



## Annual General Meeting

**Saturday, March 23 2019 10:30 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.**  
**Ancient Spirals Retreat Centre**

**Attendance:** Zoe Arnold, Courtney Malec, Denise Skuce, Reanne Lajeunesse, Jeff Moore, Heather Maurer, Lyndon Maurer, Rebecca Klapwyk, Annabelle Klapwyk, Andrea Nelson, Crystal Itterman, Shelley Bettker, Nicole Turner, Sean Brandt, Taniya Heuchert, Aditi Garg, Wade Klassen, Bernadette Slager, Leah Japp, Karen McIver, Jana Miller, Merrissa Karmark, Branimir Gjetvaj

**1. Call to Order** (*Sean Brandt, President*)

**Sean Brandt called to order at 10:30am.**

**2. Approval of the Agenda** (*Sean Brandt, President*)

**3. Approval of the Minutes from the 2018 AGM** (*Sean Brandt, President*)

**Taniya/Andrea (motion/seconded/carried) to accept the minutes from the 2018 Annual General Meeting**

**4. Reports from Directors**

- **President's Report** (*Sean Brandt, President*)

Good Morning Saskoutdoors members, guests and board members

It is once again my pleasure to address you for the 2019 Annual general Meeting

I'd like to acknowledge that I speak to you on treaty six lands and the homeland of the Metis at the beautiful Ancient Spirals retreat centre.

It has been a busy year for Saskoutdoors as we continue to grow as an organization, try new ideas, expand our reach and influence throughout the province and help shape the narrative of outdoor use, play and awareness.

To our General Manager Leah, and the members of the board who volunteer their time to share their passion- thank you for being willing to commit the time and energy that is required for an organization like ours to function. To those that were new to the board this year, I've

appreciated your insights as to how we can streamline what we do, and the new ideas you have brought to the table. To those who have sat on the board for many years- which if I may be so bold as to refer to as a “Karen” of time, your guidance and knowledge is invaluable- thank you for continuing to make Saskoutdoors a priority for you.

Saskoutdoors has been busy this year offering many “learn to” and “go do” events including ski and skating days, wood carving workshops, canoe sessions, unstructured play events, and nature playcare, which together engaged roughly 400 people throughout Saskatchewan.

Our PD offerings continue to be well attended and we offered project WET and WILD training to over 250 people. We were also asked to offer guidance on curriculum development for the Ministry of Saskatchewan and in the upcoming year Saskoutdoors is looking at becoming the organization to administer Leave No Trace certification in Saskatchewan.

Out grant requests throughout the year have been increasing as well- Saskoutdoors has offered funding to many day trips, overnight camping experiences to many organizations throughout the province.

We hope that our members have noticed an increase in social media use as well- although many of us outdoor fold appreciate nature as a time to put down the technology and enjoy the moment- we know that a strong social media presence is a requirement for organizations such as ours to interact with the public.

But perhaps our most ambitious undertaking in 2018 which will culminate in 2019 is being a named partner for the 2019 EECOM Conference in May of this year in Saskatoon “Action on Climate through Education”. This is the first time “Climate “ has been in the title and we agree that it is past due. This is an international conference with around 400 delegates and our board members are involved in all parts of planning and administration of a conference of this size. We are even sharing Leah with EECOM for the first quarter of the year to ensure that this is done well. Saskoutdoors will be celebrating its 50th birthday during this conference which will be a massive party on Saturday May 11th at Louis on campus.

Yes, we have many projects ongoing this year- and I look forward to the success that I know 2019 will bring.

Thank you to the SPRA and our members for their continued support.

- *General Manager’s Report (Leah Japp, General Manager)*

SaskOutdoors memberships are renewed each year in September. As of December 31, 2018 membership was: 66 general members, 15 lifetime members, 34 award winner members

## **5. Financial Report (Courtney Malec, Treasurer)**

**a. Presentation of the 2018 Financial Statement**

Clean audit opinion other than scope qualification for membership and donations revenue, but this is common for non for profits

Lower cash and investment balances than previous year, largely attributable to additional operating costs of putting on the national EECOM Conference.

See note 5: large expense for education projects, due to purchase of books in excess of event attendees

**Jeff Moore/Zoe Arnold (motion/seconded/carried) to accept the audited financial statements.**

**b. Appointment of the Auditor for 2019**

**Courtney Malec/Taniya Heuchert (motion/seconded/carried) to appoint Priority Accounting Services in Regina as the returning auditor.**

**c. Presentation of the 2019 Budget**

- Budget income/expense of \$83,000 for special projects, largely attributable to EECOM Conference
- New wages/admin income line item to reflect the admin costs charged when offering courses
- Decrease in “other grants” expected to be received from \$3,000 to \$300
- Decrease in insurance costs due to timing of payment

**Courtney Malec/Sean Brandt (motion/seconded/carried) to accept the 2019 Budget.**

**d. Set Membership Rates for 2019**

**Courtney Malec/Andrea (motion/seconded/carried) to set these membership fees.**

- i. Individual Membership: \$20/year
- ii. Student or Low Income Individual Membership: \$10/year
- iii. Family Membership: \$30/year (suitable for families with up to 2 adults and dependent children)
- iv. Organizational Membership: \$50/year (suitable for schools, organizations & community groups)
- v. Lifetime Membership: \$300 one time payment (suitable for individuals; free to Melanson and Weir Award Winners)

**6. Presentation of the Slate of Officers**

Karen presented the slate of officers. Vice president and Program Director to be determined at upcoming board meeting.

Sean Brandt*
Aditi Garg*
Wade Klassen
Heather Maurer
Taniya Heuchert*
Merrissa Karmark*
Jeff Moore*
Andrea Nelson
Ryan Clark
Zoe Arnold**
Denise Skuce
Rebecca Klapwyk
Karyn Booy

\*Saskatchewan Teachers' Federation Member

**Karen Mclver/Bernadette Slager (motion/seconded/carried) to accept the board slate as presented.**

**7. Thank you to Leaving Board Members** (*Sean Brandt, President*)

Dallas New – her claim to fame is willingness to itemize our storage unit!

Courtney Malec – moving to BC for a job after graduation!

Karen Mclver – 13 years on board, introduced many of our current board to SaskOutdoors, has organizational history, many hours of work, continues to be publisher Of Land & Living Skies and coordinator of EECOM Conference

**8. New Business (issues from the floor)** (*Sean Brandt, President*)

No new business

**9. Adjournment** (*Sean Brandt, President*)

**Karen Mclver motion/seconded/carried) to adjourn the meeting.**