The Annual General Meeting (AGM) of Western Ontario District was held on Saturday, April 15, 2023 at the Windsor Yacht Club.

D/C Scott Homan chaired the meeting. The meeting was called to order at 1103 and began with the singing of the Canadian and US National Anthems.

The Chair then asked the Secretary if she had received the proper notification from any Squadron Commanders who cannot attend, identifying who will be casting their vote as set out in Board Regulations 12.2.2, 12.2.3 and 12.2.4. The Secretary answered that 5 of 6 Squadrons were represented with London being represented by Keith Roberts and Tillsonburg being represented by Joan Hicks.

The Chair then asked the Secretary to read the names of those who can vote and the number of votes each has. Secretary read the list and indicated that each member had one vote as set out in Board Regulation 12.2.3.

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| **District Officers:** | **Squadron Commanders or their representative** |
| Scott Homan **{only votes to resolve a tie}** | Shelley Reder, Goderich |
| Tracie Berekoff | Keith Roberts, London |
| Alice Baratta | Joan Hicks, Tillsonburg |
| Bob Parke | Mavis Colyer, Wallaceburg **{one vote only}** |
| Joe Gatfield | Peter Steeves, Windsor |
| Karen Connor |  |
| Harry Harris |  |
| Nick Baratta |  |
| Peter Fuhry |  |
| Mavis Colyer |  |

The Secretary indicated that the Notice of Meeting and Nomination Committee Report was emailed or, for those without email addresses, sent by Canada Post, on or before April 1, 2023.

The Chair asked the Secretary to certify, and to table, a Certificate of Proof of Mailing. The Secretary complied.

The Chair asked if the Roll Call had been taken. The Secretary stated that the Roll Call had been taken and the sign-in sheets would be kept as proof of attendance.

The Chair asked if a Quorum was present. The Secretary indicated there were at least 3 Squadron Commanders or representatives and at least 6 District Officers present which satisfied Quorum. The Chair stated the meeting was properly constituted.

The Chair welcomed the following guests to the meeting:

* National Conference Chair, Tracie Berekoff, P
* District 9 D/C Alanna Harvey

District 9 D/C Alanna Harvey then took the podium to thank the Western Ontario District for the invitation to attend our AGM. She mentioned how nice it was to see everyone in person after so long and commented on our common interest in promoting safe boating.

D/C Scott thanked Alanna and mentioned how much we appreciate our partnership with USPS and District 9, in particular.

Other members and guests attending:

* Bryan Hinge, Darlene Parke - London
* P/Cdr Jack Colyer, P/Cdr Mike Croxford, Patricia Croxford – Wallaceburg
* P/Cdr Jim Atkinson, P/Cdr Jeanne Marchand, P/Cdr Gary Henrich, Greg Burke, Geert Kiers – Windsor

The Chair then requested all present to observe a Moment of Silence in respect of the passing of our members and friends during the past year. He acknowledged the passing of two Past Commanders, Les Reading of London and Bruce Wightman of Windsor, and long-time member of Windsor, Judie Ladouceur.

The District delivered a $250 contribution to the CPS Foundation Chair, Larry Hicks, AP, in memory of its members that have passed away. Larry thanked the District for the donation and mentioned that his greatest joy is delivering honour roll certificates.

The Chair asked if there were any corrections to the minutes of the District Annual General Meeting held on April 20, 2022. There were no corrections to the Minutes. Moved by Alice Baratta and seconded by Peter Steeves, that we waive reading and approve the April 20, 2022 minutes as presented. Carried.

There was no business arising from these minutes.

The reports of the District Officers were posted to the District website in advance of the meeting and highlights were offered by Officers. At the meeting:

* D/C Scott reviewed his report.
* Executive Officer Tracie thanked Squadrons that submitted award applications, reminded everyone to submit for National Awards and indicated District still looking for financial sponsors for awards.
* Acting Educational Officer Alice mentioned there is no need to not post a course if a Squadron doesn’t have an instructor, as instructors can be shared. She thanked Goderich for instructing students that London sent them for Sailing course. She indicated the sharing of instructors and students builds a good class size, instead of cancelling course, so there is better student participating and interaction.
* Administrative Office Bob highlighted sections of his report, in particular introduction of new meeting methodology (virtual and in-person) and ongoing refurbishment of award plaques. He thanked Goderich for their hospitality throughout the year.
* Secretary Karen thanked everyone for coming and mentioned that great memories and friendships had been developed at these types of events over the years. She re-iterated her thanks to Bob, Peter, and Drew for their assistance over the year.
* RVCC Officer Joe indicated the RVCC program is a great PR tool that allows good interaction with public, however Squadrons must be prepared to follow-up with course offerings. He also mentioned that sharing of students and instructors really works.
* Communications Officer Peter thanked Bob, Karen, and Scott. He also thanked US taxpayers, somewhat ‘tongue in cheek’, for artwork used on District website that is in public domain.
* P/D/C Mavis had no report but thanked D/C Scott for carrying the banner through the COVID years.

Moved by Keith Roberts, seconded by Shelley Reder, that the Officers’ reports be accepted and filed. Carried.

The reports of the Squadron Commanders were posted to the District website in advance of the meeting and highlights were offered by the Commanders or their representative. At the meeting:

* Cdr Shelley mentioned that Goderich is adding 2 Recognized Examiners and an instructor.
* Cdr Alice highlighted her report and encouraged other Squadrons to develop partnerships with their local marinas and chandleries. She thanked the District for its support and D/C Scot and Bob for attending London’s meetings.
* Cdr Pete was unable to attend due to a death in the family and submitted no report for Sarnia.
* P/D/C Joan filled in for Cdr Eric and added that it was unfortunate that flare disposal day had to be cancelled due to lack of Transport Canada funding.
* Cdr Mavis mentioned that Wallaceburg has met with Sarnia and they are planning to work on events together and share limited bridge resources. They hope to deliver courses in the fall.
* P/Cdr Jim Atkinson delivered the report for Windsor. He reminded us that our reason for being was visible by viewing behaviour of vessels in the no-wake zone outside the Windsor Yacht Club.

D/C Scott thanked Jim for his long service as Commander of Windsor.

Moved by Mavis Colyer, seconded by Joan Hicks, that the reports of the Squadron Commanders be accepted and filed. Carried.

The Chair then asked for the report of the District Financial Officer and the comments of the Financial Review Committee. Joe Gatfield highlighted his report and provided an overview of the financial statements. Moved by Keith Roberts, seconded by Peter Steeves, that the District Financial Officer Report and comments of the Financial Review Committee be approved, as submitted. Carried.

The Financial Officer reviewed the bills requiring authorization for payment and moved they be paid. The Chair asked for a seconder that the outstanding bills be paid. Moved by Joe Gatfield, seconded by Harry Harris, that the outstanding bills be paid. Carried.

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| **How Much** | **To Whom** | **For What** |
| $77.84 | Karen Connor | Mailing District AGM Notice and NomCom Report |
| $443.27 | Bob Parke | District Awards – engraving and keeper plaques |
| $63.75 | Toronto | Toronto conference - regalia sales |
| $289.30 | 2023 Windsor Ntl Conf Acct | Windsor conference - regalia sales |
| $120.00 | Windsor Yacht Club | D9 D/C and award sponsors’ District AGM lunch |
| $400.00 | Nick Baratta | D9 Spring Conference hospitality advance |

The Chair asked for reports from the Past District Commanders. There were no reports provided in advance of the meeting. P/D/C Bob Parke mentioned that Membership 2.0 will soon be implemented, and former members will then be identified and individuals will be able to register a family member as soon as they join. He indicated National Office’s world will be streamlined which will make volunteers’ world simpler. P/D/C Al Hinge introduced his son, Bryan, and thanked him for bringing him to the meeting and mentioned he was happy to attend and wished everyone at the helm the best. Moved by Keith Roberts, seconded by Alice Baratta, that the Past District Commanders be accepted and filed. Carried.

At this time, National Conference Chair, Tracie Berekoff, P, addressed the meeting on behalf of Chief Commander, Lise Blais-Huot.

A wind of change is blowing through CPS-ECP, Past Chief Peter called it rebirth after COVID.

The most dramatic change and the one we have all been awaiting for many years is the change in the name and image of the organization. In 2022 we have obtained a budget to undertake phase 1 of the study leading to the change of image with a consultant whose specialty is this. We will soon have a new image that both the new and old pleasure boating community will recognize immediately.

Other changes are underway on several fronts: the implementation of a style of governance that reflects both tradition and current realities - the reorganization of the territory to take into account the difficulty of recruiting volunteer managers and instructors - the demilitarization of designations that no longer resonate with the public - the continuation of the curriculum revision the continuation of the curriculum revision as undertaken by Dave Bieman so that knowledge builds from course to course without overlap - the use of electronic navigation techniques at all levels - the division of knowledge into short seminars and the addition of new seminars - a variety of course delivery methods.

I'll stop the list here, but I would be remiss if I didn't mention the remarkable improvement in communications with the periodic newsletters.

All of this may seem destabilizing, but embracing and promoting change is a matter of survival.

To accomplish this, we need a variety of skills from members or volunteers to help out on an ad hoc basis in their respective areas of expertise.

We are looking for short term commitments on each of the change points.

It is impossible for us to know the skills of every member; it is up to you to make yourself known.

May the wind of change propel the CPS-ECP ship into a brighter future!

D/C Scott Homan thanked Tracie for attending and passing on the Chief’s remarks.

D/C Homan thanked everyone for their contribution to CPS-ECP. He mentioned that Administrative Officer Bob received his 50th merit mark during COVID and would receive his 53rd this year and thanked him for his long service to CPS-ECP. He indicated the District Awards Program would occur after lunch.

At this time, the Chair asked if there was any unfinished business and as there was none, the meeting moved on to the election of officers with P/D/C Mavis Colyer, acting as Chair.

Regarding the election of officers, the Chair asked if there were any further nominations for offices received in addition to those presented by the District Nomination Committee. The Secretary said no. The Chair of Nominating Committee, Mavis Colyer, then read the Nomination Report for 2023-2024.

* Commander Scott Homan S, Goderich
* Executive Officer Tracie Berekoff P, Windsor
* Educational Officer Alice Baratta JN, London
* Administrative Officer Bob Parke AP, London
* Financial Officer Joe Gatfield JN, Windsor
* Membership Officer Harry Harris S, London
* Secretary Karen Connor AP, London
* Public Relations - vacant
* RVCC Officer Joseph Gatfield JN, Windsor
* USPS Liaison Officer Nick Baratta JN, London
* Environmental Officer - vacant
* Communications Officer Peter Fuhry SN, London
* Assist Communications Officer Drew Climie P, London
* Past Commander Mavis Colyer, Wallaceburg

The Chair asked the Secretary to cast a single ballot for those named to the respective office, since there was not more than one candidate for each office.

The Chair indicated the Nominating Committee also nominated Rob Donaldson for appointment as Chair of the Financial Review Committee for the year 2023-2024. This appointment was approved.

The Chair indicated the Nominating Committee advised that by virtue of her position as Immediate Past District Commander, Mavis Colyer will continue to serve on the District Executive Committee and District Council.

The Chair indicated the Nominating Committee advised that pursuant to Board Regulations 7.1.6 the members of the Western Ontario District Nominating Committee for 2023-2024 will be:

P/D/C Mavis Colyer – Chair

P/D/C Jay Jeffery, JN

D/C Scott Homan, S

P/D/C Mavis Colyer indicated that two Squadron representatives will be selected after lunch. {Following the meeting, Cdr Shelley Reder and Cdr Peter Steeves were acknowledged as the representatives.}

The Chair asked National Conference Chair, Tracie Berekoff, P, to pledge the District Commander and then the rest of the District Officers for 2023-2024.

Following acknowledgment of their acceptance of their roles, D/C Scott Homan took the chair, and the new Officers assumed their roles.

D/C Scott made the following remarks:

Thank you for your continued support. As I stated earlier in my report, succession planning is vital. Being on the District Nominating Committee I have certainly dropped the ball over the last few years. My intent is to hopefully breathe some life back into the District, as well as helping our Squadrons do the same.

Coming together as a District this year will be important. Sharing instructors, thoughts and maybe sharing executive members as some Squadrons struggle to form a bridge.

Let’s remain positive and be open to change. We have learned a great deal from our time during COVID. Let’s embrace what it has taught us and move forward together.

The Chair then asked for a motion authorizing the District Officers who will sign cheques. Moved by Mavis Colyer, seconded by Joan Hicks that the District Commander, District Executive Officer and District Financial Officer be empowered as signing authorities for the issuance of District funds and documents. The signature of any two names Officers will be mandatory. Carried.

The Chair reminded Squadron Commanders to complete the downloadable spreadsheet with their slate of Officers and forward to National and the District Secretary prior to July 1st. The Chair also reminded Squadron Commanders that copies of their Financial Statements and Financial Review Report should be sent to the District and National Financial Officers prior to July 1st.

The next District Council Meeting will be held on May 24, 2023 at 1900 via GTM.

The Chair thanked everyone for attending the meeting and asked for a motion for termination. Moved by Alice Baratta that the meeting be terminated. Meeting closed at 1238.

District Awards Program

The following awards were presented in the afternoon:

* Volunteer Instructor of the Year – Carl Lee, London
* Boating Course Award – London
* Training Aids Award – London
* Public Programs Award – Windsor
* Public Relations Award – London
* Safe Boater of the Year – Joe Chorostecki, Commodore Sarnia Yacht Club
* Social Event Award – London
* Volunteer of the Year – Shelley Reder, Goderich
* Training Award - Windsor

D/C Scott presented the Joe Gatfield Leadership Award to Alice Baratta, London.