

Sixth Meeting of the CMOS Ottawa Centre Executive

Date: 26th August 2025 **Time:** 12:00-13:30

Venue: Irene's Pub, 885 Bank St, Ottawa

AGENDA

Present: Frank Johnson (Chair), Yvon Bernier, Michael Brklacich, Anna Brownlee (student rep. Carleton U.), Dawn Conway, Ray Desjardins, Bob Jones, Peter Kimbell, Mike Manore, Tom Zagon

Regrets: Mike Crowe, Shiliang (Dan) Shan, Erik Sparling, Len Barrie

1. Introduction

Members introduced themselves.

2. Adoption of the agenda

The agenda was **accepted** by consensus

3. Adoption of the Minutes of the meeting of 6 May 2025

The spelling of Stefania Maggi's name was corrected. Items 5 e and 8 were corrected to add Wayne Jenkinson as a possible future speaker; and to add Tom Zagon as a nominee for the Executive Committee. The minutes were **approved** with these changes.

Recordings of noon hour talks

Mike Manore provided an update on talks on You Tube and subsequently, a chart breaking down attendance over time and by category of attendee.

4. Election of Deputy Chair

There were no nominations so the issue remains open. For now, the Chair will appoint a member of the Executive to chair meetings in his stead, as required.

5. Election of Treasurer

Mike Manore was elected Treasurer, by consensus.

6. Overall goals of the Ottawa CMOS Centre

These include informing the broader membership of CMOS issues through a program of seminars.

7. Practicality of In-Person meetings

The Executive considered the benefits of in-person vs. on-line meetings, especially for information sharing and networking. They also discussed hybrid meetings. Members support the idea of in-person meetings, whenever possible. These are more interesting and allow effective networking – which is an advantage to the student community. The context of a seminar may influence the emphasis it is given; and help determine whether it could be held as a hybrid meeting.

Discussion followed on the relevance of topics to specific communities and on how to publicize them effectively, including through social media. The costs and logistics of in-person meetings were also considered. It was generally agreed that venues should be selected in view of potential attendees and the interest the topic would hold for a certain group.

Bob Jones noted there are approximately 300 people on the Ottawa Centre's mailing list and who receive notice of seminars. Yvon Bernier commented that seminar attendance was generally around two dozen, though attendance using recordings remained good.

8. Finance review

Banking Resolution Change

Given the cumbersome nature of cheque payments, the group saw advantages in arranging for bank transfers for paying bills, as this procedure only requires one signature.

Resolution 1: It was resolved that the Centre's banking procedure be amended to allow for electronic transfers of funds;

Resolution 2: It was further resolved that the past and the new treasurer (Mike Manore) and the Chairman update the signatories for the Ottawa Centre, at the bank.

The resolutions were approved by consensus. It was also **agreed** that all bank transactions effected by one officer be copied to the other approved officers.

9. Program for 2025-2026

Plans for a September seminar are in progress.

Mike Brklacich reported on a meeting held during the summer with Stefania Maggi. Maggi had proposed a broad seminar in early November on 'Climate Change and Mental Health', especially mental health in children. Brklacich has spoken to the heads of the departments of Geography and Psychology about having this at Carleton in conjunction with the departments, and as a hybrid meeting. He also informed members of a 'Lego' game related to climate education.¹ Some members commented that half of the seminars should be in CMOS' traditional areas, but agreed that CMOS Ottawa should try out the idea of a seminar covering a range of topics.

Brklacich will discuss with Stefania CMOS' interest in a broad seminar or longer-term project, possibly co-hosted by geography or psychology (which would permit a venue at Carleton) as part of a department's seminar series. The topic could be 'Hope amid Gloom, and what climate change means to children' and possibly constitute a review rather than a seminar. Mike Manore raised the idea of partnering with the Ottawa branch of the Club of Rome. The Chair asked if the topic would interest the media: Peter Kimbell responded that it would depend on current events.

Action: Mike Brklacich

Other seminars

- Tom Zagon proposed Wayne Jenkinson to speak on Water Intelligence. This could be an in person talk on September 25, if a venue is available.
Action: Tom Zagon to contact Wayne Jenkinson re. willingness and availability.
- Sail Drones Frank Johnson will explore this with Scott Glen. David Grimes is checking Glen's availability.
- Student presentations: This topic was raised with Anna Brownlee and remains a possibility for 2026.
- Mike Manore could explore speakers for a Spring 2026 talk on monitoring, e.g. the Arctic Monitoring program; or atmospheric monitoring. Mike Manore and Tom Zagon will discuss this further.

Peter Kimball informed the Executive that upcoming developments in Canada's Weather Warning program could be of interest, and could be used in an introduction to a talk.

10. Science Fairs in 2026

Responsibility for CMOS involvement in 2026 Science fairs was reviewed. Ward Smith will take a lead on the Ontario Fair in 2026; and Dan Shan for the Kingston Fair. Yvon Bernier will do so for the Outaouais Fair.

11. Co-hosting the 2027 CMOS Congress in Niagara

Members noted with concern that no firm arrangements yet exist for the 2026 CMOS Congress. The Ottawa Centre awaits the expected proposal concerning the Ontario Centres co-hosting the Congress in Niagara, jointly with the Canadian Water Resources Association.

¹ LEGO Build the Change Program

12. Other Business

Mike Brklacich raised the possibility of an annual public seminar on a topic of interest to the broader community. Bob Jones reviewed the history of past public seminars, mentioning the role climatologist David Phillips had played in these. Frank Johnson noted the need for appropriate venues.

13. Date and Place of Next Meeting: The next meeting of CMOS Ottawa Centre Executive was scheduled for **Tuesday October 21, 2025**. It will be at **noon, at Irene's Pub**, 885 Bank St., Ottawa.

14. Adjournment The meeting adjourned at 13:30.