

# Nova Scotia Non-Profit Housing Association

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## *Annual General Meeting Minutes*

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**Time: 9:30 – 11:00 AM July 26<sup>th</sup> 2023**

**Location: Zoom**

1. The annual general meeting (AGM) was called to order by the NSNPHA Interim Board Chair, Aiden Kivisto, at 9:37 am.
2. Notice of meeting information was shared by NSNPHA Interim Board Secretary, Nicole Wright. Approximately 135 people registered for the meeting. Seventy-two people attended the AGM. It was explained that for this meeting, voting members are housing providers and members of informal housing networks, coalitions, or groups. It was explained that a show of hands would be used to indicate approval or disapproval of motions brought to the floor and whether they are approved.

3. The agenda was circulated for approval.

**Motion:** *to approve the agenda as presented*

**Moved by:** *Aiden Kivisto*

**Seconded by:** *Colleen Cameron*

**Motion carried**

4. **Opening remarks** were provided by Stephan Corriveau, Executive Director of the Community Housing Transformation Centre. Stephan congratulated the group on its progress and noted that together we can leverage capacity and do more together to move the sector forward. He said the Centre is committed to thinking about ways to collaborate. In particular, he noted opportunities such as insurance schemes or joint investment funds. He also mentioned that we are only as prosperous as the poorest of our society and that government has to do its share. His view is that the housing market can only be stabilized by building the community housing sector and protecting tenants from renovictions, etc. Chair, Aiden Kivisto, thanked Stephan for his remarks.
5. **Presentation of the NSNPHA Model** – Pauline MacIntosh, StFX University, shared the model that was designed during the Build Together II project, outlining the key strategic areas, regional housing networks, programs and services, capacity building and

potential partnerships. A two-year work plan has been developed by the Interim Board outlining the steps required to build the model.

6. The **Interim Chair's Report** was delivered by Aiden Kivisto. He outlined the progress made since the formation of the Interim Board of Directors in May 2023. Highlights included: incorporation of the NSNPHA on April 28, 2023; the search for an Executive Director is underway; a firm has been contracted to work with the board to build the NSNPHA brand and fundamental marketing and communications tools; Nancy O'Regan has been hired as a part-time consultant to add to the support provided by StFX's Pauline MacIntosh. Aiden thanked the Collaborative Team members who had been working diligently since the October 25<sup>th</sup> Founding Meeting of the NSNPHA to establish the organization and noted that upon certification of the organizations, these teams morphed into governance, human resources, and communications committees of the NSNPHA board of directors. Aiden thanked everyone who has contributed to the formation of the NSNPHA to date.

**Motion:** *to approve the Interim Chair's Report*

**Moved by:** *Aiden Kivisto*

**Seconded by:** *Dolly Williams*

**Motion carried.**

7. The **Treasurer's Report** was presented by NSNPHA treasurer Leslay Harris. The budget for 2023-25 was shared. Questions about the revenue stream (to be determined based on services), audit (clarification needed) and bookkeeping (Nancy O'Regan will do interim bookkeeping) were asked and responded to.

**Motion:** *That the 2023-25 budget be approved as presented.*

**Moved by:** *Leslay Harris*

**Seconded by:** *Cher McDaniel*

**Motion carried.**

8. **Ray Sullivan, Executive Director, brought greetings from the Canadian Housing and Renewal Association and Canadian Alliance of Non-Profit Housing Associations.** Ray noted that his thoughts have been with Nova Scotia with respect to the forest fires and floods that occurred in the past few months. He congratulated all on the establishment of the organization. He welcomed the NSNPHA and its members to a network that extends across the county providing collaboration around research, operations, shared approached to membership fees, group buys for services such as health insurance, etc. He encouraged us to collaborate and be part of a strong national voice. The national organization has a strong Indigenous Caucus. Each fall, there is a Housing on the Hill event where housing advocates meet members of Parliament. In April, the Federation

holds an Annual Conference. Aiden Kivisto thanked Ray for his warm and welcoming comments and expressed commitment to work with our national counterparts to strengthen one national voice.

**9. Report of the Governance Committee** – Interim Governance Committee member, Bruce Holland, shared a slate of nominations for the Board of Directors:

- Aiden Kivisto
- Bruce Holland
- Cheryl McDaniel
- Dolly Williams
- Mary Desmond
- Janet Simms
- Leslay Harris
- Mel Sturk
- Michael Kabalen
- Nick Russell
- Nicole Wright

One additional nomination came from the floor. Sarah Fleming was added to the list of board nominees.

**Motion:** To approve the nominations to the NSNPHA Board of Directors

**Move by:** Bruce Holland

**Seconded by:** Colleen Cameron

**Motion carried.**

10. Thanks were offered to all who attended the AGM, which was adjourned at 11:30 am.