors:

- Moody Dan, Operations Manager, SLCC
- Wendy Hargreaves, Director of Sales & Marketing, Fairmont Chateau Whistler
- Mike Hashimoto, Manager, B-Mak Construction
- Gregg Martin, Branch Manager, BlueShore Financial

The committee Chair acknowledged the commitment and service of the outgoing directors: Diana Chan, Sarah Strother, Stuart McConachie and Shane Holland, all of whom provided significant support to the board throughout this year.

## 9. Other Business

In 2020, the members approved the recommended bylaw changes that addressed the requirement imposed by the RMOW to have an elected council representative on the Whistler Chamber board in order to qualify for its Fee for Service funding program, the core funding of the guest experience training program provided by the Chamber.

The requirement to have an appointed elected official to the Board is prohibited by the Boards of Trade Act, therefore the member approved bylaws were rejected by Corporations Canada.

As a result of the comprehensive review of the bylaws, Corporations Canada outlined a number of areas that had been grandfathered that would no longer be accepted. To address the concerns outlined by Corporations Canada, the Board undertook a complete rewrite of the bylaws.

At the 2023 AGM, members adopted significant amendments to the Chamber's bylaws to ensure that the Chamber is in compliance with the Boards of Trade Act.

**Motion carried.**

#### 10. ED Report

The ED introduced the team and reviewed the key objectives of the new Strategic Plan, including more lunch & learns, workshops, advocacy and equity, diversity and inclusion initiatives.

#### 10. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 11.42am