

December 8, 2022

Whistler Hilton Resort & Spa

1. Call to Order

Diana Chan, Chair of the Board, calls meeting of the 2022 Annual General Meeting to order 5.30pm.

The Chair acknowledged that the meeting was held on the traditional, unceded, shared territories of the Squamish Nation and Lil'wat Nation, recognizing that a land acknowledgement is a single act of reconciliation. Although inspired by the 94 Calls-to-Action published in the Truth and Reconciliation Commission of Canada report, it is important to note that land acknowledgements are not new and have been around for hundreds of years before the arrival of settlers.

By acknowledging the Squamish Nation and Lil'wat Nation as traditional and ongoing custodians of these lands, it is a reminder of our responsibilities. Our responsibilities to each other, to the land, and to building enduring relationships through truth and reconciliation.

Ascertainment of Quorum

Quorum confirmed of more than 20 Members present.

2. Adoption of the Rules of Order

**Motion carried.**

3. Approval of the Agenda

**Motion carried.**

4. Approval of the Minutes of the last meeting

That the minutes of the Annual General Meeting for the Whistler Chamber of Commerce held December 1, 2021, be approved as presented. **Motion carried.**

5. Report of the Board

This year your board met for six regularly scheduled meetings and added two additional meetings to review key matters. These meetings do not include the active committee meetings and discussions that directors participated in through the year.

The Chair acknowledged the incredible work of the volunteer directors as they took on an operational focus due to the extended leave and resignation of the CEO. The focus was on key programs and events that were important to the membership as well as ensuring that progress was made on key priorities including housing advocacy with a public stand on land use to support employee housing, in particular the development application for 4500 Northlands, as well as immigration workshops and engaging the federal government to address fair access and simplified processes for work visas and immigration programs.

The Chair recognized the important work from the Chamber team, Chris Maloney and Jackie McLean, to keep the core operations going through changes in leadership.

The Chair noted that given the resource constraints over the last year, the Chamber had not advanced the expansion of the guest experience programs nor the review of the Chamber's By-Laws. Both were frustrated by the requirements and expectations of the RMOW elected council. The result was an increasing risk that the RMOW no longer recognizes the Chamber as the primary resource for business and the importance of a business led resort wide guest experience program.

The Chair reported on the work of the Search Committee that resulted in the Board's appointment of a new Executive Director, Louise Walker.

The Chair thanked the outgoing directors for their contributions to the Chamber and business community including James Kirkwood, Flora Ferraro and Blake Allen, as well as the substantial contributions from Chair-elect, Chris Vick.

## 6. Financial Report and Financial Statements

The Chair of the Finance Committee, Blake Allen, provided a report of the Chamber's financial results and year end statements.

The Chamber remains in a strong financial position, even though it ends the year with a deficit. The year-end deficit was lower than expected as the Board approved a deficit budget for 2021/22 fiscal year. Achieving a stronger than expected result in a turbulent year highlights the organization's resilience. Much of the Chamber's financial strength comes from the significant current assets and limited liabilities. Our current unrestricted fund balance creates opportunities to invest in new programming and initiatives which benefit the business community.

The Whistler Chamber did not anticipate that we would not receive all of the COVID-19 relief funds that had been applied for prior to the end of last year. To clear grants receivable account, the Chamber had to write down \$22,959 in COVID-19 relief funding that the Chamber had applied for but never received. The Board also moved to pay back the CEBA loan before its due date, resulting in a relief of \$10,000 from the original loan value of \$40,000.

Operationally, the Chamber experienced a turbulent year. The overall impact of staff turnover was partial offset with consultant fees and the engagement of a recruitment firm to facilitate the search for a new ED.

The Board has approved a conservative budget for the year ahead. The Chamber is well positioned financially to invest in new opportunities that creates value for the business community. The Chamber is entering the third year of a three-year strategic plan, and even though the challenges that this year brought made it difficult to achieve goals, it has forced the Chamber to prioritize efforts and investments in the areas which create the greatest impact for the business community.

The board approved financial statements are available on the Chamber's website for member's review.

There were no questions from the membership regarding the year end statements.

#### 7. Appointment of Accountant

As required by our bylaws and recommended by the Finance Committee of the Board, there was a motion to approve BDO Canada LLP as the accountant for the fiscal 2023 year and authorize the board to set the remuneration. **Motion carried.**

#### 8. Election of Directors

The Chair of the Nomination and Elections Committee, James Kirkwood, provide the report of the committee and the result of the nominations and election process.

In accordance with our By-laws, the Nomination committee was struck in September 2022, more than 30 days before the AGM and our members were notified of the call for Nominations as of Oct 4 through emails, websites, media release and numerous social media posts.

As at the close of Nominations on October 14 and nominations by the Nomination and Elections committee, a total of six complete nominations were received.

With four terms ending as of this Annual General meeting and two resignations from the board prior to the end of the director terms, there are six director positions to be filled for the coming year.

With six director nominations for six open positions, an equal number of nominations for the director positions, there was no need for an election and the candidates have been acclaimed.

The following directors have been elected by acclamation for the upcoming year:

- Mike Hashimoto, Manager, B-Mak Construction
- Gregg Martin, Branch Manager, BlueShore Financial
- Stuart McConnachie, Financial Planner at Edward Jones Financial
- Adam Pawliwec, Director of Sales & Marketing at Sundial Hotel

And the two incumbents:

- Diana Chan, Owner, Moguls Coffee House & Zogs Eatery
- Wendy Hargreaves, Director of Sales & Marketing, Fairmont Chateau Whistler

The committee Chair acknowledged acknowledge the commitment and service of the outgoing directors: Blake Allen, Flora Ferraro, and Graeme Benn, all of whom provided significant support to the board throughout this year.

Other board members continuing to serve include Chris Vick, Sarah Strother, Moody Dan, Shane Holland and Lori Pyne.

#### 9. Other Business

With the update regarding the By-Laws covered under the Chair's report, there was no further business for the meeting.

#### 10. ED Report

The ED introduced the team and reviewed the key objectives of the new Strategic Plan, including the focus on a community wide Labour Plan. Updates were provided on upcoming initiatives for 2023, including a return to in-person events and workshops.

#### 11. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 6.07pm