

**Ontario 4-H Council
Board of Directors Meeting
October 21, 2023**

4-H Ontario Purpose Statement:

“Youth become contributing citizens who impact positive change in our communities.”

Land Acknowledgement: 4-H Ontario recognizes that we live, learn and work on the traditional, ancestral and unceded territory of many Indigenous Nations and communities that have, and continue to call Ontario home. Our main office in Guelph/Eramosa, ON is located on the ancestral land and territory of the Anishinabewaki, Haudenosaunee, Attiwonderonk, Mississauga and the Mississaugas of the Credit First Nation. This territory is also covered by the Haldimand Treaty of 1784 and Treaty 3 of 1972. We recognize and commit to the work that follows this acknowledgement to ensure reconciliation and a bright future for Indigenous peoples and youth. We encourage all residents and visitors of Ontario to learn about the land you walk on and do your part in supporting and preserving Indigenous traditions, cultures, languages, Ways of Knowing (knowledge) and spirituality.

Ontario 4-H Council Board of Director Goals (accepted on June 16, 2023)

Directing Goals-

By March 2024 the Ontario 4-H Council will have a clearly defined strategic plan that is easily understood and well communicated with measured incomes and an regular review process to ensure delivery.

By March 2024, the Ontario 4-H Council will have developed a succession plan to ensure the transfer of skills, knowledge and information to current and future directors to ensure the continued strength and growth of Ontario 4-H Council Board which will be measured through skills assessment at the beginning and end of year.

Protecting Goals

By March 2024, the Ontario 4-H Council will have reviewed board financial processes which will include a succession plan for the financial managers positions and include internal controls to ensure financial sustainability and security.

By March 2024, the Ontario 4-H Council will have conducted a review of documented internal controls to ensure appropriate financial stewardship when monitoring of finance.

In camera: 8:00 am to 8:45 am

Board of Directors Meeting: 8:45 am to 3:30 pm

Participants: Laurie Farquharson: President; Elaine Bowman; Vice President; Cheryl Sullivan: Past President; Erica Murray: Director at Large; Debbie Coke, Lesleigh Elgie, Joanne Hewitson, Fred Sharpe, Jennifer Waldroff, Edna White

Regrets: Penny Anger,

Staff: Christine Oldfield: Executive Director, Evelyn Chambers; Director Professional Practice

1. Call to Order, President's Welcome, Land Acknowledgement and 4-H Pledge

Laurie welcomed all present and led in the Land Acknowledgment and 4-H Pledge.

2. Review of Action Sheet

The Action sheet from August 19 Board meeting were reviewed.

Actions completed: 3,4,5,6,7,8,9, 10,11,13, 14,16

In Progress: 1,2,12,15

3. Consent Agenda

3.1 Agenda: October 21, 2023

3.2 Minutes: August 19, 2023

3.3 Minutes: September 11, 2023- Approval Meeting Minutes

3.5 Presidents Report

3.6 Staff Report (Operational plan update)

3.7 Ontario 4-H Foundation Report

3.8 4-H Canada Report

3.9 Youth Advisory Council (YAC) Report

3.10 Resolution Committee Report (no report)

3.11 Grievance Committee Report (no report)

3.12 Board Development Committee Report

MOTION: Moved and seconded to approve the consent agenda as presented.

CARRIED

4. Appointments

4.1 Action Sheet Recorder

Cheryl volunteered to be the action sheet recorder.

5. Finance

5.1 Council Financial Year to Date Actuals: Elaine reviewed the financial report and balance sheet to the end of August 2023.

5.2 Update on Budget: Elaine noted that the 2024 budget is in progress.

5.3 Investment Plan: Elaine reviewed the investment plan.

5.4. Current Year Auditor: Elaine noted that our current auditor has resigned. The Finance Committee met and made recommendations to address this issue.

b) RFQ process for auditor for upcoming 3 years: Elaine noted that as per the usual 4-H Ontario process, the organization will be engaging in the RFQ process for the coming years 2025, 2026, 2027.

5.5 Grow it Forward Subsidy Program- Discussion was held.

MOTION: To approve the financial statements as presented.

CARRIED

MOTION: To renew the 2 GIC's on December 17 for 180 days and as part of the renewal take the balance from the 30-day GIC and include the 30- day GIC in one of two that are being renewed on December 17.

CARRIED

MOTION: Given the recent resignation of our auditor and creating a casual vacancy, and the short timeframe involved, the Board deem this as a special circumstance and thus can appoint an auditor for the 2023 fiscal year as outlined in Bylaw 9.01. The board will select an auditor based on quotes received as of November 2, 2023.

CARRIED

MOTION: To begin the RFQ process of appointing an auditor for the fiscal years of 2024, 2025 and 2026.

CARRIED

6. Roll Call - Director at Large – What would you do if 4-H was gifted with one million dollars (and what would you spend it on)?

7. Board Spotlight – 16 Personalities – Everyone shared the results of the 16 personalities test.

8. Policy Updates

a. Policy and Governance Committee

MOTION: To accept the recommended changes and revisions as presented by the Policy & Governance Committee.

9. Strategic Plan

Laurie provided the Council with an update on the progress on the strategic plan.

10. Staff Updates and Operations Report

Christine reported on the annual team goals based on the current strategic plan (ending 2023).

11. Emerging Issues

- a. Association Financial Literacy-Templates and knowledge document being prepared for treasurers with goal of launching at the upcoming Treasurer's virtual meetings on November 14, 2023.
- b. Conference and Annual General Meeting-options were presented for future conference formats (beyond 2024).
- c. Board Education-Elaine shared the results of the Council's 16 Personalities strengths and weaknesses outlining the individual personalities of board. As a team the results speak to being 'defenders'.
- d. Nominating Committee Update- Cheryl reviewed the current nomination requirements (terms ending/ renewal). Will also be recruiting a 4-H Canada YAC representative and potential Director Youth.
- e. Youth Organization Participation Fees Comparison- information included in meeting package.
- f. Board Calendar Checklist- information included in meeting package.
- g. 4-H Canada Leadership Summit- interested board directors were invited to submit their expression of interest in attending by October 23.

12. AR/P/VP Communication-It was noted that there had been great conversation at the recent AR/P/VP virtual meetings themed around county subsidies of members and financial support for clubs.

13. Board Liaison-Christine and Evelyn to prepare messaging to the AR's.

14. Board Correspondence - no correspondence received.

15. Review of Action Items- Action sheet was reviewed.

16. Setting of Agenda Items for Next Meeting

- ✓ **Dates & Times for Upcoming Board of Directors Meeting**
- ✓ November 13, 2023 @7:30 pm October Minute Approval and Budget Meeting
- ✓ December 10- Ontario 4-H Council social- details to be confirmed

- ✓ January 20, 2024 @ 8:45 am- Ontario 4-H Council Meeting (8:00 am closed session)
- ✓ February 5, 2024@ 7:30 pm Minute Approval Meeting
- ✓ TBD approval of the audit
- ✓ March 22, 2024 @ 8:30 a.m. Ontario 4-H Council Meeting

17. Adjournment

Roll Call: What would you do if 4-H was gifted with one million dollars (and what would you spend it on)?

- Review 4-H resources to be up to date (verses be dated of 20 years or more)
- More regional focused activities
- Current update on project resources
- Make 4-H free for one year (opportunity registration, participant fee)
- Splitting with provincial and local 4-H associations
- Club exchanges within the province
- Update current database
- Create training program (4-H Volunteer Leadership Camp) for volunteers to learn how to deliver projects, recruit youth and fellow volunteers
- Hug the donor
- Recruitment, Retention and Tech support
- Annual McDonald's hot drink coupon
- More camps and exchanges
- Advertising
- Volunteer recognition awards
- 4-H in the City- 4 urban areas
- Plan before spending
- Look at both who is delivering the program and how