



Greater Victoria Acting Together



GVAT Board of Directors Meeting

MINUTES – October 27, 2022

Participants: Brigitte McKenzie, Stephen Tyler (minute taker), Matthew Cook, Susan Layng, Eric Doherty

Guests: Jane Welton, Sr Joyce Harris

Regrets: Amber McMillan, Mike Glover

Follow-up:

- 1) Jane will follow up with COEDI to start work on their Terms of Reference;
- 2) Jane will send to Brigitte the documents COEDI already has with regards to land acknowledgement;
- 3) Stephen will check with Amber to confirm the amended by-laws of April 2021 have been registered and ensure the updated version is in our files.
- 4) Stephen will modify the existing Representation Policy and bring a revised version to the next Board meeting for approval.
- 5) HR Committee to meet after Nov 6
- 6) Stephen to share Financial Report with Strat Hub.

| Time | Agenda Item | |
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| 6:35 | Welcome | |
| 6:36 | Land Acknowledgement - Susan Layng | |
| 6:40 | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Motion to Approve Agenda <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Moved: Matthew Cook, Seconded: Eric Doherty. Carried. | |
| 6:42 | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Motion to Approve Minutes from September 22, 2022 (as amended to correct typo) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Moved: Susan Layng Seconded: Matthew Cook | |

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| 6:45 | <p>COEDI Terms of Reference: Original terms of reference for the Committee are now out of date. Jane will take this back to the Committee and advise. There was a discussion about GVAT governance and the authority and relationships between Delegates, Strategy Hub and the Board. There was some confusion about GVAT governance structures. Jane will follow up with COEDI to start work on their Terms of Reference; and the Board will revisit questions of governance after Sonia has submitted her report. Jane will also send to Brigitte the documents COEDI has with respect to land acknowledgements to be shared with the Board.</p> | |
| 7:10 | <p>Joint Meetings of Board and Strat Hub Planning Team: Agreed that Board and Strat Hub Planning Team should continue joint meetings until AGM 2023.</p> | |
| 7:15 | <p>Continued Business / Discussion with Strat Hub Planning Team: In previous meeting the Board generated a list of areas in which we needed some clarification around who should be responsible for what: Communications: website, newsletter/social media Strategic planning: finances and staffing model Training and Leadership development Mailing lists/membership - Membership kit (Onboarding more generally) - Re Engagement working group Documentation/filing - Establish GDrive file mgmt team - Access and security</p> <p>We are making progress on many of these areas already - they have not been neglected in the interim. Rather than try and resolve all these matters today, we are hoping that Sonia will have something to say about how we might best address them. Some comments: - Board should have oversight of external communications because of its legal and representational responsibilities - Negotiations around GVAT membership in IAF might best be informed by some of Sonia's work - Our priority should be to continue the important action we are doing on the ground</p> <p>Relations with IAF: As a result of discussion, it was agreed that GVAT would continue to seek clarification and information from IAFNW and likely consult with MVA and other affiliates, while awaiting results of</p> | |

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| | our internal governance and structural review before deciding how to proceed in terms of negotiating IAF membership. | |
| 7:45 | <p>Revisiting Beatrice's Departure: Beatrice shared concerns about her perceived treatment when she was in her staff role after her departure. After discussion, we recognized that:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Beatrice's tenure was an extremely chaotic time for GVAT's staffing, with her supervisor changing periodically - need for the organization to pay more attention to and respect the views of younger persons - we could be more clear about roles of staff in comparison with delegates. Issues of leadership and direction need to be explored further in order to create a more invitational culture. - How does the IAF structural model provide a supportive and invitational culture? - these would be good issues to raise with Sonia | |
| 8:15 | <p>Nominating Committee: As 5 of current Board members will see their terms come up at AGM 2023, it was agreed that considerable attention would need to be devoted to recruitment. Stephen will check with Amber to confirm the amended by-laws of April 2021 have been registered and ensure the updated version is in our files. These by-laws specify a minimum of 5 and a maximum of 9 Directors.</p> | |
| 8:30 | <p>Special meeting of Board / Strat Hub Planning Agreed on the need for a special meeting to discuss Sonia's report, set for Jan 5, 2023</p> | |
| 8:40 | <p>External communications/Representation policy: Recent Strat Hub endorsement of GVAT support for "United We Stand" declaration on old growth forests led to discussion of GVAT's Representation Policy and its applicability to this case. While there was some uncertainty at the time, in practice the decision was consistent with the policy, receiving approval from ART co-leads and a Board Executive member before going to Strat Hub. In order to clarify for future, it was agreed that the existing policy should be modified to accommodate those cases where GVAT as a whole was asked to endorse another organization's public position, rather than releasing a position ourselves. To ensure all members have an opportunity to comment, these cases should go to Strat Hub for endorsement after the authorization process.</p> | |

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| | Stephen will modify the existing policy accordingly and bring a revised version to the next Board meeting for approval. | |
| 8:50 | <p>HR report: Sonia debrief from Assembly: note there are a number of recommendations here with organizational implications which we will take up in more detail in coming weeks. Admin assistant position: HR Committee to meet after Nov 6 to discuss potential extension of Sammy's employment after Dec 31, including resource constraints, potential scope, and flexibility wrt Sonia's conclusions, and make a recommendation to Board at its next meeting Nov 24. HR Committee to meet after Nov 6 to follow up.</p> | |
| 9:00 | <p>Treasurer's Report Stephen will provide a copy to Strat Hub for its next meeting</p> | |
| 9:10 | <p>Adjournment</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Motion to Adjourn: Eric Doherty</i> <p>NEXT BOARD MTG: Thursday, November 24, 2022</p> | |