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The Guelph Humane Society Incorporated

131st Annual General Meeting

Wednesday, June 11th, 2025 - 6:30 pm

Guelph Humane Society

Guelph Humane Society - Community Room

MINUTES

Call to Order and Welcome - Heather Mair, Chair

Heather called the meeting to order at 6:33pm.

Heather welcomed everyone to the 130th annual general meeting of the Guelph Humane Society and thanked everyone for coming tonight.

Heather noted a few housekeeping items:

Reminder to all members that if they wish to speak at the meeting, they must raise their hand and be acknowledged by the Chair. Before speaking, they must introduce themselves and state their name for the transcript.

Any resolutions this evening shall pass by a show of hands, but a poll can be requested by any member at any time before or after the vote.

For the election of directors, we will be using a ballot method. The votes, including any proxy votes, will be tabulated and the results announced to the membership. Heather explains proxy votes- proxy voting is when a voting member is unable to attend, and they appoint someone else to cast their vote on their behalf.

Heather introduced the current sitting Board of Directors: Samantha Lawson, Vice Chair, David DiMatteo, Treasurer, Jim Pietrangelo, Tricia Holmes, Adelaide Earl, Stefanie Ferraro, Mike

Foggia, Emma Harris, Troy Ford and Mike Irwin. Members not present: Dakota Pitz, Secretary, Lena Levison, and Carrie Connelly.

Heather also introduced the staff in attendance: Lisa Veit, Executive Director, Jane Dawkins, Director of Communications and Community Engagement, Kim Robinson, Director of Development, Katerine Leonard, Senior Manager- Community Services, Sarah Procnier- Senior Manager, Finance and Business Services, Samantha Westfall- Senior Manager, Animal Care and Nicole de Raucourt- Executive Assistant.

Heather also introduced and thanked Murray Short from RLB Chartered Professional Accountants (auditor) as a guest at the AGM.

Territory Acknowledgement -Heather Mair, Chair

This place we call Guelph has served as the traditional lands and a place of refuge for many peoples over time, but more specifically, the Attiwanderonk and the Haudenosaunee. This land is held as the treaty lands and territory with the Mississaugas of the Credit First Nation. Guelph lies directly adjacent to the Haldimand Tract and is part of a long-established traditional hunting ground for the Six Nations of the Grand River. Many First Nations, Inuit, and Metis people who have come from across this land call Guelph home today.

Approval of the Agenda- Heather Mair, Chair

Motion: That the Agenda as published for this 131st Annual General Meeting be accepted and approved.

Moved by: Jim Pietrangelo

Seconded by: Tricia Holmes



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Carried.

Approval of the 130th Annual General Meeting Minutes- Heather Mair, Chair

Motion: To approve the 130th Annual General Meeting Minutes

Moved by: Troy Ford

Seconded by: Tricia Holmes

Carried.

Election of Directors- Heather Mair, Chair

Heather reminded the members of the status of the Board since the last AGM. There have been no changes to the Board of Directors since the last AGM. There were 14 members present at the conclusion of the last AGM: Samantha Lawson, David DiMatteo, Dakota Pitz, Lena Levison, Jim Pietrangelo, Tricia Holmes, Carrie Connelly, Adelaide Earl, Stefanie Ferraro, Mike Foggia, Emma Harris, Troy Ford, Mike Irwin and Heather Mair.

1 director is at the end of their term (Troy Ford), 1 director is not seeking reappointment (Mike Irwin).

The Board slate provided in the AGM package includes two nominations for election: Heather Weese and Alex Delisle.

Heather reminded the members that the election of directors will be conducted by ballot and that they should indicate a yes or no vote for each candidate elected. Return the ballot to the scrutineer; the results will be communicated shortly.

All directors were elected by the membership.

Auditor's Financial Report FY 2024- David DiMatteo, Treasurer

David introduced Murray Short of RLB Chartered Professional Accountants to deliver the financial statements and the independent auditor's report.

Murray presented the December 31, 2024 financial statements. Murray noted that the Qualified Opinion of the 2024 year-end financial statements provided a clean audit. Murray provided an overview of funds, revenue and expenditures. Murray noted that a large donation was received and used to pay off the building's mortgage. It was also noted that revenues and expenditures were up by 10%.

Discussion: None

Motion: To accept the Auditors' Financial report for 2024.

Moved by: Samantha Lawson

Seconded by: Adelaide Earl

Carried.

Appointment of Auditor for the year 2025-David DiMatteo, Treasurer

Motion: To appoint RLB Chartered Accountants LLP as the Auditor for the fiscal year ending December 31, 2025.

Moved by: Adalaide Earl

Seconded by: Troy Ford



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Carried.

Executive Director's Report- Lisa Veit, Executive Director

Heather introduced Lisa Veit to provide the Executive Director's report.

Lisa welcomed everyone to the AGM and highlighted another year of significant progress for the organization. She shared several accomplishments from throughout the year, including the development and launch of a new Humane program for youth in Grades 7-10.

In 2024, GHS provided care for more than 3,300 animals, reflecting an increase in puppies entering the shelter as well as a rise in unclaimed stray dogs compared to 2023. The organization also saw growth in its social media following, which led to greater community engagement.

Volunteers continued to play an incredible role in GHS's success, especially the wildlife drivers, who completed 600 trips, contributed over 1,800 hours of driving, and travelled approximately 120,000 kilometres this year.

Motion: To accept the Executive Director's report to the members.

Moved by: Jim Pietrangelo

Seconded by: Tricia Holmes

Discussion: None

Carried.



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Chair's Report- Heather Mair, Chair

The Chair reported that the past year had been a remarkable period for the Guelph Humane Society, marked by meaningful engagement, thoughtful change, and progress toward the organization's strategic priorities. On behalf of the Board of Directors, the Chair expressed sincere appreciation to staff, volunteers, and supporters for their ongoing dedication to animal welfare in the community. The Chair highlighted the Board's focus on strengthening governance practices, engaging in forward-looking discussions, and making key strategic decisions to ensure a sustainable and resilient future for GHS. Looking ahead, the Chair expressed strong optimism, noting that the solid foundation built, along with continued community support, will enable GHS to grow thoughtfully and continue meeting the needs of animals and those who care for them.

The Chair also thanked Troy Ford and Mike Irwin for their contributions to GHS and the Board of Directors.

Motion: To accept the Chair's report.

Moved by: Tricia Holmes

Seconded by: Emma Harris

Discussion: None

Carried.

Concluding Remarks-Heather Mair, Chair

Heather thanked all members for attending the AGM, thanked Murray from RLB for presenting the financial statements and welcomed the newly elected members, Alex Delisle and Heather Weese.



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Adjournment of the 131st Annual General Meeting- Heather Mair, Chair

Motion: To adjourn the 131st Guelph Human Society Annual General Meeting at 6:59pm.

Moved by: Alex Delisle

Seconded by: Samantha Lawson

Carried.