



**United Way**  
Cape Breton

# AGM MINUTES 2022





Present: Chris Bellemore, Tahirih Paul, Barry Waldman (EPIC), Nick MacNeil, Sabrina Vatcher (YMCA), Joe Wall, Karen Blair (Adult Learning), Bruce Woolridge (Leadership Donor-Nustar), Rosalind Wright (Society for Deaf and Hard of Hearing), Bryan Pratt (RBC), Joleen Ross (RBC), Hugh Gillis, Lynne McCarron (Director), Mary Keating (Secretary), Erin Gallagher, Bailey Karrel.

Regrets: Mary Jane Morrison

#### 1. WELCOME AND INTRODUCTIONS

United Way Board of Directors President, Nicholas MacNeil and Executive Director, Lynne McCarron welcomed attendees.

#### 2. APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA

Motion to approve agenda

Joe moved, Shaylynn seconded approval of agenda.

#### 3. REVIEW OF PREVIOUS MINUTES

Approval of minutes: Nick moves and Joe seconds approval of minutes.

#### 4. FINANCE REPORT

Financial Report: Nick presented the financial statement. The Auditor has issued a qualified opinion. This exists because of the inability to audit donations.

Statement of operations: Campaign revenue – down slightly in 2022 because of decline in workplace declines over the years. Remote work has been one of the factors related to this because of the lack of face-to-face contact.

Other fundraising: Historically, that would be a gala, but this year included smaller events.

Grant revenue up, related to transportation programs and summer students.

Covid-19 program revenue: Primarily done in 2021 and specific to programs addressing needs to organizations dealing with Covid-10 impacts. Considered a one-time thing.

Covid-19 subsidies: federal wage and rent subsidies. Has ended.



# AGM MINUTES CONTINUED...

## 4. FINANCE REPORT CONTINUED

Fundraising expenses in line with previous years as are the community investment funding. Covid-19 expense down significantly.

Community resource services: up significantly. Represents funds going back into the community through United Way human resource support to programs.

Deficit reflects the fact that the funds that were held back due to Covid uncertainty now have gone out to the community.

Assets: Because the gala took place after fiscal year end, the funds show up on our income statement next year.

Question on the cost of audit: Roach Perry Anderson has done this for the last number of years and their costs have been consistent. They include a charitable discount on that. We have not had an indication that it will increase.

Motion to approve: Mary moves and Joe seconds. Motion carried.

Nick nominates Roach Perry Anderson: Joe moves and Mary seconds. Motion carried.

## 5. BOARD CHAIR REPORT

Described the turbulence in the last number of years, and Cape Breton's vulnerability because of high poverty levels. We've played the role of finding connections and finding new ways of doing things. As an organization, we need to find ways to build capacity to be able to play that role in times of difficulty.

Work moving forward is going to be around how we build capacity and make government agencies understand that challenges in Cape Breton are unique when dealing with weather disasters and pandemics. People on the ground are the ones that make things work while the government funding is in the works.

Chris also thanked everyone for their support in our activities and for being a partner.

## 6. NOMINATIONS

Nominations: Mary Jane Morrison, long standing supporter of UW through Gala committee.

We have a vacancy in the vice-president role and other roles are coming up for renewal.

Joe moves and Shaylynn seconds



## AGM MINUTES CONTINUED...

### .7. EXECUTIVE DIRECTORS REPORT

Executive Director report: Focused on highlights.

Gala is being planned for next year.

Summer students perform a number of important functions for us. It is a good experience for them and we mentor them. We get at least six. They raised an additional 6000 dollars for us as well.

Transportation works on municipal taxes, means sectors like South Bar and Westmount with no public transportation. Working with the municipality on finding a solution.

Food security programs and food subsidies related to Fiona. Have network because of work we did on Covid. Working with multiple agencies.

Affordable housing is an issue. We continue to support shelters but also work with national workshops with agencies focused on housing.

Found lack of digital literacy when providing Chrome books to those with no access. Involved with Geo NS who work with affordable access and digital literacy. The issue of putting applications for aid online during Fiona was brought to the attention of the province; those needing the aid did not have the technology to download, print off, complete and scan.

Work closely with National and with Atlantic United Ways. We meet bi-weekly.

Continue to work on a strategic plan. Bailey has volunteered to help with that.

Constantly trying to leverage donor dollars and corporate money to get government funding. Applying for a large government grant related to transportation.

Lynne also wanted to thank her staff and her directors.

Board recognition awards for those stepping down: Sean Burke and Laura MacPherson. They have provided important guidance and contributions to the organization.

Important to have a donor perspective, and so asked community partners to reach out whenever they have questions or ideas. Also encouraging more volunteers, either for events or activities.

Hearing no questions, the Chair ended the meeting.