



Quebec Student Debating Association

<http://www.qsda.net>

Quebec Student Debating Association – Annual General Meeting **Lower Canada College - Thursday, June 2, 2011**

1. Welcome - Call to Order

The Chair, Lauren Shadley, in the absence of the President, called the meeting to order at 4:15 p.m.

2. Roll Call, Introduce QSDA Executive and all Coaches, Identify Voting members (1 per member school denoted in BOLD)

Present:

Chris George	Lower Canada College
Denis Brault	Loyola
Greg Louden	Vincent Massey (President) / proxy for St. George's
Liana Palko	Selywn House
Jon Bracewell	Selwyn House
Mia Valerianos	The Study
Melissa Leiter	Bialik
Lauren Shadley	Trafalgar / Director
Caroline Wagner	
Kaylann Knickle	

Regrets:

Donna Gold	St. George's
Edward Bechard-Torres	Treasurer
Isabelle Fahmy	Vice-President
Luigi Discepola	Kuper Academy

Chair: Lauren Shadley / Greg Louden

Minutes: Caroline Wagner

The Chair established that quorum had been attained.

Motion to adopt agenda.

Moved: Denis

Seconded: Jon

Carried unanimously.

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3. Adopt minutes from December 16.

Motion to adopt the minutes from December 16, 2010.

Moved: Chris

Seconded: Denis

Carried.

4. Business Arising from Minutes of December 16, 2010

- None

5. Membership Update

- Chris: 19 members, 16 paid, 3 are 1st year schools (no fee). Villa Maria does not have to pay for next year, paid this year. John Rennie was only non renewal.

6. Financial Update

- Chris: Previously approved 2009-2010, there was a screw up with insurance company, and payment not processed so 1000\$ not paid in that year, so we are up 1000\$, although didn't have insurance that year.
- **Chris: Motion to adopt revised financial statement for 2009-2010.**
 - Moved: Denis
 - Seconded: Lauren
 - Carried.
- Chris: Financial statement 2010-2011: A couple of outstanding bills, not entirely paid. Bank fees, will be shaken out by end of fiscal year. New for this fiscal year, 1000\$ from CSDF. Will put us in black for about 467\$. About 5000\$ left in bank. Insurance re-renewed for next year, expense for this fiscal year shows.
- **Motion to adopt financial statements for 2010-11.**
 - Moved: Melissa
 - Seconded: Jon
 - Carried.
- Proposed budget for 2011-2012, we guessed for how many will renew next year. Insurance in there, national stuff, regardless of another 1000\$ CSDF looking to break even with the current 200\$ membership fee.

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- Motion: **Adopt proposed budget for 2011-2012 and keep membership fee at current 200\$.**
 - Moved: Chris
 - Seconded: Mia
 - Carried.
- Need to appoint an auditor.
- **Motion for board to appoint an auditor at a later date.**
 - Moved: Denis
 - Seconded: Jon
 - Carried.

7. CSDF Report

- Gave us the 1000\$ grant, we did not receive this last year or the year before. Unsure as to whether this will happen in future.
- They held a strategic planning session for 'provincial representatives', QSDA did not go, report will be coming. They host a national seminar we have not attended in 2 years. (Expenses and chaperoning issues make it an issue)
- Lauren: Where is it hosted next year?
Chris: Saskatchewan

8. Report on Senior National Championships

- Good tournament, debating caliber was very high.
- Biggest nationals ever. Could have been a reason for some complications with judging.
- Greg: Hard on kids to find out if they won or lost. It was open adjudication for the first 2 rounds.
- Greg: Jon Batty (?) from Victoria does not like open adjudication
- Chris: The decision rests with the hosts. It will be closed adjudication next year.

9. Report from Junior High National Championships

- Jon: Good. In Estevan Saskatchewan, coal mining town. Debating was good. Cross ex style was different, most got it.
- Denis: Problem with judging?
- Jon: Some judges on totally different planet from others, completely different scores from judges even sitting next to each other. Got more consistent later on. Some parents in audience talking to debaters had to be dealt with.

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- Greg: Back to Seniors: Because there's no conferral before decision and talking to the debaters, there can be huge discrepancies with the marks.
- Jon: Asked about conferral at juniors, very hostile to idea.
- Chris: Quebec only province that does conferral on a regular basis. Haven't discussed judging at a meeting in a long time. In general, debate and judging out west is very different. That's why people can fight over who to host since you get home turf rules.
- Greg: Cross ex is tough, (Chris confirmed we won't be doing this at nationals).
- Lauren: We used to do cross-ex, but problem was that these kids were not prepared, whereas juniors used to do that.
- Chris: Cross ex up to 2003 was common until new national debate format was created.

10. Review calendar of events for next year / list of previous tournament hosts

- Greg: Problem. Don't have Vincent Massey on list as doing Nats.
- Chris: Thought he did. Correction made.
- Greg: They are hosting but will be held at EMSB. Either FACE or Westmount.
- Liana: So could EMSB host the Thursday since there may be a conflict with Selwyn now for that day due to the leadership conference. Debate could take place in front of classes.
- Chris: For the Thursday we had planned to have Seniors in front of classes in morning, and then dismissal at 12:30 for Selwyn kids and then Juniors debate in afternoon.
- Lauren: Can ask if Traf can have a half day Thursday and follow that schedule.
- Liana: Selwyn can host Sunday and the Provs.
- Chris: Change day we have buses, not a big deal
- Chris: lists of who will host, don't have dates. Some under our jurisdiction, others for various CEGEPs and universities.
- Chris: Change dates of McGill tournament: October 28 and 29
- Chris: Public speaking tournament that always takes places Sunday after McGill will not take place that day because potential candidates will not be in Montreal.
- Chris: Oxford Cup taking place in Toronto in November (date TBD) and hope to have ESU tournament hosted there as well.
- Greg: Toronto, good for budget.
- Chris: Proposal, don't know if we need a motion, should we use McGill tournament to pick kids for Oxford Cup?
- Greg: My kids won't have a chance to get there.
- Chris: Top 5 Quebec teams on the list.
- Lauren: Why do we have to do this?
Chris: No other opportunities, I usually host but cannot this year due to nationals.
Greg: Always same kids that get to go. Should come up with a Senior tournament early enough in order to qualify. It will be in BP should be able to go to McGill anyways.

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Don't have resources to organize a BP tournament.

Greg: Everything else is Canadian style, but McGill is BP so this their only practice, so making it the qualifier is unfair.

Liana: makes sense to have them qualify for a BP tournament in a BP tournament.

Liana: Can't get around it unless we have a school willing to host an additional tournament beforehand.

Chris: Qualifiers can turn people off due to competitive nature, need more qualified judges, resources harder to come by.

Liana: No schools have much practice of BP beforehand anyways, so everyone is in same boat.

Mia: Could ask about hosting a tournament, but not involved in it next year.

Greg: Why doesn't Royal West do it?

Chris: They won't, don't have people to run it.

Lauren: It would need to be a high caliber tournament.

Greg: Can look into doing a tournament at Vincent Massey October 22. Will have to look into it.

Liana and Chris: February 6 no good for a tournament (conflict with ped dates for private school)

Chris: So replace this tournament with the qualifier one. But, this is right before McGill, and a lot of potential judges will not be able to attend.

Greg: Run tournament in Canadian National Style

Liana: Doesn't make sense to have a qualifier in a different style than the tournament.

Lauren: McGill hosting a BP workshop, would be helpful.

Chris: Hold it October 15, helpful to hold it quite close to McGill tournament.

Lauren: Would have to be last Saturday in September.

Chris: Could we do an afterschool thing?

Liana: Could run it on a weekday, will get lots of kids who would be willing to attend.

All Quebec teams in same position going into McGill anyways, so now they will have practice with the workshop. Look into dates for one.

Lauren: Fridays don't work. Tuesday/Wednesday are best.

Chris: Look into October 11, 12 or 13.

Lauren: Will get back to us on dates for McGill Tournament.

- Agreement: McGill will be the qualifier for Oxford
- Greg: March 2nd for Senior Provincials?

Chris: Only possible conflict is March Breaks for some schools. But this doesn't seem to be a conflict for most of the schools involved.

Melissa: Bialik may have a break then.

Mia: dates not sure for the Study

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Lauren: Traf and Selwyn both fine for those dates.

Greg: Wait to decide on dates, get school calendars.

- March 2nd is decided as tentative date for Provincials.
- Chris: Bialik should host a tournament in November/December timeframe. Good to make it a senior tournament, as it will be the only one in the fall apart from McGill.
- Could get either Dawson or Marianopolis to host in the fall to get more Senior Tournaments.
- Chris: Schools that did not meet hosting requirements. Traf and Bialik resolved, still unresolved that Royal West cancelled theirs last year.

Liana: WIC, The Study, St Georges and ECS should be hosting.

Greg: Royal West is number 1. Maybe QAA would be willing to.

Liana: Board should speak to schools and clarify their responsibilities to do so, can provide with a mentor, need to reassure it's not such a big deal

Chris: On membership form, principal must sign onto their commitment to host tournaments every 2 years.

Denis: Someone needs to host national public speaking qualifier as well.

Liana: Think about having an earlier preliminary planning session in order to get do this before schools finalize their calendars.

Chris: Motion that Royal West failed to meet their commitments and must do so in future in order to maintain membership? None for now.

11. National Championships 2012

- Note: all Quebec students must go to the outing to Quebec City.
- Bialik: Shabbat conflict for National Championships . (same with other years)
- Greg: Interesting asking different people from across the country to provide input for resolutions.
- Website up at nationals2012.ca.

12. Proposed Amendments to the QSDA By-laws

#5. Add the following sentence at the end: "The board of directors may reject any school's application form at its discretion."

#6. Change 1st sentence from "Membership continues until October 31st of each year following registration" to "Membership continues until September 1st of each year following registration."

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#9. Delete entirely: “CEGEPS may become members, provided that they debate exclusively as high schools and are not members of the Canadian University Society for Intercollegiate Debate.”

#23. change “14 days” to “10 days” (regarding notice for meetings).

#62. Delete entirely. “Teams may wear a school uniform for any final round. School names shall also be announced.”

- Chris: Number 5 might be contentious. Reasoning: want a stronger way to deal with schools that are not meeting hosting requirements. Just meant to be housekeeping, no real changes
 - Motion to adopt all proposed changes to the QSDA By-Laws.
 - Moved: Chris
 - Seconded: Jon
 - Discussion: None.
 - Carried.

13. Other Business

None.

14. Election of Executive / Board of Directors

President: Greg Louden

Vice-President: Jon Bracewell

Treasurer: Isabelle Fahmy

Secretary: Caroline Wagner

Director: Lauren Shadley

- Chris: Isabelle, current VP, will not be returning to LCC, but she has volunteered to do anything and all that she can in turns of hosting/judging. She has also volunteered to take over role as treasurer. This would leave us needing VP and a Secretary (Philips not doing it). Caroline has volunteered. Chris would take VP in a pinch.
- Jon: I will put myself forward for VP
 - Nominations
 - Greg: Nominates Caroline for Secretary. Acclaimed.
 - Chris: Nonimate Jon Bracewell for VP. Acclaimed.
 - Chris: Nominate Greg for President. Acclaimed.

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Chris: Nominate Isabelle for Treasurer. Acclaimed.

Chris: Nominate Lauren for Director. Acclaimed.

■

- **Motion to remove Ed as assigning officer and appoint Isabelle as assigning officer.**
 - Moved: Chris
 - Second: Denis
 - Carried.

15. Adjournment at 5:50 p.m.

Moved by: Denis

Carried unanimously.

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