

UGRA Annual General Meeting

Thursday, June 18, 2026, 10 a.m. to noon
Arboretum Centre – Doors Open at 9:30
Simultaneously by Zoom (opened at 9:30 a.m.)

Land Acknowledgement given by Irene Thompson

10:00 a.m.: **Keynote Address**

Speaker Introduction by Owen Roberts

“Hey Take a Hike: the Bruce Trail and the Power of Volunteerism,” presented by Rich Moccia

1. Approval of Agenda

Moved by Grant Maxie

Seconded by Owen Roberts

CARRIED

2. Approval of the Minutes of the June 19, 2025 AGM

Moved by Vicki Hodgkinson

Seconded by Pat Shewan

CARRIED

3. Business Arising from the Minutes of the 2025 AGM

No business arising

Volunteerism

Heather Bailey, UGRA’s UW (United Way) rep introduced Grace Manarang from the UW main office. She spoke about UW with a spotlight on volunteerism. UGRA raised \$113,000 which was approximately 20% of the U of G campaign total this past year. Grace discussed volunteer opportunities with UW.

Wendy Banks from Alumni Affairs and Development (AA&D) described how volunteers at convocation connected with new graduates at convocation to establish a lifelong connection with the University. Volunteers could assist with duties at convocation. AA&D uses volunteer alumni to connect with first year students in on-campus housing.

4. Reports from the Executive Committee

4.1 President’s report

Clarence provided several highlights from the past year. UGRA is on a more stable financial path with more paying members. By moving to a digital format for the newsletter, there will be a large cost savings in the future with the reduction of printing costs. This will also allow more flexibility in formatting for content and advertising. He reviewed the speaker topics for the Forums with a theme of 'healthy aging'. Attendance at the Forums has increased and a highlight was the talk and discussions by President van Acker. Several Focus groups were lead by Irene Thompson to capture the needs of membership. Efforts were made to develop synergies with AA&D for the benefit of members. There was active engagement with United Way to maintain high awareness with members. In President van Ackers presentation, he discussed how retirees and UGRA might align with the upcoming campaign.

Clarence acknowledged and thanked Peter Krell for his service on the Board and as Past President.

4.2 Treasurer's report, report of the reviewer and nomination of the reviewer for 2026.

Larry Shuh noted that the financial statements were available on the website. Larry noted the following highlights: total revenue for 2025 was \$13,450, total expenses were \$9,745 providing a surplus of \$3,705. He reviewed the highly variable contributions from membership since 2022 with an improvement leading up to 2025. The message sent in September 2025 resulted in several member paying their dues. Ad revenue in the newsletter was \$4,425 which was a significant proportion of total revenue. He noted that UGRA pays for the printing costs for the newsletter but the University pays for postage which was estimated to be between \$5,000 and \$6,000 per year. Total reserves now stand at \$23,857.

Members were informed that John Mau reviewed the 2025 Financial Statement and found everything in good order.

Motion: To approve the 2025 Financial Statements.

Moved by Jane Alexander

Seconded by Kent Percival

CARRIED

Motion: To appoint John Mau as auditor for 2026

Moved by Grant Maxie

Seconded by Irene Thompson

CARRIED

Larry outlined the budget for 2026. He noted overall costs remain similar to 2025 with the reduction (small for 2026/27) in printing costs and the costs of sending a delegate to the CURAC meeting in Vancouver. The expense for the newsletter is still present for most of 2026. Overall, the budget has a deficit of \$2,500. He noted that only 10% of members contribute a membership fee. Larry reviewed the expenditures to date for 2026 and all were in line with projections.

Motion: To approve the budget as presented for 2026.

Moved by Clarence Swanton

Seconded by Pat Shewan

CARRIED

4.3 Activities/newsletter report

The newsletter will go to a digital format in January 2027. Cathy Ralston has agreed to remain as editor/coordinator.

4.4 Membership report and communications

Manny Sheehy reported the following:

Retirees in database: 2516

Survivors: 260

Members with email addresses on file: 1674

Teri Crease reported that the website can generate revenue by selling banner space. She noted that links to CURAC content appear on the UGRA website. In addition, videos of talks presented at UGRA Forums are posted to the website along with a summary of trips organized by Vikki Tremblay for UGRA members.

4.5 Scholarship Endowment Report

The scholarship is valued at \$3,000. The conditions of the scholarship were redefined to allow the winner to hold up to \$10K in other funding. The endowment currently stands at \$127,122. The scholarship is managed by the University.

4.6 CURAC

The UGRA delegate to the annual CURAC meeting was Rich Moccia. Among the various presentations, was discussion about how organizations were formatting their newsletters as many had, or planned to, move to a digital format. Rich noted the close relationship that the University of Waterloo had with Schlegel for free meeting rooms and other considerations.

4.7 United Way Report

Heather Bailey is UGRA's United Way representative. In 2025, UGRA raised just under \$113K representing 20% of the University's total. Grace Manarang from the United Way spoke about volunteer and giving opportunities. (Further details are noted in item 3.0, above.)

Wendy Banks from AA&D spoke about efforts to connect to new graduates at convocation and the role that retirees could play in volunteering to help in that effort.

5. Election of the Directors

The UGRA constitution calls for 12 Directors who can serve up to three 2-year terms.

Three new nominations for three director vacancies were presented:

- Beverly Hale

- Dan Maclachlan
- Betty-Anne McBey

There were no nominations from the floor.

Motion: To accept the slate of nominees as presented.

Moved by Rich Moccia

Seconded by Kent Percival

CARRIED

Clarence indicated that one of the Directors at large would be responsible for monitoring the constitution to ensure we are compliant in all aspects of UGRA activities.

Directors for 2026-2027

EXECUTIVE

President	Rich Moccia
Vice President	Irene Thompson
Secretary	Al Sullivan
Treasurer	Larry Shuh
Past President	Clarence Swanton

DIRECTORS AT LARGE

Grant Maxie

Teresa Crease

Manuela Sheehy

Owen Roberts

Bev Hale

Dan Maclachlan

Betty-Anne McBey

****Cathy Ralston Editor/Coordinator for newsletter**

6. Questions and Comments from Members

None

7. Transfer of Presidency

Clarence Swanton handed the ceremonial cowbell to incoming President Rich Moccia.

8. New President's Remarks

Rich commented on the transition to the digital newsletter and the opportunities that this presented for UGRA. He would continue efforts to strengthen the financial position of the organization and increase membership involvement.

Al Sullivan thanked Clarence for his leadership and presented him with a gift from UGRA to acknowledge his considerable efforts during his tenure.

9. Other Business

None

10. Adjournment

Adjournment at 12:35 p.m.