

**(Draft to be approved) Minutes ACC-Ottawa AGM 2020: Jan 25, 2021 (via Zoom)**

1. **Welcome:** Bill Barrett welcomed all members to the meeting
2. Grant Blanchard explained the **on-line format** and expressed his appreciation to everyone that signed up to the online version. Thank you to Elfrieda Bock and Grant who took on the organizing of this new format. Voting will be done by first asking for participants who oppose, if needed we will do a full count.
3. Approval of the **agenda:** Grant Blanchard moved to approve, Lesley Cassidy seconded, approved with no objections
4. Bill introduced the **current executive**
5. Approval of the **minutes of the 2019 AGM:** Grant moved to approve, approved with no objections

-action item: the original plan to create a new website has fallen through. New website will be done through Constant Contact, with Elfrieda leading the process (Tian Yuan will take on managing once it is set up)

**6. Chair's report:**

-the section agreed early on to follow the letter and spirit of the public health guidelines; we put in place practices to run activities safely when allowed

-membership is down, to around 350 usually just below 500; as a result membership generated revenue is down but our financial position remains sound as expenses are also down

-despite restrictions, lots of club trips activities took place in 2020; coordinators and trip leaders rose to the occasion.

-we continue to seek out opportunities for collaboration with groups that share similar interests to ACC-Ottawa: we are working with the Gatineau Park Recreation Coalition and the NCC on hiking management in GP; with ACC-Outaouais and the NCC on climbing in GP, Dacre Heights has been opened as a backcountry activity area and members have been helping develop the site; our club is now a sponsor of the SOIceFest (online this year)

-ACC- National is struggling with revenue, as they try to figure out how to offer hut based activities with the covid restrictions (hut revenue is their primary income source)

**7. Activity report:**

-there were almost 40 hiking trips (including snowshoeing and skiing): most events have been local and we explored a few different locations like Frontenac park and Griffith Uplands

-Winter-palooza was held at the end of February, and was based out of the Motor J hotel instead of Keene Farm this year

- Hike-a-palooza and Rockfest were cancelled
- five training events were run, generally as smaller group events.
- seven social events were held: six in person, while allowed, and one online pub night.
- we had a few new trip leaders this year, we continue to set these people up with mentors. Leadership development will continue to be a focus for the section.

## **8. Volunteer recognition:**

-thank you to all of our wonderful volunteers who have been flexible and open to sudden changes of plans; we named 48 people who did something extra for the section this year, allowing us to have activities on 73 different days despite the limitations caused by covid! The list of names will be posted in our e-letter and on our website and FB page

-Bushtukhah gift cards or club t-shirts have been given to volunteers who have led 3+ trips or organized a larger event for the section. Bushtukhah also contributed two door prizes.

## **9. Looking ahead to 2021**

-we will continue to learn to live with Covid, into the summer and fall for sure. We will continue to follow government health guidelines and take safety precautions as a club.

-we have decided not to plan a summer camp out West this summer due to on-going uncertainty, hopefully it will be back in 2022; perhaps we will be able to do something simple this year in the east when things open up

-we will be moving gear storage, the logistics will be worked out shortly

-the website will be rolled out this spring.

-Gatineau Park has released their master plan, there will be a loss of access to many trails that we have used for years as well as recreating west of the Eardley-Masham Rd, about 60 km of backcountry trails will added to official GP maps, we continue to work with GPRC and the NCC on preserving a backcountry experience in GP, it looks like some bouldering will be made official and the NCC will be working with FQME on site maintenance (we will support these initiatives)

-section members may see some changes at Montagne D'Argent, as the Laurentien section will be disbanded, we do not know yet how this will impact us, although memberships remain valid until the end of 2021

## **10. Financial report 2020**

-loss of memberships (down 150) impacted revenue, as well as a loss of training income

-however, there was very little spending, all trips were free, and no training expenses

-no negative impact from cancelled summer camp, deposits have all been refunded

## **11. Budget for 2021**

-budget based on prediction of 3 to 4 events at end of the year, all budget plans subject to change, but we are in a good financial situation heading into 2021 and looking to 2022

-Grant B moved that we accept the budget, David Foster seconded and the budget was approved

## **12. Executive positions 2021-22**

-12 positions were open: 8 incumbents

-2 volunteers for open positions: Cynthia Modjeski for secretary and Paul Baker for quartermaster

-open positions: Hiking coordinator and Access liaison, exec will discuss how to manage at their first meeting in February