

**DRAFT MINUTES**  
**NWOPA ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING**  
**Tuesday, April 3, 2018, 12:15 p.m.**  
**Scandia Room, Valhalla Inn, Thunder Bay, Ontario**

**Meeting Chair: Jessica Bjorkman**

**1. Official Opening of the Meeting (J. Bjorkman)**

Jessica Bjorkman officially opened the Annual General Meeting of NWOPA at 12:19 p.m. C. Komar took a quick count and approximately 20-25 members were present.

**2. Approval of the April 3, 2018 Agenda (J. Bjorkman)**

Pam Coles made a *motion* to approve the agenda of the April 3, 2018 NWOPA AGM. Bob Chataway *seconded* the motion. The *motion* was unanimously carried.

**3. Approval of the April 4, 2017 AGM Minutes (J. Bjorkman)**

Pam Coles made a *motion* to approve the minutes of the April 4, 2017 NWOPA AGM. Ron Pizzolato *seconded* the motion. The *motion* was unanimously carried.

**4. Vice-President's Report (J. Bjorkman)**

Jessica Bjorkman, Vice-President, NWOPA welcomed the membership to the showcase and discussed the following on the *attached report*.

**5. Treasurer's Report for 2017 (C. Komar for P. Nielsen)**

The Northwestern Ontario Prospectors Association was incorporated as an Ontario Non-Profit Corporation in December 1989. We are an all-volunteer organization with 10 board members at the end of 2017. We employ a simple accounting system with all payments made by cheque with the exception of a few fixed costs like TBaytel (Internet and Web Account) which are paid online. We do not process credit card or debit card payments (credit card payments are handled by OPA) but we are now able to accept E-Transfers. Our fiscal year runs from January 1 to December 31. Our revenue comes from membership fees, donations to functions such as the Christmas party and Mining Day. A 40% profit sharing agreement with OPA from the symposium was terminated at the end of 2016. Our GICs mature in April of each year and will fund NWOPA into the future if shortfalls occur. We withdrew \$5887.60 from one GIC upon maturity in 2017 and put it into the current account to maintain a reasonable balance and fund expenses for the following year. The Mining Day balance is included in the NWOPA account.

The 2017 fiscal year is summarized below:

BANK BALANCE Jan. 1, 2017	\$ 7,527.81
Total Credits	\$21,356.20
Total Debits	\$16,512.37
Account Balance Dec. 31, 2017	<b>\$12,371.64</b>
1 year cashable GIC - 01	\$25,887.60
1 year cashable GIC - 02 (Mature April 2018)	\$20,000.00
Total NWOPA Holdings Dec. 31, 2017	\$58,259.24
Mining Day Balance	\$ 4,541.58
NWOPA Balance	\$ 7,830.06

Cyndee Komar asked members if they had any questions; no questions were raised. Pam Coles made a *motion* that the Treasurer's Report be accepted. Casimir Zimowski *seconded* the motion. The *motion* was unanimously carried.

## 6. By-Law Amendment (J. Bjorkman)

An amendment is being recommended to the membership in the event that if a full board of 10 directors for the 2018-2019 term or in future is not secured, the updated by-laws will allow the new board to continue to conduct NWOPA business on behalf of the membership as usual.

### ARTICLE VI – OFFICERS AND DIRECTORS

#### **Section 8**

In circumstances which are deemed by the President or ~~any five (5)~~ **50% of the** Members of the Board to be urgent, the President or such ~~five (5)~~ **50% of the** Members may themselves, or through the Secretary or the President, communicate to the Members of the Board the terms of a resolution for consideration by the Directors and if sixty percent (60%) of the Directors signify by letter, e-mail or telefacsimile approval of such resolution, the resolution shall be fully passed by the Board of Directors without amendment and shall have the same force and effect as if it had been passed at a meeting of the Board duly called and held for that purpose.

#### **Section 9**

On any resolution to come before the Board of Directors, the Chairperson shall be entitled to vote and in addition, in the case of a tie vote, shall have an additional or casting vote.

## Section 10

Any meeting of the Board of Directors whose Agenda includes the administration of Association business will not be deemed effective unless a quorum [simple majority (5) (50%) of Officers and Directors] is actually in attendance at such a meeting.

Mike Grant made a *motion* that the by-law amendments for the meeting of members of the board be accepted. Mary Louise Hill *seconded* the motion. The *motion* was unanimously carried.

## 7. Elections of 5 Directors for the 2018-2020 term (J. Bjorkman):

The five current directors for the 2017-2019 term are Jessica Bjorkman, Paul Nielsen, Cyndee Komar, Mike Grant and Pam Coles. Five directors will be elected for a two-year term (2018-2020). C. Komar explained that the staggered elections allow the board to maintain a level of expertise at all times.

One nominated candidate listed on the NWOPA ballot: Shannon Zurevinski

J. Bjorkman asked for further nominations from the floor to add to the above ballot. Pam Coles nominated Neal Bennett, Daniel Lafontaine & Breanne Beh; Cyndee Komar seconded the nomination. Bob Chataway nominated Dorothy Campbell; Mike Grant seconded the nomination. Bob Chataway also nominated Rudy Wahl; Jessica Bjorkman seconded the nomination. Jessica Bjorkman nominated Don Heerema; Cyndee Komar seconded the nomination. The slate of candidates was unanimously carried and a brief biography was provided by each. Jessica Bjorkman asked for further nominations from the floor three more times. As there were no other nominations, ballots were distributed and members added the newly nominated candidates to the ballot. A vote was held. Mike Grant, Bob Chataway and Dave Hunt collected twenty-one completed ballots, counted and verified the ballots with the results noted below.

### The 2018-2019 NWOPA Board of Directors is:

Jessica Bjorkman	Rudy Wahl
Paul Nielsen	Breanne Beh
Cyndee Komar	Shannon Zurevinski
Mike Grant	Dorothy Campbell
Pam Coles	Dan Lafontaine

The officers (President, Vice-President, Treasurer and Secretary) will be chosen by a vote at the first official board meeting in April.

## 8. Adjournment (J. Bjorkman)

Pam Coles made a *motion* to adjourn the meeting at 1:05 p.m.

## **Vice-President's Report for 2017 (April 3, 2018 AGM)**

Welcome to the Annual General Meeting for the Northwestern Ontario Prospectors Association.

The industry has started to pick up in the past year with a slight rise in grassroots exploration projects. Let's hope this trend continues.

Your NWOPA Board of Directors has been busy on your behalf on many fronts. During the past year we have worked hard to advocate for you as advisors to regulations of the New Mining Act through stakeholder meetings between government and industry. Unfortunately, sometimes this is a frustrating, losing battle but please know we have given a lot of energy to be a voice on your behalf. We are about to enter a new era of online staking and a brand new MLAS that launches April 10<sup>th</sup> this year.

Our board meets monthly with the exception of July, August & December to carry out the business of the association.

NWOPA committees that directors served on in 2017 were:

1. Benevolent
2. Communications (which includes The Claim Post Newsletter) and Media
3. Education, Events and Advocacy
4. Elections/Nominations/AGM
5. General Meetings
6. Land Use/Species at Risk
7. Minister Mining Act Advisory
8. Ontario Prospector Association
9. Symposium
10. Website

NWOPA participated at the annual Northwest Trappers Convention and supported the Northwest Ontario Science Fair last year.

With the assistance of the Awards Committee, we host our annual Awards Banquet at the NW symposium which recognizes the achievements of the prospecting and mineral exploration community and sustains the legacy of NWOPA, its members and their contributions to the development of Northwestern Ontario. Please join us tonight for this event.

NWOPA, local mining-related associations and mining companies hosted the 5th Annual Thunder Bay Mining Day at Marina Park. Thank you to all the volunteers and the exhibitors for another successful event. Planning is well underway for the 6th Annual Festival on Saturday, June 23. We hope that you can join us at this great family event.

At the end of the year we hosted our annual Christmas Party which continues to be a success with the strong support of our faithful sponsors.

For keeping up to date with all of our activities and upcoming events please visit our website.

In closing I would like to thank the NWOPA Executive & Directors for all of their hard work and dedication to NWOPA in 2017. Special thanks to Secretary Cyndee Komar, and Treasurer Paul Nielsen who help to keep NWOPA business on track and in order.

Jessica Bjorkman  
Vice-President, NWOPA