Meeting of the CMOS Ottawa Centre Executive
Date: Wednesday November 15, 2023, by zoom. Time: 15:00-16:30

Present: Leonard Barrie (Chair), Yvon Bernier, Denis Bourque, Erika Brummell (student rep. U. of Ottawa), Dawn Conway, Ray Desjardins, Frank Johnson, Bob Jones, Shiliang (Dan) Shan. Ada Loewen (student rep. Carleton U.) towards end of meeting.
Not present: Sheila Bourque, David Grimes, Peter Kimbell, Ann McMillan, Ward Smith, John Stone

1. Adoption of the agenda
The agenda was adopted by consensus.

2. Adoption of the minutes of the meeting of September 26, 2023
The minutes were adopted by consensus.

3. Actions arising
These are covered under appropriate agenda items.

4. Financial Update
Yvon Bernier informed members that the Annual Subvention from CMOS National, in the amount of $838, had been received and deposited. The Centre's assets now total $11,403, composed of $6,403 in the account plus a GIC of $5,000.

The subvention is based on the Centre's membership in 2023, which was 117 in 2022 and 84 in 2023. The drop relates to temporary memberships issued during the CMOS congress; in addition, some memberships lapsed during COVID and were not renewed; and some students listed their home addresses rather than that of their institutions. It was agreed that a letter encouraging renewal would be sent to certain lapsed members. We could also encourage potential new members to join, as appropriate.

Action: Bob Jones and Len Barrie

5. Ottawa Centre Activities for 2023-2024
5 a Review of monthly lunch-hour seminars
- Len Barrie reported that David Sills' talk on 'The Northern Tornadoes Project' had been well received and is now posted on CMOS' UTube site.
- The date of Craig McLean's talk on the Ocean Decade has been changed to Tuesday November 21. David Grimes will introduce him.
- The title of Gilbert Brunet's talk on January 11, 2024 has changed. He will be introduced by Len Barrie.
- Michel Jean's talk was confirmed for February 22, 2024. He will be introduced by David Grimes. Denis Bourque noted that forecasting work by a U.K. group using artificial intelligence, has proven superior to that of the traditional ECMWF model. He will circulate the web link.
- Yan Boulanger will speak on March 21, 2024 on wildfires. Peter Kimbell will introduce him.

- Joanna Dean's talk on April 18 is now confirmed. Len Barrie will send information on her and her topic to Bob Jones.
  Action: Len Barrie

There remain two potential speakers: Andrew VanderZaag and Craig Stewart. They will remain on the list for future talks.

Discussion followed on who could host the zoom site in January, when Denis Bourque is away. Both Bob Jones and Len Barrie could do this if required, but agreed that a new zoom manager is needed. Jones suggested getting a younger, technically knowledgeable person, such as Mike Manore or Ron Hubers.

5 b Report on November 7 CMOS Centre Chairs Meeting

The meeting was hosted by Serge Nadon.

- Congress 2024 will be virtual, with the theme "Extreme Events in a Changing Climate." It is being co-hosted by Manitoba and the Northern BC/Yukon CMOS Centres.
- The 2025 Congress will be hybrid and held in Saskatoon. A call for CMOS awards will be issued soon. We need to promote these awards (in 2023 there had been no nominations for 2 awards).
- The Strategic Plan: the involvement of working government scientists in the Plan has been limited by heavy other demands on their time.
- Other CMOS Centres have been pleased with our seminar activities and our recordings of them on UTube.
- Erika Brummell briefed the group on the CMOS Student Committee. The wish is for each Centre to host a non-virtual event which could involve the broader community. Ada Loewen subsequently joined the meeting and commented that she had nothing to add.
- Len Barrie agreed it would be excellent to get people more actively involved, for example by organizing a guest speaker, or a networking event. The purpose should be to benefit the students and other participants.

5 c CMOS Awards at Science Fairs in 2024

In early November, Len Barrie was finally able to present the inscribed trophy to the winning school in 2023, to display until March 2024. Last year, the Ottawa Exec spent extra dollars to be listed as a Science Fair sponsor, which increased our visibility. Just 50$ more would elevate us to major sponsor. The group agreed that this was worth it.

In 2024 Ward Smith will take the lead for judging at the Ottawa Regional Science Fair. Ada Loewen, Ray Desjardins and Erika Brummell will also assist in judging.
Action: Len Barrie will work with Ward to connect to organizers and to transition to lead for judging.
Yvon Bernier is prepared to judge at the Outaouais fair again. Costs included $300 in prizes and $200 to support the organizers of ExpoSciences. Bernier will inform the organizers we will participate in 2024. A French summary is in preparation.

6 Other business

Len Barrie will be away from November 20 – December 7, 2023 leaving the hosting of the November seminar to Vice-chair David Grimes.

7 Date of the next Executive meeting

The next meeting will be by zoom on **Tuesday January 16, 2024, from 15:00 to 16:30** hours.

8 Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 16:00.