
**2021-22 ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING
@ HALIFAX CONVENTION CENTRE**

**JUNE 30, 2022
9:00 – 10:30 A.M.**

MINUTES

IN ATTENDANCE:

| | |
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| Rob Carruthers, Chair | Partner, Deloitte |
| Cory Bell, Vice Chair | President, Lindsay Construction |
| Sarah Buckle | Executive Director and Chief Climate Investment Officer, EfficiencyOne |
| Carrie Cussons | President & CEO, Events East Group |
| Jacques Dube | CAO, Halifax Regional Municipality |
| Scott Farmer | Deputy Minister, NS Department of Economic Development |
| Monica Foster | Vice President, College Services and CFO, NS Community College |
| Winston Morton | Chief Technology Officer, SimpTek Technologies |
| Waye Mason | Councillor, Halifax Regional Municipality |
| Paul Russell | Councillor, Halifax Regional Municipality |
| Mike Savage | Mayor, Halifax Regional Municipality |
| Vinita Savani | Regional President, Atlantic Canada, RBC |

Staff:

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| Wendy Luther | President & CEO |
| Tanya Walters | Corporate Liaison |

Regrets:

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| Donna Alteen | CEO, Time + Space Media Ltd. |
| Patrick Fitzgerald | Partner, Cox & Palmer |
| Chuck Maillet | Vice President, Nova Scotia, ACOA |
| David Noel | Senior Vice President, Atlantic Region, Scotiabank |
| Anita Swamy | Vice President, Operations, Medavie Blue Cross |
| Captain Sean Williams | Base Commander, Maritime Forces Atlantic |

WELCOME, CALL TO ORDER & ORDER OF BUSINESS:

W. Luther called the meeting to order at **9:13 a.m.**

- W. Luther welcomed guests and opened the 2021-22 Annual General Meeting of the Halifax Partnership as we reflect on the past year and look forward to the work we will do together in the months ahead. Many of our guests were acknowledged including VIPs, Board of Directors, Investors, partners, and Partnership staff. W. Luther welcomed Mayor Mike Savage to the stage to offer opening remarks.

Opening Remarks

- Mayor Mike Savage acknowledged that we are on the unceded territory of the Mi'kmaq people. He acknowledged the work of People. Planet. Prosperity. Halifax's Inclusive Economic Strategy 2022-27. The city is continuing to grow, and we need more people to be a part of that success, including supporting our hospitality industry which was

hit hard during COVID. As we grow, inclusivity will be a focus so no one is left behind. The Mayor thanked and acknowledged of our Investors – they are part of a dynamic forward-thinking organization.

Chair's Remarks

- W. Luther thanked Mayor Savage and welcomed Rob Carruthers to the stage. Prior to proceeding with the Order of Business, R. Carruthers provided reflections from his time on the Board of Directors.
- The Economic Growth Plan – People. Planet. Prosperity. will guide us for the next five years. The Partnership plays both a connector and a catalyst role and enhances connections between rural, urban and suburban areas. Growth is a priority in all three areas.
- The Partnership also has a unique connection with our military forces. Our city needs to make them feel welcomed and part of our growth plan.
- R. Carruthers spoke to the Emerging Leaders & Innovators Advisory Board which provides young leaders an opportunity to act as an Advisory Board for the Halifax Partnership. The Board will also provide this group with mentorship opportunities so we can develop our next generation of leaders.
- R. Carruthers extended a thank you to Wendy, staff, HRM and our Board Members for their work and contributions to growing the city.

The meeting was called to order at 9:26 a.m.

- The Chair noted e-mail notices were sent to Halifax Partnership's Investors and community stakeholders.
- Information packages were provided electronically and on our website. The package included the following:
 1. Agenda
 2. 2021 Annual General Meeting Minutes
 3. Draft Audited Financial Statements for the year ended March 31, 2022
 4. 2022-23 Slate of Directors for approval

1. APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA AND THE 2021 ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING MINUTES

V. Savani moved, P. Russell seconded approval of the June 30, 2022, Annual General Meeting agenda and the September 22, 2021 meeting minutes. **MOTION CARRIED.**

2. AUDIT COMMITTEE REPORT

Monica Foster, Chair, Audit and Risk Committee provided the Committee report, including:

- As stated in the financials, Halifax Partnership received a clean audit report in that there were no significant negative findings by the Auditors, and in the opinion of our Auditors our financial statements present fairly the financial position of the Association.
- The Association is reporting a bottom-line surplus of revenue over expenditures for the year of \$338,826 resulting in a very strong balance sheet, with cumulative equity (reserve) balances available to help mitigate risk related to unforeseen events or changes in the economic environment (as required by the Association's Reserve policy).
- M. Foster extended a special thanks to her fellow Committee members for their ongoing commitment, specifically: Winston Morton, Carrie Cussons, Vinita Savani and Louie Velocci with KPMG, an Investor in Halifax Partnership. Thanks to each of you for your ongoing contributions and guidance on the Audit and Risk Committee.
- A thank you was extended to all of Halifax Partnership's Investors, HRM, the Province of Nova Scotia and ACOA for their commitment to this organization and for having a hand in growing a prosperous Halifax during the pandemic.

S. Buckle moved, C. Bell seconded approval of the Halifax Partnership's Financial Statements for the year ended March 31, 2021. **MOTION CARRIED.**

- R. Carruthers proceeded with the appointment of the Auditors for Halifax Partnership and asked for a motion to approve the re-appointment of EY Chartered Accountants as the Partnership's auditor until the close of the next annual meeting.
- EY is a founding Investor in Halifax Partnership.
- In attendance today from EY: Pamela Achenbach, Partner and Tim Mitchell, Senior Manager.

C. Cussons moved, W. Mason seconded the motion to re-appoint Ernst & Young Chartered Accountants as the Partnership's Auditors until the close of the next annual meeting. **MOTION CARRIED.**

3. CORPORATE GOVERNANCE COMMITTEE REPORT

- S. Buckle, on behalf of Committee Chair, Donna Alteen who could not attend today, presented the Corporate Governance Committee Report.

Emerging Leaders & Innovators Advisory Board:

- As the first order of business, Halifax Partnership announced its first-ever Emerging Leaders and Innovators Advisory Board.
- On April 20, the Partnership issued a Call for Nominations for the Advisory Board to Investors via email, with a closing date of May 4, 2022. The Corporate Governance Committee met on May 24, 2022 to review the submissions.
- The following slate of members for the Emerging Leaders and Innovators Advisory Board for 2022-23 fiscal year was presented as follows:
 - **Rilla Banks** - Lawyer, Municipal Group of Companies
 - **Peter Gale** - Chief Commercial Officer, ReelData, A.I.
 - **Alyssa Hill** - Senior Manager, KPMG
 - **Tianshu Huang** - Director, Data Science, SimpTek
 - **Sharon Ishimwe** - Executive Director, MacPhee Centre for Creative Learning
 - **Jeff Kielbratowski** - Co-founder, Harbr
 - **Mitchell MacLellan** - Wealth Management Consultant, Owens MacFadyen Group
 - **Nicole MacNeil** - Manager, Talent Management, Irving Shipbuilding, Inc.
 - **Katie Newcombe** - Manager, Organizational Development, Davis Pier Consulting
 - **Mrugakshee Palwe** - CoHost & Business Developer, Go Full Crypto
 - **Elizabeth Smith** - Alexander Keith's Brewery Sales Manager, Labatt Breweries of Canada

V. Savani moved, W. Mason seconded the recommendations of the Corporate Governance Committee to accept all appointments effective until the next annual general meeting or until their respective successors are elected or appointed. **MOTION CARRIED.**

Halifax Partnership Board of Directors:

- For 2022-23, we have three board members departing, including:
 - **Rob Carruthers** – completed his third and final term on the Board, with an extended one-year term to complete his role as Board Chair.
 - **Monica Foster** – completed her 1st year of her 2nd term; resigned to accept a new role with St. Francis Xavier University.
 - **David Noel** – completed his 1st year of his 1st term; resigned to assume a new role with Scotiabank in Toronto.
- On April 12 a call for nominations was issued with a closing date of April 26. The Committee met on May 24 to review the submissions and put forward the following slate of candidates for the 2022-23 fiscal year:
 - **Cory Bell** – President & CEO, Lindsay Construction
 - **Donna Alteen** – CEO, Time & Space Media Ltd.
 - **Sarah Buckle** - Executive Director and Chief Climate Investment Officer, EfficiencyOne
 - **Carrie Cussons** - President & CEO, Events East Group
 - **Patrick Fitzgerald** – Partner, Cox & Palmer
 - **Andrea Forbes-Hurley** – Managing Partner, KBRS
 - **Mike Johnston** – Founder & CEO, REDspace

- **David Landrigan** – Vice President, Nova Scotia Power
- **Louis Lawen** – President & CEO, Lawen Group
- **Winston Morton** – Chief Technology Officer, SimpTek Inc.
- **Vinita Savani** - RBC Regional President, Atlantic Canada, RBC
- **Anita Swamy** – Vice President, Operations, Medavie Blue Cross

Representing Halifax Regional Council:

- **Waye Mason** – Councillor, Halifax Regional Municipality
- **Paul Russell** – Councillor, Halifax Regional Municipality

New Appointments:

The following members be re-appointed as ex officio to the Board of Directors:

- **Mike Savage** - Mayor, Halifax Regional Municipality
- **Jacques Dube** - Chief Administrative Officer, Halifax Regional Municipality
- **Chuck Maillet** - Vice President, Nova Scotia, Atlantic Canada Opportunities Agency
- **Captain Sean Williams** – Base Commander, Maritime Forces Atlantic
- **Scott Farmer** – Deputy Minister, NS Department of Economic Development

Appointment of Officers:

The Corporate Governance Committee recommends the extension of terms for the following Officers to the Board of Directors:

- **Cory Bell** – Chair
- **Donna Alteen** – Vice Chair

R. Carruthers recommended members accept the recommendations of these appointments. As per the Bylaws, all appointments are effective until the next annual meeting or until their respective successors are elected or appointed.

W. Morton moved, C. Cussons seconded the recommendations of the Corporate Governance Committee to accept all appointments effective until the next annual general meeting or until their respective successors are elected or appointed. **MOTION CARRIED.**

R. Carruthers asked Board Members to stand up as he thanked them for their commitment and for being true champions and advocates for both the Halifax Partnership and our city. He also extended a special thank you to Monica Foster, outgoing Board member who was with us today, and David Noel, who was not able to join us but will be missed.

The regular order of business closed at **9:46 a.m.**

4. REMARKS – WENDY LUTHER

W. Luther provided remarks and extended a warm thank you to Rob Carruthers for his time on our Board of Directors. R. Carruthers was instrumental in many aspects of our business including the Economic Growth Plan, facilitation of the organizational strategy, securing new Investors, the implementation of the Enterprise Risk Register and the creation of the Emerging Leaders & Innovators Advisory Board. A warm thanks was extended for his generosity with his time and commitment to Halifax Partnership.

W. Luther spoke to the initiatives taking place at Halifax Partnership and the many leaders and supporters involved to advance these initiatives. This truly is a partnership when we all work together.

A heartfelt thank you was extended to the team at Halifax Partnership for their work, commitment and contributions over the past year. The Partnership is successful because of the team. There is so much to celebrate and to be thankful for – it's been a very successful year.

5. INNOVATION CHALLENGE WINNERS' SHOWCASE

Today's meeting provided an opportunity to showcase the Innovation Challenge Winners, including:

1. One North End – Energy Poverty and Green Jobs
2. Hope Blooms – Digital Currency POS
3. Hope Blooms – Solar Awnings
4. Easy Platter – Education and Skill Development

6. REMARKS – CORY BELL, VICE CHAIR

C. Bell provided his remarks as Incoming Chair, including his excitement to be taking on the role as Board Chair. He acknowledged his admiration for Rob Carruthers, including his thought leadership during his tenure and extended a warm thank you for his contributions.

Halifax is experiencing something exciting, including attracting people and investment to our city and Province. Halifax is one of the fastest-growing cities in the country and of course, there are challenges associated with rapid growth, including the need for new and improved infrastructure and programs to ensure our city is livable and enjoyable for all. All attendees were encouraged to partner with us to begin implementing the new economic strategy.

7. CLOSING

W. Luther provided closing remarks and thanked everyone for attending today.

She spoke about the Economic Growth Strategy and the importance of all of us working together, most specifically, the private sector. As we move into the next phase of growth, we recognize there are challenges with this rapid growth, but it will be important to stand true to our commitment to growing Halifax's prosperity for all.

W. Luther extended a warm thanks to everyone in attendance today, including outgoing Board Chair, Rob Carruthers and Incoming Chair, Cory Bell.

The meeting was adjourned at **10:20 a.m.**

T. Walters, Corporate Secretary

Date