

**Quebec Student Debating Association**  
**Annual General Meeting**  
**Lower Canada College – Tuesday, June 2, 2009**

**1. Welcome / Call to order/ Introductions (4:05pm)**

**Present:**

Chris George	Lower Canada College (President)
Sandy Cross	Pierrefonds Comprehensive (Vice President)
<b>Isabelle Fahmy</b>	<b>Lower Canada College (Director)</b>
<b>Mary Kate Jackson</b>	<b>Queen of Angels (Secretary)</b>
<b>Erika Kuch</b>	<b>Royal West</b>
<b>Denis Brault</b>	<b>Loyola</b>
<b>Erin Russett</b>	<b>Selwyn House</b>
Lauren Shadley	Dawson
Edward Bechard-Torres	Dawson
Michael Stepner	Marianopolis
<b>Donna Gold</b>	<b>St. George's</b>
Dani Jansen	St. George's
<b>Greg Loudon</b>	<b>Vincent Massey Collegiate</b>
<b>Laurence Harris</b>	<b>The Study</b>
<b>Chaim Steinberg</b>	<b>Bialik (arrived late)</b>

**Regrets:**

Louise Chalmers	John Rennie
James Roy	Westwood
Ryan Abrams	Treasurer
James Rioux	Stanstead
Graeme Phillips	Trafalgar
Beatrice Bousser	ECS
Liana Palko	Selwyn House
Tina Grivas	West Island College

<b>Chair:</b>	Chris George
<b>Minutes:</b>	Mary Kate Jackson

**2. Roll Call, Introduce QSDA Executive and all Coaches, Identify Voting Members**

Voting members are indicated in bold above. The chair determined that quorum was established.

**Motion by Chris to adopt Agenda, with the addition of item #6 – Chaperoning issues.**

**Moved by Donna, seconded by Denis. Carried unanimously.**

### **3. Adopt minutes from June 5, 2008.**

#### **Motion to adopt minutes from June 5, 2008**

**Moved by Denis, seconded by Erin . CARRIED unanimously.**

### **4. Business Arising from Minutes of June 5, 2008**

- Chaperoning – see below.
- No business arising.

### **5. Membership update**

- Lost St. Thomas, gained Lake of Two Mountains
- PCHS not a member this year, but will have free membership for a year when they join

### **6. Chaperoning issues**

- Last year, QSDA decided not to accept responsibility for chaperoning; every school became responsible for making their own arrangements
- We then allocated money to people to offset chaperoning costs
- Was meant for “schools in need”, but most schools thought they were “in need”, and one school expected money even though no chaperone was sent
- **No changes proposed in the idea that the chaperoning is a school responsibility**

Chris proposes that no money is offered to any schools for chaperones, but membership fees will be lowered.

- Donna Gold mentioned that St. George’s didn’t go to events because they didn’t have the money
- Laurence Harris brought up the point that “merged” or hybrid teams should be supported by QSDA; he wasn’t aware of the problems, and mentioned that the parameters for getting the money should have been more clearly laid out
- If schools are representing not just themselves, but the QSDA, then the QSDA should offer some money
- How much money would be saved? From \$250, fees could drop to \$150, or even \$100 (if we continue to get \$1000 from CSDF)
- The money helps the coach, who might have to pay out of pocket (Greg).
- If teachers get per diems, they shouldn’t be eligible, but other schools should (Mary Kate)
- Can parents provide the necessary money?
- Chris suggested that we have a set amount of \$100 for each student who makes it to these events, and that money can be used at the discretion of the school
- Are these fees prohibitive for some schools? Short answer → yes.

**Motion that the QSDA no longer provide travel subsidies to chaperones for national events, which will in turn lower the membership fees, with the caveat that we look into long term solutions.**

**Moved by Donna, seconded by Erin. Carried unanimously with 2 abstentions.**

## **7. Financial Update**

- See expense charts at the back of the agenda.
- CSDF gives us money (\$1000) but we never know if we're getting it. Asked in July, heard nothing, got cheque in March.
- Based on estimates, we're up about \$300, leaving us with \$4000(approx.) in the bank.

### **Motion to accept the financial report.**

**Moved by Laurence, seconded by Greg. CARRIED unanimously.**

- possible budget for 2009-10 presented and issues discussed.

### **Motion to set the 09-10 QSDA registration fee at \$125.**

**Moved by Chaim, seconded by Laurence, CARRIED unanimously.**

- auditor – last year the board was given the authority to appoint an auditor
- does not have to be a registered CA
- theoretically the AGM should appoint an auditor

### **Motion to authorize the board of directors to appoint someone at later date.**

**Moved by Denis, seconded by Isabelle. CARRIED unanimously.**

## **8. Report from CSDF and National Seminar**

Report attached.

Chris proposed that we send out an invitation, and schools can put names forward.

Process is good; we'll stick with status quo.

## **9. Report from North American Championships (now called the Oxford Cup)**

Report attached.

For 2009-2010, this will be combined with the Asper Cup – the winner will win both titles.

Will take place in Winnipeg.

## **10. Report on Senior National Championships**

Report attached.

We didn't fill our spots.

Will take place in Victoria.

## **11. Reports from Junior High Nationals**

Report attached.

Quebec did well; tabs, judging, and head adjudicator were good.

Will be held in Calgary next year.

## **12. Review calendar of events for next year**

Donna Gold can host the North Americans qualifier.

Loyola will be getting a break from Public Speaking, and Selwyn will do it.

University tournaments will be added soon.

## **13. Proposed Amendments to By-Laws (with proper notice)**

**Motion to change by-law #73 to read "School teams qualify for the Junior High Nationals, not individuals. No substitutions of team members are allowed after the selection has been made. There is a maximum of one team per school".**

**Moved by Mary Kate, seconded by Laurence. Carried unanimously, with one abstention.**

## **14. Other Business**

None

## **15. Election of Executive / Board of Directors**

By law, we have to have them. There are 5. Names and roles are public knowledge.

Directors are equally responsible and liable for decisions and problems.

Board can fill a vacancy at any time; no need to wait for an AGM.

Chaim Steinberg nominated Greg Louden for President. Greg accepted.

Greg was acclaimed.

Greg Louden nominated Isabelle Fahmy for Vice President. Isabelle accepted, and was acclaimed.

Mary Kate Jackson nominated Edward Bechard-Torres for Treasurer. Edward accepted, Edward was acclaimed.

Isabelle Fahmy nominated Mary Kate Jackson for Secretary. Mary Kate accepted, and was acclaimed.

Denis Brault nominated Lauren Shadley to be a director. Lauren accepted, and was acclaimed.

Chris will help with the transition.

Sandy expressed an interest in exploring fundraising, now that we are a charitable organization.

## **16. Adjournment**

Unanimous motion to adjourn at 5:40 p.m.

Donna thanked Chris and Sandy for their contributions to the QSDA over the past 5 years.