

**Muskoka Pride Community - Annual General Meeting  
October 26<sup>th</sup> 2022 6:00PM  
Bracebridge United Church**

**MINUTES**

Present: Merv Taylor-Morin, Greg Titus, Paul Finley, Deb Davies, Mo Oakley, Steph Taylor, Kellie Leeder, Carol-Ann Chapman, Alexis Finley, Karen Beatty, Romi Melis

Guests (non-members): Alexis Finley, Carol-Ann Chapman

1. Call to Order@ 6:02pm
2. Approval of the Agenda

<b>Motion</b>	<b>Moved by</b>	<b>Seconded by</b>
To approve the October 26 <sup>th</sup> 2022 Annual General Meeting Agenda. <b>CARRIED</b>	Greg	Deb

3. Approval of the Minutes

<b>Motion</b>	<b>Moved by</b>	<b>Seconded by</b>
To approve the minutes of the October 28 <sup>th</sup> 2021 Annual General Meeting. <b>CARRIED</b>	Greg	Kellie

4. Confirmation of Acts

<b>Motion</b>	<b>Moved by</b>	<b>Seconded by</b>
That all contracts, acts, and proceedings by the Directors and Officers of Muskoka Pride Community since the last Annual General Meeting, as set forth and described in the Minutes, be approved, ratified and confirmed. <b>CARRIED</b>	Deb	Mo

5. Officer's Reports

- President – Merv Taylor-Morin gave a report (appended to the minutes).
- Secretary – Shawn Forth gave a report (appended to the minutes).
- Treasurer – no report was given.

<b>Motion</b>	<b>Moved by</b>	<b>Seconded by</b>
To accept the Officers' reports. <b>CARRIED</b>	Deb	Greg

6. Financial Statements

<b>Motion</b>	<b>Moved by</b>	<b>Seconded by</b>
In accordance with Section 76 of the Ontario Not-for-Profit Corporations Act, the general membership of Muskoka Pride Community motions to not hold an audit or review engagement on its March 31, 2022 financial statement. <b>CARRIED</b>	Deb	Paul

<b>Motion</b>	<b>Moved by</b>	<b>Seconded by</b>
To approve the unaudited March 31, 2022 Financial Statement <b>CARRIED</b>	Paul	Deb

7. By-Law Amendments

A package of Bylaw amendments was presented to all members.

<b>Motion</b>	<b>Moved by</b>	<b>Seconded by</b>
To amend the Bylaws by replacing “LGBTQ+” with “2SLGBTQ+” throughout the Bylaws. <b>CARRIED</b>	Kellie	Deb

<b>Motion</b>	<b>Moved by</b>	<b>Seconded by</b>
To ratify the Bylaw amendments as amended. <b>CARRIED</b>	Deb	Greg

<b>Motion</b>	<b>Moved by</b>	<b>Seconded by</b>
That the Board engage in consultations with Indigenous communities in Muskoka regarding the placement of “2S” within the acronym “2SLGBTQ+”. <b>CARRIED</b>	Kellie	Deb

<b>Motion</b>	<b>Moved by</b>	<b>Seconded by</b>
That the Board be authorized to correct article and section designations, punctuation, and cross references and to make such other technical and conforming changes as may be necessary to reflect the intent of the general membership in connection with the amended Bylaws. <b>CARRIED</b>	Deb	Greg

8. 2022-2023 Board of Directors

Call for nominations to the 2022-2023 Board of Directors for individuals willing to stand for the Board (self-nomination is encouraged)

**Nominations (2 Year Term):** Paul Finley, Mo Oakley, Merv Taylor-Morin, Greg Titus, Steph Taylor, Glen Yacula

**Nominations (1 Year Term):**

**Current Board Members with 1 Year remaining:** Shawn Forth, Deb Davies, Sarah Hiscox

9. Election

<b>Motion</b>	<b>Moved by</b>	<b>Seconded by</b>
To approve the 2022-2023 Board of Directors <b>CARRIED</b>	Shawn	Deb

10. New Business

There was none.

11. Adjournment

<b>Motion</b>	<b>Moved by</b>	<b>Seconded by</b>
To adjourn the October 26 <sup>th</sup> 2022 Annual General Meeting at 6:50pm	Deb	

President: \_\_\_\_\_ Secretary: \_\_\_\_\_

It has been my great honour to serve as your President for 2022. This is a role I enjoy more, each time I manage to be reelected to it. I want to thank the current and outgoing members of the Board of Directors for all their hard work.

As another Covid-affected year is ending for Muskoka Pride, we are gearing up for the early events of 2023. We were able to hold some face-to-face events, with minimal precautions in 2022 and hope for further reductions in mandatory precautions for 2023.

We were excited to be able to return to Memorial Park for a parade and picnic, however the weather prevented it. We added a couple of new events to our repertoire. Our cosponsored event with Huntsville Theatre Company in Huntsville (disco night) was a great success, as was the Six Mile Lake Pride Boat Parade in Georgian Bay Township. Muskoka Bay Resort in Gravenhurst hosted our first pool party. The pool was rocking on a warm Saturday afternoon.

Once again, we covered a gate at the Cranberry Festival in Bala. This has become an annual obligation we take on for which we receive a generous contribution for the effort. Our first event of the year the Muskoka Queer Film Festival (MQFF) benefits from these funds. There were a couple of "R" rated films not shown at the MQFF. These films were previewed at our first MQFF After dark, during the Pride Festival season. If there are films submitted that are not the best fit for the spring MQFF, we will keep this event in mind for subsequent years.

We were pleased to have been invited to have a booth at the Minden Pride Festival. This kind of visibility is a great networking opportunity, and a way to maintain our connection to other rural pride organizations.

Check out our web site to review the events held in 2022, and feel free to offer suggestions for 2023. Consider putting your name forward as a volunteer, we depend on you.

Merv Taylor-Morin

President, Muskoka Pride.

In addition to my role as Secretary, I am also responsible for all Muskoka Pride social media accounts, the Muskoka Pride website, coordinating details of the Pride Week and social events, all grant writing, and overseeing the grant reporting.

Our social media accounts have continued to be active throughout the year, adding followers and responding to inquiries. Across our 3 accounts (Facebook, Instagram, and Twitter) we have almost 6000 followers!

Throughout the year, we have continued our monthly social gatherings. We hold a coffee social in Gravenhurst on the first Friday of the month, a coffee social in Bracebridge on the third Friday, and a youth group in Bracebridge on the second Friday. Recently we have been seeing small numbers for the coffee socials, so we are taking a break until January. The Youth Group regularly has 9-15 participants, and now PFLAG Muskoka is holding a meeting for parents at the same time.

These monthly events are important, because they have increased our visibility, they allow opportunities to network with others in the community, and also provide a regular chance for people new to the community to meet others.

Muskoka Pride had a successful Pride Week, even though we had to cancel the Parade and Festival due to extreme weather. We continue to explore new partnerships with groups in the community – Huntsville Theatre Company, TimberBeast Productions, Bracebridge & Trinity United Churches, Lake of Bays Brewery, and Muskoka Bay Resort – to name just a few. Its because of these partnerships that we were able to host such a diverse week of Pride events.

Muskoka Pride was extremely proud to partner with YWCA Muskoka for the rebranded “Walk A Mile in Their Shoes” fundraiser. The portion of funds raised that go to Muskoka Pride are directed to programs supporting Muskoka’s LGBTQ+ youth – the monthly Youth Group, supporting PFLAG Muskoka, and supporting the high school and elementary GSA clubs.

Muskoka Pride was successful with 3 grants last year – the Heritage Canada “Building Communities Through Arts and Heritage” grant immensely helps us during the annual Pride Week. We finally used the 2020 Bracebridge Event Tourism grant (which was held back for two years due to covid). We also received funding from the District of Muskoka Community Enhancement grant, which was used to purchase 7 rainbow benches for Muskoka municipalities.

It has been an absolute pleasure and a wonderful challenge to serve Muskoka Pride in these roles.

**Shawn Forth**

**Secretary and Promotions**

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