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*offering programs for adult learners in collaboration with the
School of Continuing Studies at the University of Toronto*

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

Wednesday, June 10, 2009, 10:30 a.m.
Alumni Hall, Victoria University
91 Charles Street West

Coffee and tea will be available at 10:00 a.m. and
a light lunch will be served following the meeting.

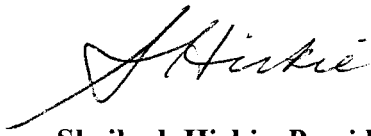
AGENDA

1. **Welcome to the Annual General Meeting 10:30**
2. **Approval of Minutes of the Annual General Meeting, June 11, 2008**
3. **Report of the President – Sheilagh Hickie**
4. **Motion: To amend By-Law** (Please see reverse) This completes the Addendum passed in 2007 re: the addition of two secretaries to the Board, who would be voting members.
5. **Committee Reports:**
 - Communications and Public Relations – Julia Matthews 10:55**
 - Curriculum Committee – Lisa Avedon 11:00**
 - Membership Committee – Sandra Hoshoooley 11:05**
 - Special Events – Pat Forrest 11:10**
 - Spring Talks – Tony Keith 11:15**
6. **Financial Report – Han Spoel 11:20**
7. **Appointment of Auditor for 2009/2010 – Han Spoel**
8. **Election of New Board Members – Dugal Campbell 11:30**
9. **Meeting opened to the floor 11:40**
10. **Adjournment 12:00**

Amendment to By-Law No. 1

NON-VOTING MEMBERS OF THE BOARD

- 6. The Immediate Past President of the Academy shall be a non-voting member of the Board. The Board may from time to time appoint such other persons as non-voting members of the Board, upon such terms and conditions as the Board may direct.**

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Sheilagh Hickie".

**Sheilagh Hickie, President
10 May 2009**

ACADEMY FOR LIFELONG LEARNING

Minutes of the Annual General Meeting
June 11, 2008, 10:30 a.m. Alumni Hall, Victoria University

1. Welcome to the Annual General Meeting

President Dugal Campbell called the meeting to order and welcomed members to the annual general meeting of the Academy for Lifelong Learning.

2. Approval of Minutes of the Annual General Meeting, June 6, 2007

The minutes were approved on a motion by Eileen Garber/Linda Tu. Motion carried.

3. Report of the President – Dugal Campbell

The Academy has had a successful year, offering its members a variety of workshops, several social events, summer walks and a series of talks. In addition, volunteers working in the background provided a number of services.

This year saw the completion of discussions with the School of Continuing Studies (SCS) at U of T to arrive at an agreement to collaborate. These discussions were carried forward by our Vice President Sheilagh Hickie and Past president Leah Lambert. The collaboration is in keeping with the goals set by our Long Range Planning Advisory Committee (LRPAC). Recognition of this agreement is now on each organization's web site. The calendar of SCS is available in our classrooms.

The organization and procedures of the Board are now described in documents on our web site, in a collection once called the Vade Mecum, but now prosaically called the Administration Reference Manual. It is intended that this documentation will ease the problem of continuity arising from the two-year turnover of all positions on the Board.

There was some dissatisfaction expressed with the fairness of the registration process. Some members were getting preferential treatment by appealing directly to the Facilitator, and some were able to submit their applications sooner than others. A new process was implemented this year which was designed to address some of these problems, but waiting lists are still part of our reality. However, all initial applicants to Arne Bowers' workshop have been registered, due to the generous offer of Arne to run two sections.

Knox wanted to use one of our rooms on Monday or Tuesday, when ministers are available to run classes. We decided that we would choose to relinquish Monday and run our workshops on Tuesday through Friday. This event serves to remind us that we need to anticipate the possibility that we may not always be able to find accommodation at Knox. The LRPAC has the task of identifying possible future venues. Any move will entail costs, and in order to prepare for such an eventuality some financial steps have been taken. About one-half of our unrestricted net assets have been allocated to a Reserve Fund, and a policy of allocating \$5 of our \$10 fee increase will be directed to the Fund. Other groups that are connected to seniors' education have been contacted in order to share thoughts and plans on dealing with space problems. In the meantime, we will continue to enjoy the good will and facilities at Knox as long as we are able.

The growth of the senior population does not seem to be on U of T's horizon. It should be.

4. Committee Reports:

Communications and Public Relations – Karen Melville

The committee's main responsibilities are to produce the *Newsletter* four times per year, to maintain the website, to oversee the production of the Calendar, to produce promotional flyers, and to promote the Academy and its activities to the outside community.

This year's committee consisted of:

Josie Szczasiuk, Newsletter Production Manager

Josie very quickly mastered the publishing software and produced a series of attractive, professional publications. A new printing company was used this year with advanced technologies, allowing our *Newsletters* to be in full-colour.

Joan McCordic, Secretary

Joan always produced quick, compact, accurate and readable minutes. To the delight of the Committee, she has agreed to stand for the position of Assistant Chair next year.

Elaine Rogers, Past Chair

With her years of experience throughout the Academy, Elaine has been a font of good advice. This year she was responsible for maintaining the bulletin boards in the classrooms and the student lounge.

Margot Rosenburg left the Committee earlier this year, after producing a number of attractive flyers. She was replaced by ***Brigid O'Reilly*** who brings an extensive experience in public relations.

Julia Matthews, Assistant Chair

Acting more like a co-chair, Julia's boundless enthusiasm, sage and practical advice, and ready willingness to pitch in was invaluable. She edited the *Newsletter* for the Spring term, commissioning articles and writing several herself.

Karen Melville, Chair

Karen was editor of two of this year's *Newsletters*. Her specific responsibility was public relations, where our big success this year was an article on the Academy in the *RALUT Reporter*.

Margaret Robertson, Webmaster and Technical Editor for the Calendar

A bulwark of the Academy, hard-working Margaret is a member of both the Communications and the Membership Committees. She has implemented the use of the website as a repository for Academy policies, procedures and activities notices, and has included a password-protected, members-only section. Her outstanding design sense is on view in both the website and this year's *Calendar* of workshops.

Curriculum Committee – Don Nicol

The Curriculum Committee met eight times, beginning in August when tasks were identified and assigned, and Fall Wednesday Forum topics were prepared for the first mailing. Grace Scheel and outside volunteers presented a varied series of events covering politics, development, theatre, violin making, health issues and exemplary presentations. Average attendance was 48.

In October and November preparations were made for the workshop Evaluations and initial lists made of possible 2008-09 workshops and facilitators. Lisa Avedon, Ann Mummenhoff and Peter Steiner spent many hours collating the results of the Evaluation and evaluating suggestions for the next year's offering.

In January and February the list of proposed workshops was further evaluated, and a balance of topic subjects and Canadian content sought. By the end of February, the list had firmed when it was learned that workshop days were to be changed to Tuesday through Friday. Fortunately, most facilitators were accommodating to the change and some even preferred Friday. All committee members worked on the final workshop selection and scheduling.

Christie Bentham, Diana Chastain, and Pat Sibbald prepared the Facilitators' Forum, to help facilitators to reflect on their past practices and to introduce new facilitators to a variety of approaches.

The departing Committee suggests that future committees may wish to consider policies which may strengthen the Academy by enhancing its mandate as a provider of peer-led, participatory workshops. As a general rule, the ALL should encourage a limit of about 20 for workshops to allow all members to make a presentation, and encourage members to prepare beforehand in order to contribute fully to discussion.

Membership Committee – Debrah Weiss

The Membership Committee is responsible for providing registration and membership services, including incorporating new members into the Academy and identifying potential candidates for volunteer positions.

A buddy system is a way of helping new members feel comfortable. For each new member a continuing member who shares one of their workshops is identified and assigned to speak to the new member before the workshop and then answer questions after class. Edith Howard and Sandra Hoshooey took on this labour-intensive task.

A New Members Luncheon was held on Friday, September 22nd in the north garden of Knox. Previous such luncheons had been held on a Sunday, but turnouts were disappointing. Such was still the case for this weekday lunch. The Committee recommends that this event be cancelled and replaced with a special introductory session at the first Forum.

Sandra Walsh, our Volunteer Coordinator has continued to be an active member of the Committee, getting to know members, seeking volunteers, attending Committee meetings and participating in the Nominating Committee.

The registration process has been subjected to scrutiny this year over a perceived lack of fairness. The old process, known as "first-past-the-post", gave an advantage to people who could get their registration form to the committee early, some even before the yearly calendar was mailed. Some members were hampered by slow mail service. The new system removes these advantages and turns the competition for popular workshops into a lottery, where everyone has an equal opportunity. All registration forms are collected in one batch until May 29th, when they are opened at random. New members' forms are opened at the same time. Forms received after May 29th are processed when received, as before.

Some registration policies remain unchanged. Three spots are reserved for new members, and anyone who is put on a waiting list is telephoned and given the opportunity to apply for a different workshop.

All members of the Committee are thanked for their contributions to the team effort.

Special Events – Audrey Swail

The purpose of the Committee is to provide a lively social program that will enhance the peer-learning experience of Academy members and strengthen the feeling of collegiality across the organization.

The year began with our annual, much-loved Potluck Picnic. Once again Nancy O'Connor offered her country home where members could enjoy lunch beside her pond, meet new members and renew old friendships. We thank Nancy for her generosity. This was followed by the New Members' Reception at Knox, for which we organized an elegant luncheon in the quad.

Later, in October Nancy and Aubrey Russell kindly hosted the Fall Colour Walk, where we walked the beautiful hills of their country estate, with Academy members and guests.

Madeline Grant organized a theatre evening which was so successful that she had to arrange for two nights to meet the demand.

The Holiday Luncheon in December was a happy occasion, with good conversation and food and a challenging quiz on Toronto organized by Lyla Barclay and her team. People at the winning table received free theatre tickets donated for a second year by the Cumberland Cinema.

Early in March, we held our Spring Luncheon at the U of T Faculty Club for the first time, permitting more members to attend. In this gracious setting, we were entertained by Arne Bowers and his fabulous film quiz. The winners were awarded prizes provided by Arne, to whom we owe many thanks.

The last lunch was the Volunteers' Appreciation Lunch in Alumni Hall, attended by more than 70 volunteers. About 1/3 of our membership share their time and talents as facilitators, Board and committee members.

Now that the academic year is over, we can enjoy the Spring and Summer Walks organized again by Rene Laukat. Thanks for keeping us in shape, Rene.

Spring Talks – Tony Keith for Betty Ann Crosbie

The first task of the 2007-08 Spring Talks Committee one year ago, was to find a new, larger venue on campus. Innis Town Hall was finally chosen, providing numerous benefits: more space for pre-talk socializing, seating for larger audiences, superb technical support, and even small economies.

After a stepwise process involving input from Academy members and previous lists of potential speakers, a roster of speakers was chosen representing four topics of serious import related to larger social, health and international issues, and two on different cultural topics of more local interest.

This year's Committee included returning members Past Chair Leo Fine, Don Hillhouse and Ruth Sidorchuk. New members were Carol Farkas, Des Ashworth, and Assistant Chair Tony Keith. Madeline Grant moved from ex officio status as Academy Secretary to regular member.

The Communications Committee provided valued help by producing the Brochure and a publicity blitz. Peter Blathwayt provided an innovative and delightful 10-minute slideshow featuring members and guests enjoying our Special Events.

The final effect of all innovations, including a reduced fee for visitors, was an increase in all success metrics. Total attendance was 1028, up 11% from 2007. Paying guests numbered 277 (+48%), yielding revenue of \$1,647 (+46%).

5. Guest Speaker – Marilyn Booth, Director, School of Continuing Studies

The School of Continuing Studies at U of T continues a long history of extending education beyond the traditional university offerings. At the moment over 100 certification courses are offered by SCS and they have almost 15,000 enrollments, meeting diverse learning needs in a changing society.

Marilynn attended a conference organized by the Aga Khan, who has sponsored an initiative to deliver education to the mountain villages in the central Asian 'stans. In those countries, extension education is being provided first, to be followed by other post-secondary institutions, in contrast to the North American approach of treating it as an add-on.

The Academy's model of peer-led education is of interest to Marilyn, who feels that it might be more widely applied. There is no proof, but it is felt that longer learning may be linked to living better. There are 4 million Canadians, 13 percent of the population, over 65 years of age and that number is increasing. We need to plan together, the Academy and SCS, in order to make a measurable difference in the quality of Canadian society.

Marilynn's speech was followed by a question period:

Question: At LIFE they are increasing fees. How is this consistent with inclusivity? Will this policy affect the Academy's fees?

Answer: SCS receives no external funding and must pay its own way. In fact, every fee is now less than it was two years ago. (Dugal: The Academy has always determinedly protected its independence.)

Question: The U of T is obviously multicultural, while SCS is predominantly white. How can an organization reach out to the wider population?

Answer: This is a problem that is shared with the Academy. SCS has been successful in obtaining a grant of \$720,000 for development of programming for foreign students, who make up 40% to 50% of students. SCS also worked with Sing Tao Newspapers to talk to students about their needs.

Sheilagh thanked Marilyn for her talk. She told the members that the Academy had been in touch with other lifelong learning groups to share ideas and resources, and to explore the possibility of a common front in negotiations with government. In the past the Academy has funded a bursary for mature students at Victoria University, and in recognition of our new collaboration with SCS she presented Marilyn with a cheque for \$4,000 to be used in a similar way. Marilyn, obviously pleasantly surprised, thanked Sheilagh and said the details could easily be worked out.

6. Financial Report – Han Spoel for Sigrid Feser

Han presented the auditors' report and commented that the Academy is in a good position to meet all future obligations. The accounts look somewhat different due to the inclusion of a new reserve account being established as a provision for possible future relocation expenses. With that in mind, there was a small increase in our net position. Han then asked for questions.

Eileen Garber: How did the insurance premium get reduced?

A: We would like to reduce it even further and are trying to get a quote from Knox's insurer.

Barbara Gory: We have just seen a donation of \$4,000 to SCS but it does not appear in the report.

A: The donation was recently approved and will be in next year's report.

Michael Foss: How is it that the Printing and Photocopying expense has doubled?

A: There was some increase in the printing cost but most of the change is due to the presence of additional underlying accounts which have been rearranged.

Bill Hall: The General Administrative expense has increased sevenfold.

A: This amount now includes the audit fee.

Sandra Gold/Madeline Grant moved the acceptance of the financial report. Motion carried.

7. Appointment of Auditor for 2008/2009 – Han Spoel for Sigrid Feser

Don Nicol/Joe Casse moved that our present auditors, Akler/Browning/Frimet/Landzberg, be appointed for next year. Motion carried.

8. Election of New Board Members – Sandra Walsh for Leah Lambert

Sandra outlined the nominating process, noting that it was possible for members to make nominations, as was explained in the May newsletter. She then asked the nominees to stand and be recognized by the members: Ellen Edmonds, Carol Farkas, Ralph Garber, Sandra Hoshoooley, Joan McCordic and Doug Wilson. Ann Mummenhoff and Gwen Sutherland were absent.

Dugal Campbell/Nancy Russell moved that the nominees, who were unopposed and therefore elected, be given a vote of thanks for their coming contributions to the Academy. Motion carried.

9. Meeting opened to the floor

Tony Barclay commented that, while appreciating the high quality of the speakers at the Wednesday Forums, he regretted that the forums provided less opportunity for the members to interact socially and suggested that the new board consider returning to the old format. Linda Tu added that the forum consisting of "start presenters" repeating their presentations was a great success and should be repeated next year. Dugal commented that he has received favourable

comments about both formats, and that members should address their suggestions in an e-mail to Lisa Avedon and Ann Mummenhoff.

Eileen Ward commented that the New Members Reception provided new members with an opportunity to talk with their Facilitators before their first workshop. Sandra Gold observed that this was the greatest benefit of the Reception and suggested that facilitators be invited expressly to the first Forum for the opportunity to talk with the new members.

Sheilagh Hickie wished to take the opportunity to thank Dugal for his many contributions as President, even beyond the creation of the Vade Mecum. She made particular note of how graciously he handled differences of opinion. General applause accompanied the giving of a gift of appreciation.

10. Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 12:20 p.m. on a motion by Erika Arndt/Eileen Ward.

INDEPENDENT AUDITORS' REPORT

To the Members of
The Academy For Lifelong Learning

We have audited the accompanying financial statements of The Academy For Lifelong Learning which comprises the statement of financial position of the organization as at April 30, 2009 and the statements of operations and changes in net assets and cash flows for the year then ended, and a summary of significant accounting policies and other explanatory notes.

Management's responsibility for the financial statements

Management is responsible for the preparation and fair presentation of these financial statements in accordance with Canadian generally accepted accounting principles. This responsibility includes: designing, implementing and maintaining internal control relevant to the preparation and fair presentation of financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error; selecting and applying appropriate accounting policies; and making accounting estimates that are reasonable in the circumstances.

Auditors' responsibility

Our responsibility is to express an opinion on these financial statements based on our audit. Except as explained in the reservation paragraph, we conducted our audit in accordance with Canadian generally accepted auditing standards. Those standards require that we plan and perform the audit to obtain reasonable assurance whether the financial statements are free from material misstatement. We are also required to comply with applicable ethical requirements.

An audit involves performing procedures to obtain audit evidence about the amounts and disclosures in the financial statements. The procedures selected depend on the auditors' judgment, including the assessment of the risks of material misstatement of the financial statements, whether due to fraud or error. In making those risk assessments, the auditors consider internal control relevant to the entity's preparation and fair representation of the financial statements in order to design audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the entity's internal control. Accordingly, the auditors express no such opinion. An audit also includes evaluating the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of accounting estimates made by management, as well as evaluating the overall presentation of the financial statements.

We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate for our audit opinion.

Reservation

In common with many non-profit organizations, the organization derives revenue from registration fees and contributions the completeness of which is not susceptible of satisfactory audit verification. Accordingly, our verification of these revenues was limited to the amounts recorded in the records of the organization and we were not able to determine whether any adjustments might be necessary to revenue, excess of revenues over expenses, and net assets.

Audit opinion

In our opinion, except for the effect of adjustments, if any, which we might have determined to be necessary had we been able to satisfy ourselves concerning the completeness of the revenues referred to in the preceding paragraph, these financial statements present fairly, in all material respects, the financial position of the organization as at April 30, 2009 and the results of its operations and its cash flows for the year then ended in accordance with Canadian generally accepted accounting principles.

*Akler, Browning, Frimet
& Landzberg LLP*

CHARTERED ACCOUNTANTS
LICENSED PUBLIC ACCOUNTANTS
TORONTO, CANADA
JUNE 5, 2009

THE ACADEMY FOR LIFELONG LEARNING

BALANCE SHEET

	April 30	
	<u>2009</u>	<u>2008</u>
	\$	\$
ASSETS		
CURRENT		
Cash	56,005	52,541
Sundry receivable	<u>100</u>	<u>240</u>
	<u>56,105</u>	<u>52,781</u>
LIABILITIES AND NET ASSETS		
CURRENT		
Accounts payable and accrued liabilities	<u>1,201</u>	<u>5,640</u>
NET ASSETS		
Relocation reserve (Note 3)	28,000	25,000
Unrestricted	<u>26,904</u>	<u>22,141</u>
	<u>54,904</u>	<u>47,141</u>
	<u>56,105</u>	<u>52,781</u>

The accompanying notes are an integral part of these statements.

APPROVED:

DIRECTOR

DIRECTOR

THE ACADEMY FOR LIFELONG LEARNING

STATEMENT OF OPERATIONS AND CHANGES IN NET ASSETS

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	Year Ended April 30	
	<u>2009</u>	<u>2008</u>
	\$	\$
REVENUE		
Registration fees	51,440	48,230
Special events	7,471	6,750
Interest income	<u>1,223</u>	<u>2,268</u>
	<u>60,134</u>	<u>57,248</u>
EXPENSES		
Annual and other meetings	3,887	3,423
Classroom rentals	18,322	18,550
Communications	3,069	4,512
Computer and audio	2,829	2,128
Donation to Knox College	1,000	1,200
General and administrative	2,310	1,117
Insurance	3,107	3,107
Printing and photocopying	888	3,374
Special events	11,309	12,788
Telephone and postage	<u>1,650</u>	<u>1,108</u>
	<u>48,371</u>	<u>51,307</u>
EXCESS OF REVENUE OVER EXPENSES FOR THE YEAR BEFORE BURSARY CONTRIBUTION	11,763	5,941
Less: Bursary contribution	<u>4,000</u>	<u>-</u>
EXCESS OF REVENUE OVER EXPENSES FOR THE YEAR	7,763	5,941
UNRESTRICTED NET ASSETS AT BEGINNING OF YEAR	<u>22,141</u>	<u>41,200</u>
	29,904	47,141
Allocation to relocation reserve fund	<u>(3,000)</u>	<u>(25,000)</u>
UNRESTRICTED NET ASSETS AT END OF YEAR	<u>26,904</u>	<u>22,141</u>

The accompanying notes are an integral part of these statements.

THE ACADEMY FOR LIFELONG LEARNING

STATEMENT OF CASH FLOWS

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	Year Ended April 30	
	<u>2009</u>	<u>2008</u>
	\$	\$
CASH FLOW FROM OPERATING ACTIVITIES		
Excess of revenue over expenses from operations	7,763	5,941
Net changes in non-cash working capital balances related to operations		
Sundry receivable	140	267
Accounts payable and accrued liabilities	<u>(4,439)</u>	<u>131</u>
INCREASE IN CASH	3,464	6,339
CASH AT BEGINNING OF YEAR	<u>52,541</u>	<u>46,202</u>
CASH AT END OF YEAR	<u><u>56,005</u></u>	<u><u>52,541</u></u>

The accompanying notes are an integral part of these statements.

THE ACADEMY FOR LIFELONG LEARNING

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
APRIL 30, 2009

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Note 1: Organization

The Academy for Lifelong Learning at Victoria University, (the "Academy") which carries on operations as The Academy For Lifelong Learning was organized in 1991 by a group of volunteers to provide a program of informal, self-directed study groups for mature adults, and is administered by volunteers who serve as a member-elected board, on committees and as facilitators. The Academy has established a collaboration with the School for Continuing Studies at the University of Toronto.

The Academy was incorporated in the Province of Ontario by letters patent on September 4, 1997 as a non-profit corporation without share capital which is a non-profit organization and is exempt from income taxes pursuant to paragraph 149(1)(l) of the Income Tax Act (Canada).

The Academy has supported a bursary fund maintained by Victoria College to assist mature students in their studies, and is now contributing to a bursary fund at the School of Continuing Studies at the University of Toronto.

Note 2: Summary Of Accounting Policies

Revenue Recognition

Registration fees and revenue from special events, which are unrestricted as to their use, are recorded on a cash basis. The accrual basis of accounting is used for reporting all other revenue and expenses

Donated Services

These financial statements do not reflect the substantial value of services contributed by volunteers and other interested parties.

Financial Instruments

Financial instruments recognized in the statement of financial position consist of cash, prepaid expenses, accounts payable and accrued liabilities. The fair value of these instruments approximate their carrying amount due to their short-term maturity.

Capital Assets

Additions of capital assets less than \$500 are expensed as purchased. Additions greater than or equal to \$500 are capitalized and amortized on a straight-line basis over their estimated useful lives.

THE ACADEMY FOR LIFELONG LEARNING

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
APRIL 30, 2009

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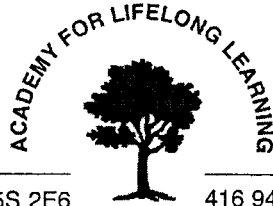
Note 2: Summary Of Accounting Policies - Cont'd

Measurement Uncertainty

These financial statements have been prepared in accordance with Canadian generally accepted accounting principles. The preparation of financial statements in conformity with Canadian generally accepted accounting principles requires management to make estimates and assumptions that affect certain reported amounts and disclosures. Accordingly, actual results may differ from these estimates.

Note 3: Relocation Reserve

During the year the Board of Directors of the Academy allocated an additional \$3,000 to an internally restricted relocation reserve fund to cover future relocation costs.



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NOMINEES FOR ELECTION TO THE BOARD FOR 2009 - 2010

Christie Bentham

Christie Bentham has been a grateful member of the Academy for several years, grateful because of the intellectual content and the wonderful people one meets in workshops and committees. She has been a co-facilitator twice and has served on the Curriculum committee for two years.

Jeanette Clark

Having finished my two year probation after teacher training in Glasgow I was equipped to tackle any kind of classroom. In Barbados I taught English and History before coming to Canada where I taught all grades from Kindergarten to Eight mainly in the inner city. Soon after retiring from the Jessie Ketchum School I joined the Academy looking for intellectual challenge and like-minded people. I have found much pleasure in researching and presenting topics in many areas. I have tried to contribute to the Academy by joining the Spring Talks committee and co-facilitating. The Nominating committee has pressed me for Assistant Secretary although I have no qualifications save good hearing and a sense of humour.

Michael Foss

My career was in information management and I worked in the financial sector. I have a BSc (Maths.) and an MBA. I started Academy workshops after I retired. I have taken a number in quite different topics; I prefer workshops that offer me a steep learning curve. At my first Special Events committee in March I was interested to hear about the planning of future events that bring members together and I look forward to helping this process and thinking about other possible events. In addition I would like to learn more about the way the Academy is run and how policies are developed by the Board.

Linda Lockyer

I have degrees in Psychology from Queen's University and the University of London. I worked as a clinical psychologist at the Hospital for Sick Children for twenty-five years. In my three years with the Academy I have enjoyed workshops in History, English and Mystery Novels. The Academy has played an important part in my enjoyment of retirement and I hope to give something back.

Brigid O'Reilly

Brigid O'Reilly joined the Academy two years ago after a career in teaching, communications, government and fundraising. She has been on the Communications committee for a year. She is interested in gardening, and her own and other people's gardens in Toronto.

Sandra Walsh

Following a career of managing information resources in two Ontario ministries and the Royal Bank I retired and in the same year became a member of the Academy. I have enjoyed the wide variety of workshops available and the friendships I have developed. I have been chair of the Special Events committee and this role introduced me to the Board. In January 2007 I became the first Volunteer Coordinator. This job has been a valuable experience that allowed me to become familiar with the roles of the various committees of the Academy and has given me a good overview of how the Academy functions.

Corinne Wilks

Retired (sort of) from a career in mental health services Corinne continues a small psychotherapy practice with individuals and groups. Attracted by the variety of workshops and the opportunities for learning Corinne has been a member for close to ten years. She has found a group of congenial and interesting people engaged in stimulating discussion in each of the workshops she has attended. She has facilitated Soulepper Theatre and co-facilitated Long Plays. Chairing the Forums committee has been both challenging and rewarding. Corinne looks forward to the opportunities opened up by the newly formed Academy Talks committee.

Betty Williams

I am a former Westerner, having graduated from UBC. I have had a number of careers: high school teacher, psychometrist (after I collected a Master's in Education from OISE), operating manager and owner of a small business. I travel a great deal partly to visit grandchildren and partly to follow my interests in opera and art. I joined the Academy in 2000. I really enjoy the variety of topics offered and the interesting people you meet. It is time for me to give back for all the wonderful learning I have experienced.