



Senior High National Debating Championships

Meeting Minutes

April 9, 2016

I. Call to order

Geoffrey Buerger called to order the regular meeting of the Senior High National Debating Championships at 9:30 pm on April 9, 2016 at the Radisson Hotel in Saskatoon, Saskatchewan

II. Roll call

Attendance was taken through a sign in sheet and voting members identified as listed below:

In Attendance:

Board of Governors:

Geoffrey Buerger – Saskatchewan (Chair); Tracey Lee – BC; Brian Casey – Nova Scotia; Joshua Judah – Nova Scotia; John Robinson – Manitoba; Debra Miko – BC & Nova Scotia

Regrets – Nicole Ratti – Ontario (Nicole sent Debra Miko with her proxy)

Voting Members:

Lindsay Spencer – BC; Robert Kerr – Alberta; Dana Brule – Saskatchewan; John Robinson – Manitoba; Sarah Sahagian – Ontario; Jon Bracewell – Quebec; Brian Casey – Nova Scotia; Emily Bonia – Newfoundland and Labrador.

Also in attendance:

Jordan Burg – Manitoba; Deirdre Casey – Ontario; Jessie Martin – Manitoba; Richard Picotin – Quebec; John Costa – Saskatchewan; Guillaume Laroche – Alberta; Frankie Cena – BC; Andrew Kaplan – Manitoba; Carissa Balcaen – Manitoba

Note: number of votes held - provincial/territorial members hold two, Board of Governors each hold one. Observers do not hold a vote.

III. Adoption of the Agenda

Joshua Judah/John Robinson moved adoption of the Agenda. Carried.

IV. Approval of minutes from last meeting

Minutes from previous meeting not presented for approval.

V. Host Thank You

John Robinson moved to officially thank Geoffrey Buerger, SEDA and the amazing SEDA volunteers on behalf of all those attending for hosting an amazing event. The food was fabulous. Carried with unanimous enthusiasm.

- VI. **Championships Update:** Brian asked Geoffrey if he had any notes for future hosts. Response was, "Ensure venue availability before finalizing the date. We had planned to host at U of S, and had to scramble when their exam schedule precluded any access to university facilities." Not enough delegates attended field trips, which meant money was lost on events, food and buses scheduled. Perhaps on future invitations be more specific regarding attendance. Geoffrey suggested that registration should be closed earlier -- we had to order T-shirts before knowing for sure what sizes we would need, which didn't quite work out. Materials for the French component proved to be inexpensive as there were volunteers for translations. Printing t-shirts and Frisbees for the French component was expensive, as there were smaller quantities.
- VII. **Future Hosts:** We reviewed our scheduled plan and a few changes were made. **Provinces should expect to host one National Tournament every 2 years just based on rotation.**

Future Years Host Plans for our 3 National Tournaments

Fall of each year – Oxford Cup

- Manitoba 2016 – November 17th – 21st
- Quebec 2017
- Ontario 2018
- Saskatchewan 2019

Spring of each year – Senior High Nationals

- British Columbia 2017 – Super Nationals (JR and SR) April 21st – 23rd
(National Team Tryouts April 19th/21st)
- Newfoundland 2018 – Super Nationals (JR and SR)
- Quebec 2019 – Super Nationals (JR and SR)

Spring of each year – Junior High Nationals

- Nova Scotia 2016 - Halifax
- British Columbia 2017 – Super Nationals (JR and SR)
- Newfoundland 2018 – Super Nationals (JR and SR)
- Quebec 2019 – Super Nationals (JR and SR)

National Seminar

- Nova Scotia – 2016 – 50th Seminar
- Ontario – Port Hope – 2017 – 50 years of CSDF-FCDE
- Manitoba or ADDEQ- 2018
- ADDEQ or Manitoba – 2019
- Quebec QSDA - 2020

VIII. New business

a) French Component at SH Nationals:

- Geoffrey thanked Tracey for having pioneered French at the 2016 Pan Americans in Vancouver, BC.
- This component limits provinces who could host the Championships
- Take it to a different venue? Does it need to be its own event? We are now adding yet another National Event to an already busy year.

- Students may not be able to compete in both
- Provincial Associations do not always have the same goals
- Debra noted that two provinces have a working office with paid staff, the rest of us are all volunteers. Geoffrey said, three volunteers organized it. Debra noted, however, most provinces organizing Nationals is doing so with all volunteers, placing restrictions on just how much they can take on.
- John R – no province should ever feel that they need to host it, as a part of the SH National Championships, or we will lose hosts. If they are able to host it, then it is up to the individual to decide each year.
- Jon Bracewell noted that BC will host it in 2017; Newfoundland has committed to 2018 and Quebec will commit to 2019. This may be enough time for it to grow wings and spread out on its own for 2020. By this point we would have had 5 years of nurturing it from Ontario in 2015 to Quebec in 2019.
- Geoffrey's observations in favor of the event, Tracey's commitment to host in French next year as well as English, and the suggestion that any host who chooses not to host in French give advance notice by May of the year before so that alternate arrangements can be made to ensure the continuity of the event.

IX. Election of Board of Governors – The following were nominated; accepted and acclaimed to the Board of Governors:

- Tracey Lee, Nationals Chair
- Debra Miko – Nominated by BC; Seconded by Ontario
- John Robinson – Nominated by Nova Scotia; Seconded by Ontario
- Nicole Ratti – Nominated by Quebec; Seconded by Nova Scotia
- Chris George – Nominated by Ontario; Seconded by Quebec
- Joshua Judah – Nominated by BC; Seconded by Manitoba
- Brian Casey – Nominated by Quebec; Seconded by Manitoba

John Robinson/Debra Miko moved to close nominations. Carried.

X. Adjournment

Geoffrey Buerger adjourned the meeting at 10:17 pm.

Minutes submitted by: Debra Miko

Minutes approved by: Geoffrey Buerger