

DRAFT MINUTES
NWOPA ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING
Tuesday, April 2, 2019, 12:20 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 (AGM) of NWOPA at 12:24 p.m. C. Komar took a quick count and approximately 25 members were present.

2. Approval of the April 2, 2019 Agenda (J. Bjorkman)

Samuel Lewis made a *motion* to approve the agenda of the April 2, 2019 NWOPA AGM. Pam Coles *seconded* the motion. The *motion* was unanimously carried.

3. Approval of the April 3, 2018 AGM Minutes (J. Bjorkman)

Dorothy Campbell made a *motion* to approve the minutes of the April 3, 2018 NWOPA AGM. Breanne Beh *seconded* the motion. The *motion* was unanimously carried.

4. President's Report (J. Bjorkman)

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

5. Treasurer's Report for 2018 (P. Nielsen)

The Northwestern Ontario Prospectors Association (NWOPA) was incorporated as an Ontario Non-Profit Corporation in December 1989. We are an all-volunteer organization with 10 board members. 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 now accept E-transfer payments. Our fiscal year runs from January 1 to December 31. Our revenue comes from membership fees (the bulk of fees are collected at the showcase) and donations to functions such as the Christmas Party and Mining Day. Our two GICs will fund NWOPA into the future; one GIC is a one-year term and the other is a two-year term. Our current account balance is sufficient for now that we do not intend to withdraw funds from the maturing GIC and it will be rolled over into the next year. Mining Day payments and revenue are tracked separately but included in the NWOPA account.

The 2018 fiscal year is summarized below:

BANK BALANCE Jan. 1, 2018	\$12,371.64
Total Credits	\$20,229.40
Total Debits	\$19,766.53
Account Balance Dec. 31, 2018	\$12,834.51
GIC #1 two-year term	\$25,991.15
GIC #2 one-year term	\$20,080.00
Total NWOPA Holdings Dec. 31, 2018	\$58,905.66
Mining Day Balance	\$ 6,584.04
NWOPA Balance	\$ 6,250.47

Paul Nielsen asked members if they had any questions; no questions were raised. Karl Bjorkman made a *motion* that the Treasurer's Report be accepted. Dorothy Campbell *seconded* the motion. The *motion* was unanimously carried.

6. By-Law Amendment (J. Bjorkman)

Amendments highlighted in green include a grammatical correction, rewording, and addendum.

ARTICLE VI – OFFICERS AND DIRECTORS

Section 1

The Association shall be administered by a Board of Directors (the Board) which shall **be comprised consist** of all Directors including all Officers. A Member may be assigned a specific committee to chair. These assignments shall be made by the Board shortly after elections have been held.

Section 5

The office of a Director shall be automatically vacated:

- iii. If the Director is found to be **a lunatic or becomes** of unsound mind or incoherent from drugs or alcohol;

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 of fifty percent (50%) of Officers and Directors] is actually in attendance at such a meeting. In addition to “in person”, attendance can also include “electronic communication”, for example, telephone, Internet applications, etc.

Pam Coles made a *motion* that the three by-law amendments be accepted as read. Paul Nielsen *seconded* the motion. The *motion* was unanimously carried.

7. Elections of 5 Directors for the 2019-2021 term (D. Campbell):

The five current directors for the 2018-2020 term are Rudy Wahl, Breanne Beh, Shannon Zurevinski, Dorothy Campbell and Daniel Lafontaine. Five directors will be elected for a two-year term (2019-2021). C. Komar explained that the staggered elections allow the board to maintain a level of expertise at all times.

Four nominated candidates listed on the NWOPA ballot are: Pam Coles, Mike Grant, Cyndee Komar and Paul Nielsen.

Dorothy Campbell asked for further nominations from the floor to add to the above ballot. Jessica Bjorkman nominated Ruth Huber; Paul Nielsen seconded the nomination. Dorothy asked for further nominations from the floor two more times. As there were no further nominations from the floor, the slate of five candidates was acclaimed for the 2019-2021 term. Samuel Lewis asked what NWOPA participates in and if the board has representation from the Northwest Region. Further detail on NWOPA’s committees was provided and he was advised that NWOPA does have a small percentage of board members from the Northwest and has had over the years. C. Komar explained that it is important to have representation from the Northwest but the board must maintain a certain percentage of local board members to ensure adequate support for conducting NWOPA business and activities.

The 2019-2020 NWOPA Board of Directors is:

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

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)

Jessica Bjorkman made a *motion* to adjourn the meeting at 12:46 p.m.

President's Report for 2018 (April 2, 2019 AGM)

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

2018 has been a tough year for prospectors and grassroots explorers. Many of our members have been frustrated navigating the new MLAS system, especially those who are computer illiterate. We are trying to work with the new government to have a voice for you our members.

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 2018 were:

1. Benevolent
2. Communications (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 (MMAAC)
8. NWOPA Awards Ceremony (OPES)
9. Ontario Prospector Association (OPA)
10. Website/Facebook

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 Ontario Prospectors Exploration Showcase 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. Hopefully you can join us at the ceremony tonight.

NWOPA along with local mining-related associations and mining companies, hosted the 6th 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 7th Annual Festival on Saturday, June 22, 2019. 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 2018. Special thanks to Secretary Cyndee Komar, and Treasurer Paul Nielsen who help to keep NWOPA business on track and in order.

Jessica Bjorkman
President, NWOPA