

Environment North

AGM 2018

Location: Waverley Library on Red River Road

Business Meeting: 6:15 pm April 24th, 2018

There was a motion to accept the agenda.

Moved by: Julee Boan 2nd by: Lucy Laframboise carried

There was a motion to accept the 2017 AGM Minutes.

Moved by: Bruce Hyer 2nd by: Lucy Laframboise carried

There was a motion to accept the 2017 Financial Report.

Moved by: Lea Matyuska 2nd by: Dodie LeGassick carried

Annual Report and Year in Review

1/ The 2017 AGM speaker was Angel Bischoff from Ontario Clean Air Association. She spoke about the current electric power generation mix of hydro, nuclear, solar and wind.

2/ We held a climate walk and a Climate Conference and Forum at Lakehead University.

3/ "Weather Whys" articles are emailed monthly to our members.

4/ Letters were sent to both federal and provincial governments regarding Energy Boards, pipelines, forestry and mining.

5/ We have written articles and been involved in research in both forestry and mining.

6/ Nuclear waste presentations have been given in several communities.

7/ We have supported the Environmental Film Festival.

8/ There was both a speaker and an article on permafrost.

9/ We continue to show our community resilience through attendance and comments to municipal boards, appeals and tribunals.

There was a motion to accept the Annual Report and Year in Review.

Moved by: Lucy Laframboise 2nd by: Jim Hyder carried

Elections:

Present Term continues for: Susan Grinstead, Karen Peterson, Graham Saunders

There was a call for nominations to be open.

Moved by: Lucy Laframboise 2nd by: Peter Lang carried

Running for re-election (2 year term): Julee Boan, Scott Harris, Lucy Laframboise, Lea Matyuska

Also running (2 year term): Dodie LeGassick

Elected for 1 year term: Bruce Hyer (replacing Kerstin Annis)

There was a call for nominations to be closed.

Moved by: Lucy Laframboise 2nd by: Susan Grinstead carried

There was a call to accept the 2018-2019 Environment North Board of Directors.

Moved by: Peter Lang 2nd by: Jim Hyder carried

The new EN board members for 2018-2019 are: Julee Boan, Susan Grinstead, Scott Harris, Bruce Hyer, Dodie LeGassick, Lucy Laframboise, Lea Matyuska, Karen Peterson and Graham Saunders.

AGM Speaker – Ugo LaPointe

Ugo LaPointe has a HBS in geology with a great interest in ferrochrome processing. He spoke about the role of Mining Watch Canada. It is a watchdog organization for policy makers, corporate accountability, indigenous rights and advisory boards. They also work on inter-provincial committees and make court appearances.

The International and Canadian Research Agencies have health concerns about chromium 6. It is a known carcinogenic, highly toxic and easily absorbed into cells that are concentrated in the liver and kidneys. There is insufficient monitoring or documentation to determine health impacts of mining, transporting, processing the ore. There are concerns about the amount of water to be used in processing and the slag waste and smelter dust that will be made to be stored forever.

There are currently no ferrochrome plants in North America. Tornio, Finland has a processing facility that has been in operation for several years. Predominant winds show that pollution (chromium, nickel, vanadium and cadmium) is carried from the land to the water in the south. Berries have 4 – 33 times more heavy metals in them and the closest area, 1 - 3 km from the plant, is of the greatest concern. Anyone wanting more information can contact Mr. LaPointe at (514) 708 – 0134 or ugo@miningwatch.ca