

# *Culinary Historians of Canada*

## **MINUTES FOR 2014 ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING**

Campbell House

Toronto, Ontario

Sunday, November 30, 2014

3:30 pm to 5:30 pm

Attendees: There were 27 attendees: Fiona Lucas, Sylvia Lovegren, Luisa Giacometti, Betsy Aziz, Michael Elliott, Pat Bremner, Elizabeth Baird, Carolyn Crawford, Lori James, Nancy Gyokeres, Martha Foster, Dora Foster, Irving Glass, Gayle Comeau, Mary Williamson, John Ota, Margaret Lyons, Ed Lyons, Elka Weinstein, Owen Craig, Liz Driver, Anya Craig, Marzena Gersho, Karen Millyard, Sarah Hood, Shirley Lum, Annie Antonenko.

1. The meeting was called to order at 3:35 p.m. by Fiona Lucas, who welcomed all attendees.
2. Approval of the Agenda – Liz driver moved, Margaret Lyons seconded, agenda approved.
3. Approval of the Minutes of the AGM December 1, 2103 Mary Williamson moved, Liz Driver seconded. Minutes approved.
4. President's Report. Fiona Lucas presented the report. She talked about the RAWF and the Heritage Preserves and Pickles competition which CHC sponsored for the first time this year. Mike Elliott was the judge and he talked about the experience of judging and said we got good feedback from the RAWF. Fiona talked about the Taste of Canada posthumous award. Liz Driver was one of the judges and she spoke up to say the award was very well received. Fiona also brought the development of a new logo, which is still in progress. Finally, she explained that two board members had resigned, Treasurer and Membership Chair, and new people are needed.
5. Financial Reports. Fiona Lucas gave the report. She explained that report is not as professional nor as detailed as usual due to the lack of official Treasurer. A member asked about the profit on the Mad For Marmalade event and Fiona explained that, absent a Treasurer, the numbers shown were as close as we could get.
8. Program Committee Report. Luisa Giacometti gave her report. Fiona Lucas mentioned that we had been asked by Fort York to participate in the Frost Fair the weekend of December 6 and 7, and asked for volunteers for morning and afternoon shifts on both days.
7. Membership Committee Report. Sylvia Lovegren gave the report. She also asked for help finding three new members for whom we have no contact information: Luana Buckle, Anita McKinnon, and Nicholas Eaton. Unfortunately, no one present knew these members.
6. Electronic Resources Committee Report. Michael Elliott gave the report. He elaborated on work being done on the website, the success of the group on Facebook (he urged everyone to

connect on Facebook) and the new followers on Twitter. Mary Williamson noted that the Library links are broken on the website. Fiona mentioned we plan to update a number of items on the website, including the bibliography page.

9. Publications Committee Report. Fiona Lucas gave the report. Fiona thanked Sarah Hood for her excellent and professional work on taking over Digestible Bits and Bites. She also talked about some of publication-related improvements she'd like to see on the website. She asked if anyone was interested in becoming Book Review Editor for the website and also asked for someone to come forward to revive Culinary Chronicles

10. Fiona Lucas asked for and took questions about the reports. One member asked for earlier notice of the Annual Meeting to be sent out. Another member asked about the WWI symposium at Fort York which the CHC participated in, to which Luisa Giacometti responded that the event had been left off the Program Committee Report by accident and that the report would be amended to include it.

11. Nominations and Elections of Treasurer (for one year period). No nominations were given.

12. Nominations and appointments of Chairs for Membership Committee and Publications Committee chairs. Fiona asked for Refreshments committee person and Reporter for events and Book Review committee. Fiona gave a short description of membership chair duties – recruitment of members is one part and the other part is keeping track of membership lists. There was also a discussion the need for different committees to interact to help keep members informed and involved, specifically through the website, e-mails and Facebook. There was also discussion of the idea of Sylvia Lovegren vacating the Secretary position and moving into the Treasurer position for the remaining year of her term. Formal nominations were taken and the following positions were filled:

Secretary: Anya Craig for one year  
Treasurer: Sylvia Lovegren for one year  
Membership Committee: Shirley Lum for one year  
Publications Committee: Marzena Gersho  
Book Review Editor: Gayle Comeau

Sarah Hood indicated that she would be glad to assist with publications. Gayle Comeau said she would be available and interested in helping handle refreshments for various events as they come up.

The next Board Meeting will be on Saturday, January 10, from 10:00AM-1:00 PM at Fiona Lucas's house. Sylvia Lovegren will meet with Shirley Lum and Anya Craig before the January meeting to bring them up to speed on their two new positions. Fiona will meet with Marzena and Gayle.

13. New Business arising

A. Sarah Hood talked about Facebook group and its benefits for membership, learning about volunteer opportunities and way to keep in touch. She also talked about the e-newsletter and how non-members are starting to read the Digestible Bits & Bites. She also asked for help finding events or interesting things happening, books coming out, etc.

B. Martha Foster asked about the protocol for running CHC events outside the Toronto area and was asked to contact [Luisa@culinaryhistorians.ca](mailto:Luisa@culinaryhistorians.ca). Martha is interested in forming a CHC group the western end of Ontario and would like to explore the possibilities.

C. Mary Williamson had some additional items for the silent auction.

14. Adjournment. A motion to adjourn was made by Luisa Giacometti and seconded by Carolyn Crawford. The meeting was adjourned at 4:22 p.m.

After the meeting adjourned, we all gathered to watch a slide show on the history of the CHC. Unfortunately, the machine malfunctioned, so Fiona Lucas said she would upload the show to the website in the near future.

The Silent Auction ensued and Karen Millyard explained the tickets to JaneAustinDancing events she had donated (for which CHC is very grateful!).

Happy 20<sup>th</sup> Birthday was sung for the CHC's anniversary and the candles on the luscious chocolate cake were blown out. Canadian cheeses, fruit, War Cake, and local pates were enjoyed, along with fresh Derby Cakes baked on the hearth, tea, coffee and a delicious punch. CHC is, as always, very grateful to Liz Driver and the staff at Campbell House for their help.

*Culinary Historians of Canada*  
**ANNUAL REPORTS FOR 2014 ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING**

Campbell House  
Toronto, Ontario  
Sunday, November 30, 2014  
3:30 pm to 5:30 pm

**EXECUTIVE:**

President:	Fiona Lucas
Past President:	vacant
Vice President:	Betsy Aziz
Treasurer:	vacant
Secretary	Sylvia Lovegren

**COMMITTEE CHAIRS:**

Membership:	vacant (Sylvia Lovegren, acting)
Programs:	Luisa Giacometti
Communications Co-Chairs:	
Electronic Resources	Michael Elliott
Publications	vacant

**CULINARY HISTORIANS OF CANADA**  
**President's Report for 2014 AGM**

We had four major new initiatives this year, two of them successful sponsorships which we plan to repeat in 2015, although we have not had confirmation discussions yet.

- Sponsorship of a brand-new heritage class in the Royal Agricultural Winter Fair's Heritage Pickle and Heritage Preserves competition
- Sponsorship of the posthumous Hall of Fame Award at Taste Canada – The Food Writing Awards
- Presentation of a program (twice) at the Royal Agricultural Winter Fair's Food and Lifestyle Stage
- Professional design of a CHC logo

Details on these initiatives are found with the committee reports.

Two new Board members had to resign for personal reasons this year – the Treasurer (Ted Turvey) and the Membership Chair (Angel Commins).

The Board meets every two months, and then works together via frequent email and phone communication between meetings.

**2015 Goals:** membership growth, website redesign and expansion, regular programs with a wide variety of partners

**Submitted by Fiona Lucas, President**

**CULINARY HISTORIANS OF CANADA**  
**Financial Report for 2014 AGM**

Membership fees remain at \$30 for one year and \$55 for one year supporting, and \$55 for two years and \$75 for two years supporting. There are no plans to increase membership fees soon. Where does members' money go? What does it support?

- Fees for our website, postal box, office supplies
- \$1000 fee to the Royal Agricultural Fair to sponsor the Heritage Pickle and Heritage Preserves contest in 2014
- \$1000 to Taste Canada to sponsor the Posthumous Hall of Fame Award in 2014
- \$2600 to Terri Hobson for designing a logo, and offering a package of ideas for a letterhead, website redesign, membership application form, and writing guidelines of how to use the logo in other situations
- Printing flyers and handouts
- Buying refreshments, renting costumes

Unfortunately, the new treasurer, Ted Turvey, had to resign for health reasons.

The following reflects information for 2014:

Current Balances:	\$1505.37	in operating account
	<u>\$7,522.60</u>	in GIC account (earned \$22.60 since started March 2014)
	\$9,027.97	total assets

Recent Expenses:	\$1000	to Taste Canada
	\$1000	to Royal Agricultural Winter Fair
	\$1807	to Terri Hobson (to date)
	\$60.79	to Fiona Lucas for printer ink, phone calls, paper

Ongoing Expenses:	\$4.95	per month banking fee
	\$151.25	per year for mail box at Toronto's First Post Office

Program Expenses:	\$484.15	Mad for Marmalade, Crazy for Citrus
	\$245.45	Royal Agricultural Winter Fair
	\$330.81	AGM and 20 <sup>th</sup> anniversary party

Program Profits:	\$1227.34	Mad for Marmalade (includes returned petty cash float)
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Membership Dues:	\$945	
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**Submitted by Fiona Lucas, President, in the absence of a Treasurer**

**CULINARY HISTORIANS OF CANADA**  
**Membership Committee Report for 2014 AGM**

Membership levels have remained stable, in the range of 120-130 members. The current membership total is 131 as of mid-November, 2014.

Of our paying members, 59 have a two year membership, while the rest have opted for one year. About 7% of our members are outside Ontario, with the numbers being equally divided between British Columbia, Quebec and the United States.

The website and events continue to be the primary vehicles for generating new memberships. Membership has been working with Electronic Resources to enable a button for both paypal and credit card (via paypal) payments on the CHC website membership page and that should be activated shortly after the AGM is complete. We should also shortly thereafter have capability for accepting credit cards live at events via paypal.

Because of a miscommunication after the last AGM as to where mailed membership applications should be going within the organization and the later resignation of our Membership Chair, there were a number of membership applications and inquiries that went astray for a while. We believe that these have all been tracked down except for three people whose cheques were collected and deposited in February, probably at the Mad For Marmalade event. We do not have contacts for these three members, so if anyone knows or has contact information for them, please get in touch with [Sylvia@culinaryhistorians.ca](mailto:Sylvia@culinaryhistorians.ca). The three in question are: Luana Buckle, Anita McKinnon, and Nicholas Eaton. Of course we hope that things like this won't happen again! And we think we have procedures in place to ensure that.

Obviously, given the difficulties, membership development was not very active in 2014, nor was the hoped for membership directory put together. These are both things that we have high hopes for in the new year.

**Submitted by Sylvia Lovegren, Secretary, in the absence of a Membership Chair**

**CULINARY HISTORIANS OF CANADA**  
**Program Committee Report for 2014 AGM**

The 7<sup>th</sup> Annual **Mad for Marmalade, Crazy for Citrus** event took place on February 22, 2014. Our partners at Fort York prepared a delicious themed lunch. The attendees enjoyed tastings, the marketplace, themed workshops and speakers. This event will continue in 2015 as it is an annual crowd pleaser.

March 8, 2014, International Women's Day was celebrated at the McMichael Canadian Art Collection with an **Artistically Delicious** presentation. CHC together with art historians took a closer look at the work of Mary Pratt and other female artists exploring the theme of food in their art. Speakers Elizabeth Baird, Liz Driver, and Ruth Sandwell explored the themes of food and kitchen work in Mary Pratt's paintings. A Newfoundland inspired lunch was available.

Peter McCluskey presented an interesting talk on **Tracing Garlic's Roots** on April 7 at Campbell House. There was quite a crowd who asked many questions about his research and then sampled a roasted garlic pate on toasted baguette rounds along with Laura Slack's garlic infused caramel chocolate truffles.

**J.M. Schneider** – “**Taste the difference quality makes**” presentation took place on June 7 at the Concordia Club in Kitchener. Archivist Karen Trussler traced the evolution of the iconic Schneider’s brand and showed selected artifacts from the Schneider’s archives. A German themed lunch followed at the club.

Summer would not be completed without a **Picnic in Prince Edward County**. Held in scenic Prince Edward County, on August 24, just over two hours from Toronto CHC members enjoyed a potluck lunch at Liz Driver and Edwin Rouse’s 100-acre Cultural Heritage Landscape farm property in beautiful Prince Edward County with an 1860 brick farmhouse, early barn and other outbuildings.

**Recipe for Victory – Great War Food Symposium** was held at Fort York on September 28. In partnership with Fort York, CHC presented a special food symposium that explored the fascinating history of domestic and military food and beverages during The Great War. The day was filled with panel discussions, period displays and Great War-era cooking demos, Guest speakers included Dorothy Duncan, Liz Driver and Madeleine Kloske.

We commemorated World War 1 with a day at the Royal Winter Fair on November 11, by doing a presentation called **WW1 – Cooking at Home**. We presented both a social historical perspective of the time as well as three recipes, Trench Cake, Apple Sauce cake and Bean Loaf, which were all sampled at the end of the two talks.

The end of the year we will be participating in the **Frost Fair** at Fort York on December 6 and 7, by selling cookbooks and informing people about our organization.

**Submitted by Luisa Giacometti, Program Committee Chair**

## **CULINARY HISTORIANS OF CANADA**

### **Communications Committee**

The Communications Committee has two intertwined parts – Electronic Resources and Publications. The two Chairs are Co-Chairs of the full committee.

- **Electronic Resources Committee Report for 2014 AGM**

Over the past year Electronic Resources has sought to maintain and enhance the CHC's online presence. We have started and maintained Twitter and Facebook accounts, both of which have been met with growing success, in addition to keeping the website in order. We are in the process of adding a paypal button for both cash and credit card payments on the website membership page and that should be live within the next two weeks.

We invite you to connect and contribute to the CHC's online efforts. In the coming year we look forward to a new CHC logo, initiating a website redesign, and furthering our online presence.

**Submitted by Michael Elliott, Electronic Resources Chair**

- **Publications Committee Report for 2014 AGM**

Although no one came forward at the 2013 AGM to fill the Chair position, we nevertheless did have a monthly publication. *Digestible Bits and Bites* is CHC’s e-newsletter, which is sent to all members and interested people on the first day of each month. It is a compilation of food history events happening in Canada, along with some international news of interest to Canadians. In May, Sarah Hood took over the editorship from Fiona Lucas.

Some content ideas for the website once it is redesigned are:



- Three extensive bibliographies from Fiona Lucas (Canadian Centennial Cookbooks; Canadian Culinary History: A Bibliography of Secondary Sources; Cookbooks and Cookbook Authors: A Bibliography of Studies, Surveys and Biographies)
- Expansion of Canadian Cookbooks Online
- Book reviews of current food history books
- Repository of previously unpublished essays written by CHC members
- The Board continues to be interested in seeing the quarterly *Culinary Chronicles* revived.

**Submitted by Fiona Lucas, President, in the absence of a Publications Chair**



