Meeting of the CMOS Ottawa Centre Executive
Date: Tuesday September 26, 2023, by zoom. Time: 15:00-16:30

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

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

2. Adoption of the minutes of the meeting of August 28, 2023
The minutes were adopted by consensus.
Dawn Conway will send the approved minutes of the meeting of 27 June to Bob Jones.

3. Actions arising
These are covered under item 5.

4. Financial Update
Yvon Bernier informed members that there was nothing new to report.

5. Ottawa Centre Activities for 2023-2024
5 a Review of monthly lunch-hour seminars
Len Barrie explained the circumstances that resulted in the cancellation of the September 21 seminar by Sabah Ibrahim.

David Sills 19 October: “The Northern Tornadoes Project: What We’ve Learned About Tornadoes, Downbursts and Derechos in Canada”. David Grimes may be away October 19; Peter Kimbell agreed to take to lead for the Executive and to introduce Sills.
Action: Len Barrie will ask a member to assist Kimbell at the question period, e.g., Denis Bourque.

David Grimes has confirmed that Craig McLean of NOAA will give a talk on November 23.
Action: Grimes will clarify the title of the talk with McLean and get it, and biodata, sent to Bob Jones. Grimes will take the lead at the seminar.

Michel Jean has confirmed he will speak on 22 February, 2024. He has provided a seminar title. “The Global Meteorological and Environmental Enterprise in the Era of Machine Learning and Artificial Intelligence: Implications for Canada”
Action: David Grimes will follow up with Michel Jean, as necessary.

Len Barrie confirmed that Gilbert Brunet will give a seminar on January 11. The title is "Sub-seasonal to Seasonal Prediction: A Thirty Year Journey" The title and abstract are with Bob Jones. Len Barrie will ensure other information is provided.

It was confirmed that Joanna Dean (Assoc. Prof. at Carleton U.) will talk on 18 April. She has offered 3 possible topics. Members' preferences will be summarized and sent to her.
Action: Len Barrie will send a summary of comments to Joanna Dean so she can decide on the topic.

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Peter Kimbell confirmed that Yan Boulanger of NRCan will speak on March 21, on wildfires. The title is "What the Future Holds for Wildfires in a Future Climate"
Action: Len Barrie will send Boulanger a formal invitation to speak. Peter Kimbell will introduce the speaker at the seminar.

Other speakers:
Andrew VanderZaag is prepared to give a seminar at some time. He will remain on a shortlist of speakers for the Fall of 2024. Ward Smith will take the lead at the appropriate time.

Dawn Conway has not yet contacted Craig Stewart, VP for Climate and Federal Affairs for the Insurance Bureau of Canada. She will follow up on having him speak in the Fall of 2024.

Given that the September speaker had cancelled her talk, Len Barrie asked if another speaker should be added to the roster. Members had no strong feelings either way.

Ann McMillan has contacted Helen Joseph about dates and other arrangements for the SCOR[1] speaker. She awaits a response.

5 b Report on the 5 September CMOS Centre Chairs Meeting
David Grimes reported on the meeting.

- Congress 2023 had been discussed, including Congress follow-up. There were approximately 300 attendees, plus around 100 virtual participants. It was decided to continue with a hybrid model for future Congresses.

- In the coordination of the 2024 and other future Congresses, it was felt that a local organizing group was needed to support most functions, in addition to support from the national office. Setting up a local organizing group is difficult in small locales.

- CMOS has now distributed its Implementation Plan. It seeks feedback and any revisions, by October 31. It is also looking for strategic directions for CMOS for the years after 2024.

Action: The plan will be sent to Executive members for their feedback. Comments on the Strategic Plan will be coordinated by David Grimes and Len Barrie; and will be sent by Barrie to Bob Jones with the Implementation Plan.

[1] Scientific Committee on Oceanic Research

- CMOS has launched an Impact Analysis project, aimed at strengthening CMOS' visibility. It will let a contract to examine gaps in visibility. The Terms of Reference are to produce a strategy with actions and milestones.

- In a roundtable discussion on virtual vs. in person seminars, all of the Centres are engaged in this question. Some Centres are organizing talks, which are not always well advertised. Ottawa is an active Centre which puts its talk on the Web. The question was raised whether talks could be better coordinated, to avoid 'overlap'. There was no consistent approach to in-person vs. hybrid vs. virtual talks. Issues include coordination, promotion, and visibility concerning the dates of talks, especially since not all are advertised on the CMOS or the Centres' websites.

  The CMOS president concluded the discussion by providing his perspectives on the issues, going forward.

- Tour speakers: Centre chairs considered whether it was necessary that the CMOS Tour Speaker go across the country, or whether there could be one talk, available virtually to all. Len Barrie noted that the Ottawa Centre always sends its speaker list to the CMOS Executive Director, so he is aware of it when scheduling the CMOS tour speaker. Bob Jones noted that we need to ensure we have the titles and dates of our speakers.

5 c Museum of Science and Technology
Discussion deferred.

6 Other business
Chair Len Barrie will be away October 19 – 28; and from November 19 – December 9, 2023.
Bob Jones reported that Erika Brummell has become a member of CMOS.
Gordon Griffith has reported that the current CMOS president will serve a one-year term instead of 2 years served by the last President.

7 Date of the next Executive meeting
The next meeting will be by Zoom on **Wednesday November 15, from 15:00 to 16:30** hours. It will be chaired as usual by Len Barrie.

8 Adjournment
The meeting adjourned at 16:00.