

Fredericton Chamber of Commerce  
Annual General Meeting  
Thursday, June 27, 2024  
Wu Conference Centre

Attendance:

Andrew Lockhart - Ignite  
Adam Peabody – Downtown Fredericton  
Alex Scholten – Victory Meat & Produce Market Ltd.  
Cameron McNeil – Par 94 Golf Inc.  
Carol Ann Melvin – McInnes Cooper  
Catherine McLatchie – Instant Imprints Fredericton  
Chelsea Kozlowski – Shannon & Buffett LLP  
Chris Hotchkiss – Hotchkiss Home Furnishings  
Christine Little – Fredericton Chamber of Commerce  
Cory Clark – Marwood Ltd.  
Daniel Hoyles – Snap Trade  
Dave Milburn – Focal Point Landscape and Installation  
David Shipley – Beauceron Security Inc.  
Devansh Bavishi – IG Wealth Management  
Fanny Bodart – The Property Ladies Inc.  
Hala Bakhsh – Fredericton Chamber of Commerce  
Haridas Patel – Mitacs Inc.  
Janet Moser – New Brunswick Business Immigrants Association  
Dr. Jillian Goodyear  
Jill Stairs – Daye Kelly & Associates  
Johanne Gallant – Fredericton International Airport Authority Inc.  
Jordan O’Brien – Porter O’Brien  
Jose Poirier – New Brunswick Multicultural Association  
Juan Para – Pointwards Loyalty Platform  
Judy Joe Scheffler – Fredericton Chamber of Commerce  
Karen Grant – Kiers Marketing  
Mayor Kate Rogers – City of Fredericton  
Kate O’Rourke - Fredericton International Airport Authority Inc.  
Katelyn Roger – Fredericton Chamber of Commerce  
Kaziya Chanda – Eastern College  
Kelsey Seymour – CC Goodwin Consulting Inc.  
Lisa Portelli – NewLife Options Inc.  
Marley Stevens – City of Fredericton  
Martina Stevens – Salvation Army  
Michael Melvin – McInnes Cooper  
Michelle Robichaud  
Morgan Peters – Fredericton Chamber of Commerce  
Nicholas Sehl – Fredericton Chamber of Commerce

Ori Cordido - Ignite  
Pat Price – Neil Squire Society  
Peter Takacs – Symplicity Organizational Designs  
Renna Eliakis – Cox & Palmer  
Scott McMullin – Covey Basics  
Stephen MacGillivray  
Wendy Morrell – Fredericton Chamber of Commerce

Morgan Peters welcomed everyone and introduced President Michael Melvin.

- 1. Welcome & Call to Order** – President Michael Melvin welcomed everyone to the Fredericton Chamber of Commerce Annual General Meeting and called the meeting to order.
  - a) Approval of the Agenda** – The meeting’s agenda, minutes from last year’s meeting, treasurer’s report, audited financial statements, nominating committee report and list of proposed new members and a copy of the annual magazine were distributed via email prior to the meeting to all individuals who registered to attend the meeting and a copy of these items was available at the meeting for all attendees. President Michael Melvin asked for a motion to approve the agenda as circulated. MOTION: David Shipley of Beauceron Security Inc. moved, seconded by Daniel Hoyles of Snap Trade, motion carried.
  - b) Approval of the Minutes** – President Michael Melvin asked for a motion to approve the minutes from the June 22, 2023 Annual General Meeting as circulated, he reminded those in attendance that the motion should be made and seconded by a member who attended that meeting. MOTION: Jill Stairs of Daye Kelly & Associates moved, seconded by Jordan O’Brien of Porter O’Brien, motion carried.
  
- 2. Treasurer’s Report** – Daniel Hoyles reported that he is thrilled to be the acting treasurer during the chamber’s 150<sup>th</sup> year in operation. He attended the recent flag raising and it is great to be part of such a long-standing organization. The chamber is known for hosting successful, significant events such as the State of the City Address, State of the Province Address and the Business Excellence Awards celebrating our leaders in business and entrepreneurship. The staff of the chamber work had to ensure the chamber events go as planned and demonstrated exemplary adherence to budgets and ensured financial diligence throughout the year. The awareness of how changes in events could impact the chamber’s finances led to efficient spending in all budget categories. Daniel expressed his heartfelt thanks to Jill Stairs. Jill has shared her deep knowledge of chamber policies and financial history with him and the board. He also extended thanks to the Finance, Audit and Risk Committee and their unwavering commitment and guidance during his tenure as treasurer. He also thanked Brianne for making his transition to treasurer a smooth one and finally he thanked the board and executive for their trust and

support during his time as treasurer and noted it has been a valuable learning experience.

- 3. Presentation of the Audited Financial Report** – Acting Treasurer Daniel Hoyles presented the audited financial statements as prepared by Shannon & Buffett. Daniel stated that the financial statements present our situation fairly, and it was a clean audit. The audit outlines the initiatives and events held throughout the year and there were no surprises in expenses due to the staff’s strict adherence to their individual budgets. The chamber ended the year in a better than budget position attributed to the chamber’s investments and accruals. Daniel asked if there were any questions. MOTION: Jordan O’Brien of Porter O’Brien moved to accept the audited financial report as presented, seconded by Jill Stairs of Daye Kelly & Associates, motion carried.
- 4. Appointment of Auditors for 2024 – 2025** – Acting Treasurer Daniel Hoyles requested to appoint Shannon & Buffett as the auditors for the 2024-2025 year. MOTION: Michael Melvin of McInnes Cooper moved to appoint Shannon & Buffett as the chamber’s auditors for the 2024-2025 year, seconded by David Shipley of Beauceron Security Inc., motion carried.
- 5. President’s Report** – Michael Melvin began by noting that his full report is featured in the chamber’s annual update magazine. He went on to say that it has been an eventful year with two major items to note. Firstly, there was a major change in the personnel of the chamber. Krista Ross was named to the Senate and stepped down as CEO. Krista had mentioned her intentions of retiring from the chamber in her first meeting with Mike as CEO. The chamber had a strong succession plan in place and the board had an easy decision to appoint Morgan Peters as the new CEO of the chamber. The chamber also welcomed Nicholas Sehl as Policy and Communications Manager. The second major item of note was the decision to form an office space taskforce to look at options for housing the chamber in the future. The taskforce decided to extend the current lease by three years and to explore options to purchase a building, possibly with rental space as a non-dues revenue stream. Mike talked about how the chamber runs as a well-oiled machine.

  - a) Michael recognized Jill Stairs and thanked her for taking such an active role in the chamber over the years. He also recognized Tosin Ajibola, Noel Eustace, Jenna Evans and Ashley Dearing for their time on the board as well.
  - b) Each year the chamber president has the opportunity to award an individual or business that has gone above and beyond for the betterment of the chamber. The President’s Award is awarded to Dr. Jillian Goodyear. Dr. Goodyear has committed her time and talents beyond demanding professional responsibilities to work with the Fredericton Chamber of Commerce for the improvement of the medical resources available to fellow physicians in service of their patients and our community.

**6. CEO Report** – Chief Executive Officer Morgan Peters began by thanking Michael Melvin for leading the chamber over the past year. He couldn't have asked for a better president in his first year as Michael has been involved in the work of the chamber prior to even Morgan arriving at the chamber. Morgan also recognized Sara Holyoke. Sara couldn't attend the AGM due to her ongoing health issues. We will all keep Sara in our thoughts and prayers in the days ahead with her surgery and recovery. Morgan went on to thank to board of directors for their confidence in him as CEO and he thanked Krista for mentoring him and preparing him to take on his new role. Morgan also thanked the staff of the chamber for everything they do. Morgan strongly believes in the chamber's mission to strengthening business prosperity and looks forward to working with member and to grow our community's prosperity. Morgan stated the chamber will continue to put a focus on small/medium chamber members and the 114 non-for-profit and charity members as they are a crucial part of our community. Morgan also mentioned that the chamber will continue to focus on our chamber being a diverse, inclusive organization for all business.

**7. Presentation from the Fredericton International Airport** – Johanne Gallant and Kate O'Rourke of the Fredericton International Airport Authority gave a presentation on the growth importance of the airport in our community.

**8. Nomination Committee Report** – Nominating Committee Chair Michael Melvin reported that in accordance with the chamber's bylaws the following people have agreed to let their name stand as members of the executive committee for 2024-2025:

President – David Shipley, Beauceron Security Inc.

1<sup>st</sup> Vice President – Sara Holyoke, Delta Hotels Marriott Fredericton

2<sup>nd</sup> Vice President – David Milburn, Focal Point Landscape Design and Installation

The following individuals indicated their willingness to serve a one-year term as officers and members of the Executive Committee beginning in June 2024 and these positions on the Executive Committee will be confirmed at the first board meeting which will follow this meeting today.

Past President – Michael Melvin, McInnes Cooper

Treasurer – Michelle Paquin, Spack, Armstrong & Norrad Chartered Professional Accountants

Acting Treasurer – Daniel Hoyles, Snap Trade

Executive Member – Jordan O'Brien, Porter O'Brien

Executive Member – Fanny Bodart, The Property Ladies

According to the chamber's bylaws which were adopted in June 2019, members of our board of directors serve a one-year term, however, it is the practice of the

Fredericton Chamber of Commerce that our board members serve for two one-year terms.

The following individuals indicated their willingness to serve the second one-year term as directors for which they have previously committed:

2nd year of 2<sup>nd</sup> two-year term Board Member – Catherine McLatchie, Instant Imprints Fredericton

2<sup>nd</sup> Year Board Member – Devansh Bavishi, IG Wealth Management

2<sup>nd</sup> Year Board Member – Cameron McNeil, Par 94 Golf

2<sup>nd</sup> Year Board Member – Kelsey Seymour, CC Goodwin Consulting

2<sup>nd</sup> Year Board Member – Danielle Pelletier, VIVA Therapeutic Services

2<sup>nd</sup> Year Board Member – Scott McMullin, Covey Basics

2<sup>nd</sup> Year Board Member – Daniel Hoyles, SnapTrade

The following individuals indicated their willingness to serve a one-year term as members of the board of directors beginning, June 27 2024:

1<sup>st</sup> Year of 2<sup>nd</sup> two-year term Board Member – Stanley Barnaby, Joint Economic Development Initiative (JEDI)

1<sup>st</sup> Year Board Member – José Poirier, New Brunswick Multicultural Council

1<sup>st</sup> Year Board Member – Cory Clark, Marwood Ltd.

1<sup>st</sup> Year Board Member – Kaziya Chanda, Eastern College

1<sup>st</sup> Year Board Member – Chris Hotchkiss, Hotchkiss Home Furnishings

1<sup>st</sup> Year Board Member – Renna Eliakis, Cox & Palmer

1<sup>st</sup> Year Board Member – Pat Price, Neil Squire Society

MOTION: Michael Melvin moved to accept the slate of the 2024-2025 Board of Directors as recommended by the nominating committee, seconded by Devansh Bavishi of IG Wealth Management, motion carried.

- 9. Confirmation / Introduction – Incoming President and Directors** – Mayor Kate Rogers began by saying that she was happy to be able to attend the chamber’s AGM. The City has always had a solid relationship with the Fredericton Chamber of Commerce and this partnership helped to make the city thriving, vibrant place it is today. Our city is growing not only in population but there is a shift in our economy and of the diversity in our city. The Fredericton Chamber is the valued voice of the business community. The chamber understands and appreciates the value of the community’s not-for-profit sector. Mayor Rogers thanked the chamber for being a non-partisan organization that gives a platform through events to ensure voices and messaging is heard. She thanked the leadership of the chamber and the staff for their hard work and dedication to the business community. A thriving chamber makes our city a great place to live and do business.

- a) Confirmation/swearing in of President David Shipley and 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice President Dave Milburn – The Mayor confirmed David Shipley and Dave Milburn.
- b) Confirmation/Swearing in of the new board members – Mayor Kate confirmed the new members of the Board of Directors. Morgan and Mayor Rogers congratulated and gave each new board member a chamber pin.
- c) Passing the Buck – President Michael Melvin continued the chamber’s tradition of “Passing the Buck” to new President David Shipley. A framed one-dollar bill signed by the past presidents from the last several decades was signed and passed along.

**10. New Member Acceptance** – In accordance with the chamber’s bylaws, the membership is required to vote in all new members at a quarterly membership meeting and the AGM is the chamber’s second quarterly meeting of the year. The list of new members who joined the chamber from January 1<sup>st</sup> to April 30<sup>th</sup>, 2024 was circulated prior to the meeting for review. MOTION: Devansh Bavishi of IG Wealth Management moved to accept the slate of new members, seconded by Fanny Bodart of the Property Ladies, motion carried.

**11. Incoming President Report** – David Shipley began by stating that he has been a soldier, a newspaper reporter, a digital marketer, an accidental cybersecurity professional, a start-up founder and now he can proudly add his new title of president of the Fredericton Chamber of Commerce. He is honoured to have the opportunity to play a leadership role during the chamber’s 150<sup>th</sup> year in existence. New Brunswick is entering into a new day. It isn’t the same place we grew up in. In our younger years there was a lot of talk about a decline in services and of people leaving the province to find work and find a career but today our province is growing with our population growing towards one million people. Growth is good but it comes with challenges and our chamber needs to meet these challenges with solutions. Financial prosperity is a broad topic. Not only does the province need to thrive but we need to make choices in the next few years that will set the foundation for the next few decades of growth and prosperity. David is looking forward to an exciting year with a tremendous board of directors.

**12. Adjournment** – Jill Stairs of Daye Kelly & Associates adjourned the meeting.