



Meeting Minutes

Saskatoon Canoe Club AGM

Call to order

The [Saskatoon Canoe Club's AGM](#) was held [by video conference](#) on [March 30, 2020](#). Called to order by President Franny Rawlyk at 1801hrs.

Attendees

President: Franny Rawlyk

Secretary: Lori Mack

Treasurer: Lauren Erickson

Membership Director: Nicole Graham

Recreation Director: Eithan Pillipow

Marathon Director: Edith MacHattie

Equipment Manager-Canoe: John McClean

Equipment Manager-Kayak: Kathleen Weary

Social Director: Tiina Liiving

Member-at-Large: Shaun Lalonde

Member-at-Large: Trevor Robinson

Member-at-Large: Richard Rance

General Members in attendance:

Inger Pors

Shannon Klatt

Kate Germin

Penny-Lynne Micklewright

Ann Popoff

Ed de Gooijer

Daryl Sexsmith

Randy Chapman

Reanne Lejeunesse

Non-Members in attendance:

Shay Crawford

Executive Members not in attendance

Member-at-Large: Shaun Burse

Member-at-Large: Andrew Findlay

Approval of Agenda

- **Motion: To approve the Agenda**
 - Moves: Franny
 - Seconds: Lori
 - Unanimous approval
- Resolved: Agenda approved

Approval of minutes

- **Motion: To approve the minutes of April 9, 2019 SCC AGM.**
 - Moves: Franny
 - Seconds: Eithan
 - Unanimous approval
- Resolved: Minutes approved without modification.

Reports

President: Franny

Due to the ongoing Covid-19 Pandemic, the SCC boathouse is closed until further notice as per Public Health Order issued by the Government of Saskatchewan. As such our plans for hiring, programming, budget, etc are subject to change or cancellation.

With a high membership, and lots of engagement from our members we had a busy year. 2019 was our first year hiring summer boathouse supervisor staff and we were very pleased with the feedback from members about our employees. They helped alleviate some of the board's workload, especially in terms of volunteer management and new member orientations. They helped members feel more comfortable on the water, and helped instruct how to use the boats properly, which will help with

the longevity of the boats. We have applied for two Canada Summer Jobs grants and hope to hire two employees again this summer.

Another great success from this past year was all of the additional training offered to members. We again received positive feedback on the beginner canoe course series that we offered and plan to partner with Outdoor Experience again this coming year. Members have asked for more kayak training courses, so that will be a focus of 2020, both in terms of certifying more kayak instructors and then having those (and other) instructors offer beginner kayak training courses for members.

The kayaks remain popular with members, and as such, we have also purchased several new kayaks for the 2020 paddling season.

A committee was formed to ensure that all of the programs offered by the club are covered under insurance and that we have the best insurance coverage available for our needs. We have not always been happy with the support offered to the recreational side of our club from our provincial organization, Canoe Kayak Saskatchewan. We will continue to investigate our insurance needs and review policy and procedures.

The club trips offered in 2019 were very popular and we hope to encourage members to continue to plan trips this coming year. Part of this support for members is offering wilderness first aid training early in the year. We partnered with The Blind Adventurer in 2019 to offer a 3-day trip from Outlook for sighted and non-sighted paddlers, and we hope to support a similar initiative this year.

Franny has been president for 4 years and plans on stepping down and getting out on the water more this year.

Treasurer: Lauren

2019 was again a strong year for the SCC. We had an aggressive budget and finished the year with a surplus. Our budget for 2020 is based on 85% of membership returning. This allows us some financial protection, in the event that our membership does decrease. Our budget does show a deficit but history shows that we have not over spent in the last several years. If needed we have enough cash on hand to support this deficit.

The Paddling Film fest was a great success and we donated approximately \$3300 to the Outdoor School. These funds were raised through ticket sales as well as a raffle. We will host the same event in 2020 with proceeds once again going to the Outdoor School.

Transparency within the SCC financials is of utmost importance. Questions regarding the financials are always welcome.

Membership Director: Nicole

2019 was another successful year for the club. 1637 members joined for the 2019 paddling season. This was only a small decrease from the 1642 members in 2018. Both divisions saw good retention rates. 73% of marathon-only members are returning and 32% of recreation-only members are returning. (Returning was determined based on the email address of the 2018 members.) Further increasing the retention rate of the recreation members poses a large opportunity for growth.

Last year we welcomed Churchill River Canoe Outfitters and The North Face by Prairie Summit Shop as new club sponsors. Members continued to enjoy discounts at Coldspring Paddling, CanoeSki, Saskatoon Racing Canoe Club, Classic Outdoors, Eb's Source for Adventure, OutterLimits, Back 40 Wilderness First Aid, and Mackie Physiotherapy. Thank you to these businesses for their generous support.

2019 was the first year that the club hired staff to oversee the boathouse, run tours, organize and lead group paddles and help with orientations. Having the staff present greatly decreased the workload on volunteers and the Membership Director. However, we would like to give a huge thank you to the volunteers that helped out this year with all the small tasks that make the club run smoothly. Additionally we would like to thank the following non-executive members who earned free 2020 memberships for their volunteer contributions with leading club trips: Tyler Kallio, Ron Walsh, and Russell Lawrence.

Marathon Director: Edith

The 2019 season saw Marathon membership on par with previous seasons' numbers. Group paddles were well attended, especially during the months of May and June.

A number of members competed in local races within the province and as far abroad as the Yukon River Quest and the North American Triple Crown series, where top placings were achieved!

Rebecca Barton Davis was brought in from Michigan for the July races hosted by the Marathon Division. She conducted a clinic and participated in group paddles and racing that weekend to share her paddling expertise with race weekend attendees and club members. This offered a fresh perspective we don't often get in Saskatchewan where many of the same coaches conduct clinics year after year.

The Marathon fleet now includes a bigger variety of pro-boats, including the regular fleet of V1 models, a Gillies, an H2O V1-style boat for paddlers transitioning from recreation boats, and a JD Pro model which is forgiving for paddlers working on their sterning skills. This variety allows members to get used to the way different boat models handle and to provide more specialization for paddlers of varying ability, size, and paddling style. The 2020 season, as in past years, will see Marathon group paddles taking place Wednesday evenings (6:30pm) and Sunday mornings (10:00 am) at the boathouse. Group paddles officially start Wednesday May 6, 2020 and will run through to September.

Races:

This year Saskatchewan is hosting the Canadian Marathon Canoe National Championships. The tentative 2020 race schedule is as follows:

- Cook's Creek (Manitoba) May 9
- Regina Rookie Race (Craven) TBD
- Nationals (Lumsden) June 19-21
- Cranberry Punch (Saskatoon) July 11
- Eb's Classic (Saskatoon) July 12
- The Pas Canoe Race (Opaskwayak Cree Nation) Aug 14-16

- Eagle Point Challenge (La Ronge) Aug 29
- Rec & Rookie Race (Saskatoon) Sep 13

Recreation Director: Eithan

2019 saw new improvements in services for members, quality of equipment and much more.

Instructional programming offering free canoe lessons to members was a great success in its second year. We are planning to run the courses again in the 2020 season and expand the offering to Kayak lessons as well. The goal for this programming is to improve skills and safety.

The Recreation Division had many trip opportunities throughout the season, each with a variety of length, prerequisite skill levels, and abilities included. Staff and volunteer group paddles were a great success all summer long. The volunteers who organized the off site trips put in many hours planning and we would like to take this opportunity to thank them for all that work.

Greg from CKS, has offered assistance if we should require it during the Covid-19 pandemic.

Equipment Manager Canoe: John

Equipment Upgrades / Acquisitions

In an effort to make more space in the boathouse to meet the high demand for kayaks, the 2019 season began with the relocation of two canoes to off-site storage. These boats remain available for use on trips (or for use at the boathouse in place of other canoes that are taken on trips). Another canoe or two are likely to be added to this system in 2020 as we make room for a larger kayak fleet in the boathouse.

Upgrades to canoes in 2019 included the addition of skid plates to one tripping boat, replacement of one boat's flat bench seats with more comfortable webbing seats, construction of a replacement for an out-of-production foot brace for a solo canoe, installation of knee pads in about six boats, and outfitting two canoes with thigh straps for whitewater paddling.

We refreshed the canoe paddle selection with a significant number of new wooden paddles and several more aluminum/plastic paddles.

The plywood floor in the box of the club's six-place canoe trailer was replaced as the original floor had weathered beyond repair.

At the end of the season we replaced the Old Town Next solo canoe with a very lightly used Royalex Swift Raven solo canoe. With a little more rocker and depth than our other solo canoes, the Raven is ideally suited for northern river tripping and playing in whitewater. The Raven has a full spray deck available for members to use on trips.

Equipment upgrades planned for 2020 include adding a means to keep bow/stern painters bundled on the end caps of many canoes, purchasing float bags for some moving water tripping boats, and

renewing a portion of the club's PFD selection. We are also looking to acquire a second 6-place canoe trailer so that we can better accommodate multiple trips/races at the same time.

Recreation Boat Usage Statistics

Thanks to members recording their boat sign-out information throughout the season and with approximately 40 hours of volunteer time to digitize that data, we were able to compile valuable boat usage statistics. The 3805 records represent over 7791 person-hours of paddling! We were able to see which boats were the most popular and identify peak usage times by the day of the week and time of day, and we are using this information as we plan for the future.

River Safety

Plans for a second annual River Safety Day in early May 2019 were cancelled two days before the event due to a forecast for stormy weather and near-freezing temperatures.

In the spring and summer of 2019 we worked with the Meewasin Valley Authority, the City of Saskatoon, and the owners of the Prairie Lily to redesign the "Boating Guidelines" sign at the power boat launch just north of the Broadway Bridge. The new sign makes it clear that the speed limits and restricted zones are not just guidelines but actually federal law, and the orientation of the map on the sign is now consistent with one's perspective of the river when facing the sign.

On May 7th we applied to Transport Canada for permission to place floating platforms with signs indicating vessel traffic laws at the upstream/downstream boundaries of the zone in front of the boathouse where power-driven vessels and vessels driven by electrical propulsion are prohibited. After jumping through many shifting regulatory and bureaucratic hoops at the federal and municipal levels, on Aug. 23rd we received authorization for two platforms 200 meters upstream from the Senator Sid Buckwold Bridge. We covered the cost of the signs, and the owners of the Prairie Lily funded the platforms, anchors, and their installation on Sept. 6th. We will be placing these signs/platforms in the river again for the ice-free months of 2020, and the City of Saskatoon has said it will install similar permanent signage on the Senator Sid Buckwold and Gordie Howe Bridges at the completion of bridge overhaul work by the end of this year.

Feedback from members on anything to do with our equipment or its management is always welcome.

Equipment Manager-Kayak: Kathleen

There are 6 kayaks that need repairs, Eb's is scheduled to repair the boats.

We sold 4 Delta kayaks and have ordered new ones from Eb's. We also ordered 3 kayaks from Classic Outdoors, 2 Wilderness Systems, and 1 Perception Expression.

Would like to put stickers on the kayaks indicating class and characteristics to make kayak selection easier.

Social Director: Tiina

In 2019 we hosted the annual spring Open House (5th May) and the Trip Tales potluck (October 20th). The Open House was again a very busy event with approximately 300 or more visitors and SCC sponsors. Trip Tales Potluck dinner took place at Grace-Westminster United Church. There were about 40 visitors and 4 canoe adventures were presented.

Review of Financial Statements and Budget

- **Motion: To approve the financial statements for the year ended December 31, 2019, as prepared by Chartered Professional Accountant Gabriel Ng.**
 - Moves: Lauren
 - Seconds: Kathleen
 - Out of 24 participants, 20 votes in favour, none were opposed.
- Resolved: 2019 financial statements approved.

- **Motion: To adopt the budget for 2020 as presented.**
 - Moves: Lauren
 - Seconds: Ann
 - Out of 24 participants, 21 votes in favour, none were opposed.
- Resolved: 2020 budget adopted.

Accountant Gabriel Ng was consulted in regards to doing a financial audit vs review. He feels it is not necessary to have an audit done at this time. This meets the government requirements with The Non-profit Corporations Act. A financial review is much less costly than an audit by about 60%.

- **Motion: That the SCC, elect not to appoint an auditor for the 2020 fiscal year and rather appoint Gabriel Ng, Chartered Professional Accountant, to conduct a review of the SCC's financial records for 2020 in accordance with section 150(4) of *The Non-profit Corporations Act, 1995*.**
 - Moves: John
 - Seconds: Kathleen
 - 24 participants, 20 votes in favour, none opposed.
- Resolved: Motion approved.

Accountant Gabriel Ng has advised the SCC to have a motion indicating that the members accept the boards actions for the upcoming year.

- **Motion: The SCC members accept the actions of the board throughout the upcoming year of 2020.**
 - Moves: Lauren
 - Seconds: Richard
 - 24 participants, 19 votes in favour, none were opposed.
- Resolved: Motion approved

Executive Elections:

President Franny has decided not to put forward her name for President. None present put their name forward to fill this position. Franny has kindly agreed to continue until someone is found.

Member-At-Large, Shaun Lalonde steps down.

Members-At-Large Andrew Findlay and Shaun Bursey will be contacted to see if they will put forward their names to continue to serve.

The following positions filled by acclamation:

President: Franny Rawlyk

Secretary: Lori Mack

Treasurer: Lauren Erickson

Recreation Director: Eithan Pillipow

Marathon Director: Edith MacHattie

Membership Director: Nicole Graham

Social Director: Tiina Liiving

Equipment Manager-Canoe: John McClean

Equipment Manager-Kayak: Kathleen Weary

The following positions filled by election:

Member-At-Large: Shannon Klatt - 20 votes in favour, none opposed

Member-At-Large: Trevor Robinson - 20 votes in favour, none opposed

Member-At-Large: Richard Rance -19 votes in favour, none opposed

Member-At-Large: Tyler Kallio - 13 votes in favour, none opposed

Announcements

Next regular SCC meeting will be held **April 27, 2020** at **1900hrs** by video conference.

Adjourned

- **Motion: AGM to be adjourned.**
 - Moves: Franny
 - Seconds: John
 - Unanimous approval
- Resolved: Meeting adjourned at 1904hrs.

Minutes respectfully submitted by,
Lori Mack

Secretary

Date of approval

Date of approval