



University of Guelph Retirees Association

Serving retirees from all UofG employee groups

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING
10:00 a.m., Thursday JUNE 13, 2024
U of G Arboretum Centre
& via zoom



Two Row Wampum and the Dish with One Spoon < 1701 covenant>
Jessie Buchanan, Thadinadonnih (Guelph) – acrylic on canvas, 2021 -

Driven by Purpose: Leaving a Transformational Legacy

presented by
Ryan Fraser,
Certified Financial Planner.
Quiet Legacy Planning Group Ltd.
Introduced by Jayne Whitfield

United Way Report

Julie Hutchins

UGRA United Way Representative



United Way
Guelph Wellington
Dufferin



The Business meeting will start in 5 minutes.





Formed in 1991, the University of Guelph Retirees Association's
OBJECTIVES are to:

1. foster a mutually beneficial relationship with the University of Guelph, and
2. promote the welfare of retirees in such matters as University and civil service pensions and health benefits, and access to the University and its facilities.

2024 Annual General Meeting Agenda

1. Approval of Agenda
2. Approval of the Minutes of the June 15, 2023 AGM
3. Business Arising from the Minutes of the 2023 AGM
4. Reports from the Executive Committee
 - 4.1 President's report
 - 4.2 Treasurer's report, report of the reviewer and nomination of the reviewer for 2024
 - 4.3 Activities/newsletter reports
 - 4.4 Membership report and communications
 - 4.5 Scholarship Endowment Report
 - 4.6 Constitutional Report
5. Election of the Directors
6. Questions and Comments from Members
7. Transfer of Presidency
8. New President's Remarks
9. Other Business
10. Adjournment





1. Approval of the 2024 UGRA AGM Agenda

Motion: To approve the agenda as presented today.

Moved:

Seconded:





2. Approval of the Minutes of the June 15, 2023 UGRA AGM

Minutes posted on the UGRA website www.ugra.ca under
"About Us" - Annual General Meeting

Motion: To approve the minutes of the June 15, 2023 AGM
as circulated.

Moved:

Seconded:





3. Business Arising from the Minutes is covered in the following Reports from the Executive Committee ...



4.1 UGRA President's Report 2023-24 (Alan Filewod)

- **U of G Retirees' Social** hosted by the president's office
 - Outline U of G Strategic Plan – Amy Atkinson, Alumni Affairs
 - Honey Bee Research Centre presentation and Tour – Paul Kelly, Manager HBRC
- **Fall and Spring Forums** were held as hybrid in-person and zoom meetings
 - (Fall: Shazmin Dhansi, Gus Skorborg, Christoper Laursen – Artificial Intelligence)
 - (Spring: Debbie Stanley – Estate Planning)
- **Group travel** –Churchill MB (Vikki)
- **Advocacy:** Library privileges
- Maintained and **updated UGRA website** (Teresa)
- Published **3 newsletters and increased advertising** (Cathy, Grant)
- Maintained **interaction with CURAC** and advertisement of **Lifelong Learning** opportunities (Clarence, Pat)
- Supported **United Way** (Julie)

Many Thanks to: 2023-2024 UGRA Executive Committee

Officers

Alan Filewod	President
Clarence Swanton	Vice-President
Larry Shuh	Treasurer
Joseph Tindale	Secretary
Pat Shewen	Past-President



Members-at-Large

Jane Alexander	- <i>Membership</i>
Teresa Crease	- <i>Website</i>
Peter Krell	- <i>Scholarship</i>
Grant Maxie	- <i>Advertising</i>
Cathy Ralston	- <i>Newsletter Editor</i>
Gerrit Bos	- <i>Director</i>
Jan MacInnes	- <i>Director</i>

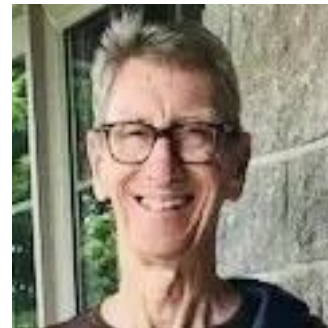
Special Recognition to Retiring Members:



Gerrit Bos
Website



Pat Shewen
*President 2023,
CURAC Life Long Learning liaison*



Joe Tindale
Secretary



Treasurer's Report

1. Financial Results for 2023
2. Financial Review Report
3. Nomination of the 2024 Reviewer
4. Budget for 2024
5. Member Contribution Rate
6. UPP Pension Inflation Update



2023 Operating Statement and 2024 Budget

(for the 12 months ending December 31, 2023)

	2023		2024
Receipts	Budget	Actuals	Budget
Member Contributions	8,000	5,913	7,100
Interest Income	600	519	500
Ad Revenues & Misc	3,300	3,777	3,750
Total Revenue	11,900	10,209	11,350
Expenditures			
Newsletters	6,300	5,790	5,700
Website	1,000	1,000	1,000
Board Meetings	50	50	50
CURAC Membership	300	300	300
CURAC Conference	925	1,366	1,000
Scholarship Contribution	1,000	500	500
Office and Bank Fees	375	289	355
AGM	650	636	815
Fall Forum	650	809	815
Spring Forum	650	636	815
Total Expenses	11,900	11,377	11,350
Surplus (Deficit)	-	- 1,168	-



Treasurer's Comments on the Financial Report December 31, 2023

- The UGRA is reporting a **net deficit of \$1,168** for the year ended December 31, 2023. Total Revenues were \$10,209 and Total Expenses \$11,377.
- **Revenues from contributing members are voluntary.** The contributions decreased in 2023 to \$5,913 (\$7,929 in 2022) compared to a \$8,000 budget.
- Interest revenues of \$519 for 2023 due to better returns on GIC's
- Ad revenues were \$3,777. This was \$477 above prior year from the newsletter and website banners. Demand for ads targeting our membership remains positive.

Member Contributions	5,913
Interest Income	519
Ad Revenues & Misc	3,777
Total Revenue	10,209



Treasurer's Comments (continued)

Newsletters	5,790
Website	1,000
Board Meetings	50
CURAC Membership	300
CURAC Conference	1,366
Scholarship Contribution	500
Office and Bank Fees	289
AGM	636
Fall Forum	809
Spring Forum	636
Total Expenses	11,377
Surplus (Deficit)	- 1,168

- **For Expenses**, printing costs for the 3 annual newsletters moderated slightly for the 2,500 copies per issue. The average printing was \$1,930 each vs budget of \$2,100. (Note; postage costs are paid by the University)
- UGRA contributed \$500 in 2023 to the Expendable portion of the Scholarship fund. This will top up the cash required to pay out the increased annual award of \$3,000. The need for this top up should be phased out due to the success of the scholarship campaign.
- Forum/AGM expenses were a total of \$2,081 due to a return to in person meeting and the continuation of tech support for Zoom hybrid format. Funds of \$1,366 were also allocated to in-person attendance at the annual CURAC national conference.



Treasurer's Comments (continued)

- Total Assets are **\$21,014** at year end; \$5,014 in cash and \$16,000 in GIC's. All funds are held at Meridian Credit Union
- **Overall, the Association is in a good financial position with total reserves of \$21,014. The reserve balance was drawn down in 2023 by \$1,168 to fund the operating deficit. Concerns on the variability of contributions may further consume reserves in future years**



Reviewer's Comments on the Financial Report December 31, 2023

- John Mah, a retired UofG finance professional, appointed at last year's AGM, reviewed the 2023 UGRA Financial results:

2023 Operating Statement for the 12 months ending December 31

"The UGRA statement was prepared by the Association Treasurer and provided along with summaries, reconciliations and supporting documentation"

"The statement and the detailed reconciliations, bank statements and supporting documents are in agreement and support the final results as presented. All documentation is well organized as prepared"

- Signed: *John Mah*



Presentation of the 2024 Budget

UGRA 2024 Budget	
	2024
Receipts	Budget
Member Contributions	7,100
Interest Income	500
Ad Revenues & Misc	3,750
Total Revenue	11,350
Expenditures	
Newsletters	5,700
Website	1,000
Board Meetings	50
CURAC Membership	300
CURAC Conference	1,000
Scholarship Contribution	500
Office and Bank Fees	355
AGM	815
Fall Forum	815
Spring Forum	815
Total Expenses	11,350
Surplus (Deficit)	-

Revenue:

- Member Contributions set at \$7,100 (5 year average)
- Interest Revenue \$500 on GIC's
- Ad revenue increased to \$3,750

Expenses:

- Newsletter printing costs of \$1,900 per issue (half of total expenses)
- Website hosting by UofG CCS \$1,000
- CURAC costs \$1,300 for participation in the national retiree's groups
- Allowance of \$500 for scholarship support
- Forum costs of \$815 for Arboretum and tech support per meeting

Net Financial Position: Optimistic expectation of a return to balance for the year



Approval of the 2023 UGRA Treasurer's Report and 2024 Budget

Motion: To approve the Treasurer's report for 2023 and the 2024 Budget as presented.

Moved: Larry Shuh, Treasurer
Seconded:





Motion to Appoint the Financial Reviewer for 2023

Motion: To appoint John Mah as reviewer of the
financial records for the 2023 fiscal year.

Moved: Larry Shuh

Seconded:





2024 Member Contributions

Groups reviewed	38
No Member fees	4
Voluntary Fee	8
Mandatory Fee	23
Multi Year Fee option	7
Lifetime Fee option	7

- The Treasurer conducted a study of 38 Canadian University Retiree groups
- UGRA currently suggests a voluntary \$25 contribution per year
- Members contributions funded 52% of costs in 2023
- 155 members send contributions
- \$25 has been unchanged since 2014
- The average membership fee of our Canadian peers is \$28
- We did not cover our costs in 2023 and needed to use reserves to balance budget



Proposed Increase to Membership fee

- At the May meeting of the UGRA board a motion was unanimously endorsed to present a \$5 fee increase to the membership for discussion and approval at the AGM.

Motion: To approve an increase to the voluntary membership contribution from \$25 to \$30

Moved: Larry Shuh

Seconded:





Pension Update

- **Pension increase for 2024 confirmed by UPP as 1.17% beginning with the September 2024 payment for the legacy UofG pensions**
- (Increase in 2022 was 2.78%, in 2023 it was 4.41%).
- UofG Pension Plan inflation adjustments are made when inflation is above 2.0%, calculated on the CPI increase for the 12-month period May 1st to April 30th and subject to plan funding status.
- For pension earned after July 1, 2021 for UPP plan service, separate adjustments will be made in the January 2024 payment. The UPP inflation formula is different than the UofG legacy plans.

Thanks also to:

- **Margaret McLeod**, Manager, Pensions & Benefits, Human Resources
- **Marie Puddister**, Geography (retired) - newsletter layout and publishing
- **Arboretum Centre staff & CCS tech support**— live/zoom forums and AGM
- **Jana Miller**, Alumni Affairs and Development
- Those who have put their names forward as **nominees for 2024-25**
- Our **members**, especially contributing members and Scholarship donors



4.3 UGRA Adventures (Vikki Tremblay)

Travel in 2023-24

Belugas, Bears and Tundra

- *visit to Churchill MB , August 21-26, 2023.*
(see Winter 2023 Newsletter for Peter Krell's report)

Costa Rica

- *Arenal volcano, jungle tour, Pacific Coast, February 2024*
with Collette Tours



Planned for Fall 2024

Morocco and Sahara Tour – updated itinerary

12 days starting November 21, 2024
glamping under the stars on the Sahara



4.3 UGRA Newsletter Report (Cathy Ralston)

Published Three Newsletters
Spring (2023), Fall (2023), Winter (2024)

UNIVERSITY OF GUELPH
RETIREES ASSOCIATION

UGRA





4.4 Membership/Communications (Jane Alexander, Teresa Crease)

Membership:

- 2,662 members (2,412 retirees, 250 survivors)
- 155 contributing members in 2023 (2022 – 198; 2024 to date – 68)

Website:

- sell **ad space** on the website to help with our revenue
- provide links to **Later Life Learning sessions** offered by CURAC as well as other Canadian university retiree groups
- **post summaries of talks** presented at our Spring and Fall Forums and our AGM
- present information about the **trips** that our activities director arranges

Check out our website at ugra.ca and let us know what you think!

4.5 UGRA Scholarship Drive (Peter Krell)



- The UGRA Scholarship endowment provides an annual scholarship to an in-course student who is the child, grandchild or great grandchild of a Retiree.
- Our successful 30th Anniversary campaign ensures that the \$3,000 scholarship will be awarded in perpetuity.
- 2023 Winner was Laura Gemin, a second year B.A. student in the Criminal Justice and Public Policy Program.

Please consider a donation (or repeat donation)

U of G Retirees Association Scholarship Endowment

FINANCIAL REPORT for the Year Ended April 30, 2023:

Opening Balance May1, 2022	\$ 84,664
New Contributions to Capital During the Year ¹	10,438
Investment Results for the Year ²	6,158
Disbursements ³	(3,000)
New Contributions for Spending During the Year ⁴	500
Closing Balance April 30, 2023	\$ 98,740

(1) Contributed funds added to the capital portion of the endowment. Contributions after April 30, 2023 will be reflected on next year's statement.

(2) The Endowment Fund's net annual investment income.

(3) The portion of the fund paid out for the fund's designated purpose.

(4) Funds contributed to support disbursements by UGRA.

Contributions made for spending after April 30, 2023 will be reflected on next year's statement.

uoguel.ph/2-23EndowmentReport



4.6 Proposed Changes to the UGRA Constitution (Clarence Swanton)

The previous update was 2013. The constitution was in need of updating and revision to reflect our current vision.

Contributing members: Janet MacInnes,
Grant Maxie,
Clarence Swanton

4.6 Highlighted Changes to the UGRA Constitution

ARTICLE II: PURPOSE:

ADD: (EDI statement)

We value inclusiveness, fairness, and collegiality.

Motion: To approve the amendment to Article II: Purpose

Moved: Clarence Swanton

Seconded:



4.6 Highlighted Changes to the Constitution (continued)

ARTICLE III: REGULAR MEMBERSHIP:

ADD:

**Surviving partners/spouses of deceased members
become regular members of the Association and have
voting rights**

Motion: To approve the amendment to Article II. Regular Membership

Moved: Clarence Swanton

Seconded:



4.6 Highlighted Changes to the Constitution (continued)

- ARTICLE V: Executive Committee

ADD:

New section entitled “Conflict of Interest”
Disclosure, Recusal and Transparency

Motion: To approve the amendment to Article V: Executive Committee

Moved: Clarence Swanton

Seconded:



4.6 Highlighted Changes to the Constitution (continued)

ARTICLE VI: Meetings and Decision Making:

ADD:

Board and member meetings may be in-person, virtual, or hybrid.

Motion: To approve the amendment to Article VI: Meetings and Decision Making

Moved: Clarence Swanton

Seconded:



4.6 Highlighted Changes to the Constitution (continued)

ARTICLE VII: Finances

ADD:

The business of the Association shall be carried on without pecuniary benefit to any elected Board member and any profits or other accretions to the Association shall be used to promote the Purpose of the Association, as stated above.

The financial statements of the Association shall be externally reviewed annually.

Motion: To approve the amendment to Article VII: Finances

Moved: Clarence Swanton

Seconded:





5. UGRA ELECTIONS FOR 2024/2025

Past President – Pat Shewen



- The UGRA has TWELVE directors who are elected for terms of two years
- A person may serve for THREE consecutive terms of 2 years each, after which they must take at minimum a one-year "sabbatical"



2023-2024 Board Members Who are Retiring

Gerrit Boss

Pat Shewen

Joe Tindale



Board Members Who Are Continuing

second year of their first 2-year term

Jane Alexander

Teresa Crease

second year of their second 2-year term

Alan Filewod

Grant Maxie

Larry Shuh

second year of their third 2-year term

Janet MacInnes

Cathy Ralston



Candidates Standing for their Second Term
Clarence Swanton

Candidates Standing for their Third Term
Peter Krell



Candidates Running for Their First two-year Term:

Rich Moccia
Irene Thompson
Al Sullivan



NOMINATIONS FROM THE FLOOR???

Motion: To close nominations.

Moved: Pat Shewen

Seconded:





Jane Alexander
Teresa Crease
Alan Filewod (Past -President)
Peter Krell
Jan MacInnes
Grant Maxie
Cathy Ralston
Larry Shuh (Treasurer)
Clarence Swanton (President)
Candidates [up to 3] elected today



Motion: To approve the above slate of Directors for 2024-2025.
(Officer in brackets)

Moved: Pat Shewen

Seconded:



OFFICERS FOR 2024-2025

President: **Clarence Swanton**

Vice-President: **TBD**

Secretary: **TBD**

Treasurer: **Larry Shuh**

Past-President: **Alan Filewod**



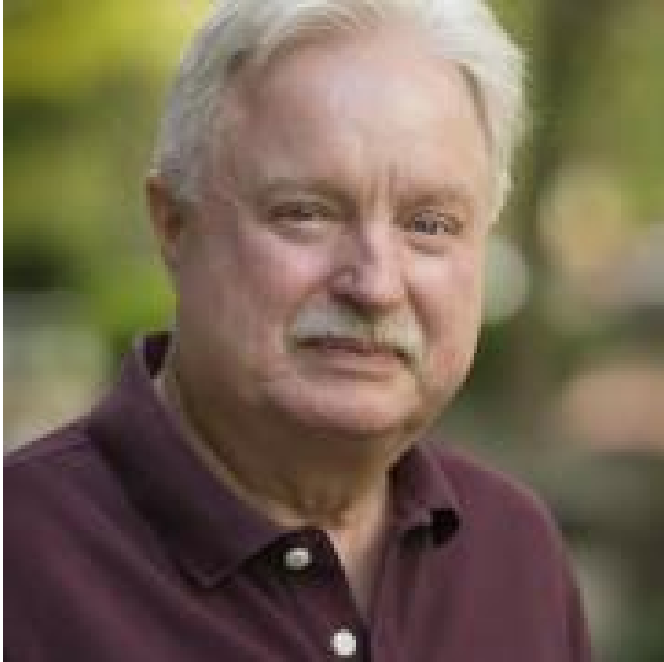
**Any other Business,
Questions and Comments**



Transfer of Presidency



Incoming President's Remarks



Clarence Swanton





Meeting Adjourned

Be well, be safe, be kind!