

Easter Seals Ontario
101st ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING
Wednesday, June 7, 2023 @ 4:30 pm
Virtual Meeting
MINUTES

Voting Delegates and Members of the Corporation:

Voters

Kevin Kelly (P)	Michael Carli (P)	John M. Herhalt (P)	Jessica Metcalfe
Marc Henein (P)	Deanne Buckle (P)	Brenda Agnew (P)	Michael Grochmal (P)
Michael Tzimas	Jennifer LaForge (P)	Jeffrey Man	Azam Ishmael
Meredith Wiens	Peter Allemang	Bradley Hutchinson	Dante Wellington
David Udovic	Ed Hakonson	Ian McLaughlin	James Smith
Jamie DiLaudo	Ken Wilson	Nelson Millman	Rishi Dani
Tai Young	Victoria Chen		

Regrets: Paolo Ciotola

Voters – Represented by Proxy

Bruce Dodds	Scott Morrison	Nancy McFadyen	Cora Brodie
Fowler Harry	Theresa Sanders	Meredith Wiens	

Guests in Attendance

Ryerson Beardmore	Niki Tokhi	Hoor Ulain Nassani	Sebastien Parent
Alex Hartley	Amanda Whitman	Andy Barnard	Arianna Slowley
Bob Steadman	Dave Starrett	David Short	Debbie Bekker-Fawcett
Eryn Richardson	Hoor Ulain Nassani	Jay Donnelly	John Iaboni
John Robinson	Kaitlin Short	Kalin Glew	Kevin Woolham
Kyle Schutte	Logan Pickells	Yemina Goldberg	Malcolm Croskery
Mike Melnik	Nathalie Sitar	Olivia Hartley	Peter Scully
Sidney Hubbard	Steve Croft	Valerie Rose	Vince Mirabelli
Wanda Rose-Pickells	Lyndsey McIntyre (Auditor, Grant Thornton)		

Staff in Attendance

Kevin J. Collins (P)	Arlene Campbell (P)	Robyn Visheau (P)	Steven Greenwood (P)
Stephen Whitehouse (P)	Rebecca Mudrick (P)	Travis Sargeant (P)	Hamza Aziz (P)
Natasha Wakaruk	Joanne Scott	Tharsy Karunakaran	Lauren Squizzato
Lorna Manarin	Canute Chin	Keith Rashid	Joey Wilson
Susan Smith	Coralie Jacobs	Linda Clouthier	Rhonda Harrison
Alison Morse	Jennifer Raftis	Starr Meloche	Jennifer Tremaine
Carmen Bazinet	Sebeena Bhikhari	Teresa Lo (P)	Ana Maria DaCosta
Stacey Law	Alec Beer	Katrina Vanderkolff	

Attended virtually unless otherwise indicated (P) = In Person

1. Call to Order

Kevin Collins, President and CEO of Easter Seals Ontario, called the 101st Annual General Meeting (AGM) and Award Ceremony officially to order at 4:38pm, welcomed all those in attendance, both virtually and in person and read the Land Acknowledgement. The President and CEO then introduced Board Chair, Kevin Kelly, who continued with the business portion of the meeting.

2. Notice of Meeting

The Chair advised that a copy of the Notice of the Meeting had been distributed in accordance with Easter Seals Ontario's By-laws. A copy of the Notice of the Meeting, together with a Statutory Declaration of its distribution was placed before the meeting. The Chair reminded those in attendance that only members of the Corporation may vote in respect of the resolutions and other formal matters raised during this meeting and that as per the By-laws, and due to the meeting being held in person and virtually, a pause to confirm assent for each vote would be observed. For any members opposed, they should do so by raising their hand, in person or virtually and verbally declare dissent.

3. Declaration of Quorum

The Chair confirmed quorum was present and noted that 7 proxies had been received prior to the June 1, 2023 deadline and declared the meeting to be regularly called and properly constituted for the transaction of business.

4. Approval of the Minutes of June 8, 2022

A copy of the minutes of the AGM held June 8, 2022 were made available to all members of Easter Seals Ontario (ESO) prior to the meeting for review.

Moved: Michael Carli

Seconded: John M. Herhalt

THAT the minutes of the 100th Annual General Meeting of members held on June 8, 2022 be taken as read, verified as correct and approved as presented. **CARRIED**

5. Audited Financial Statements

The Consolidated Financial Statements for the year ended December 31, 2022 and the Auditor's Report, provided by Grant Thornton, having been reviewed by the Finance & Audit Committee and approved by the Board of Directors, were published on the Easter Seals Ontario website prior to the meeting and placed before the membership.

It was noted that Grant Thornton Chartered Accountants will continue as auditors for the ensuing year, fulfilling the third year of their three-year term, ending June 2024.

6. Resolutions

The Chair handed the floor to the Vice-Chair to bring forth a request for a motion for the first resolution.

i. Extension of Term

This resolution, which was approved by the Board of Directors on December 7, 2022 and sent to all members with the Notice of Meeting is to hereby retroactively extend the term of office of Kevin Kelly from June 2022 to June 2023 in accordance with the existing By-laws.

Moved: John M. Herhalt
Seconded: Michael Grochmal

THAT the term of office of Kevin Kelly be hereby extended retroactively from June 2022 ending June 2023 as per existing By-laws. **CARRIED**

The Vice Chair handed the floor back to the Chair to continue with the second resolution.

ii. Term of Officers

The second resolution, also included in the Notice of Meeting, was accepted by the Board on May 3, 2023. This motion is regarding the eligibility and Terms of Officers of the Corporation which would allow for the restart and refresh of a term of a Director who is appointed Chair, Vice Chair, Treasurer or Secretary, commencing on the date of appointment.

Moved: Michael Carli
Seconded: John Herhalt

BE IT RESOLVED THAT, notwithstanding anything contained to the contrary in the Letters Patent, Articles of Amendment or the by-laws of the Corporation, the term of a Director who is appointed to hold the office of Chair, Vice Chair, Treasurer, or Secretary of the Corporation is deemed to commence on the date of such appointment and shall expire not later than the close of the third annual meeting of the Directors after such appointment.

AND BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT, notwithstanding anything contained to the contrary in the Letters Patent, Articles of Amendment or the by-laws of the Corporation, a Director who is appointed to hold the office of Chair, Vice Chair, Treasurer or Secretary of the Corporation is eligible for re-appointment to such office for a second and final consecutive term expiring not later than the close of the third annual meeting of the Directors following such re-appointment; and, upon the expiry of such second and final consecutive term, such Director shall not be eligible for re-election as a Director until eleven (11) months have elapsed from such time.

CARRIED

7. Election of Directors

The Board Chair acknowledged that one Board Director, Paolo Ciotola has requested a one-year early departure from the Board due to increased personal and professional obligations. K. Kelly thanked P. Ciotola for his expertise and contributions over the past five (5) years of service to Easter Seals Ontario.

The Chair noted that a brief biographical summary for Sean T. Martin, the one (1) candidate standing for director was provided in the meeting package. With there being no other candidates brought forth, the following motion was presented:

Moved: Michael Grochmal
Seconded: Jennifer LaForge

THAT Sean T. Martin hold office for a first, 3-year term expiring at the June 2026 AGM in accordance with the By-laws. **CARRIED**

The Easter Seals Ontario complete Slate of Directors for the 2023-2024 term were presented as:

Brenda Agnew	Deanne Buckle	Michael Carli	Michael Grochmal
Marc Henein	John M. Herhalt (ex-officio)	Azam Ishmael	Kevin Kelly
Jennifer LaForge	Jeffrey Man	Sean T. Martin	Jessica Metcalfe
Michael Tzimas			

8. Report of the Chair of the Board of Directors

Kevin Kelly, the Chair of the Board of Directors gave his remarks that began with acknowledging and thanking the Easter Seals Ontario team who remained dedicated to families across Ontario throughout another challenging yet more normalized year, leading out of the pandemic. A financial overview with results noted included:

- The organization ended the year with a surplus of revenues over expenditures of \$878,000, an increase of \$288,000 over 2021 with \$400,000 of the surplus being set aside to support the Equipment Funding Program, \$200,000 to support our Recreation Program and \$5,000 towards Scholarships in the coming year;
- Total expenses were higher in 2022 than in 2021 by \$2.4 million. This increase was due to a combination of costs relating to the resurgence of in-person events, the re-opening of our in-person camping programs and increased equipment funding support to Easter Seals kids and families;
- Expenditures to support programs for children and families, and public education and awareness programs represented 63%; fundraising expenses were 30% and management and administrative costs 7%.

The Chair stated that it has once again been a privilege to work with so many dedicated volunteers and staff, particularly throughout the centennial year. In closing, he thanked all supporters throughout the province, for their generosity and commitment to Easter Seals Ontario and asked the President and CEO, K. Collins to provide his remarks.

9. Report of the President and CEO

Kevin Collins, President and CEO also acknowledged the ongoing challenges post-pandemic in 2022, noting that there were many successes throughout the year notably amidst post-pandemic challenges including a heightened sense of urgency for programs, services and equipment. A few notable successes that were shared included:

- The extension of equipment funding applications for the entire year with nearly \$2 million in requests approved in 2022; an increase of \$372,000 over 2021;
- The re-opening of in-person, fully accessible camps after a 2-year hiatus;
- The Ottawa centennial trip including the Ambassadors, staff and volunteers which included the celebration of 75 years of our Provincial Ambassador Program as well as the privilege of meeting several government officials, including the Prime Minister of Canada who graciously accepted ESO's special centennial-edition 'seals' in commemoration of our 100th anniversary;
- A continued focus on advocacy, education and awareness of children, youth and young adults with physical disabilities, accessibility and inclusion;
- A brief, high-level overview of many signature and 3rd party events and
- Thanked community partners, direct mail donors, Ontario Trillium Foundation, Rotary and service clubs, Century 21 and We Care Canada for their ongoing support.

The President and CEO concluded by thanking the Board, volunteers, sponsors, donors and staff for their support.

10. Question Period/New Business

Kevin Kelly, the Chair, opened the floor to questions and comments.

- No new business was brought forward and there were no questions.

11. Adjournment of the 101st Annual General Meeting

Moved: Jennifer LaForge

Seconded: Michael Grochmal

THAT the 101st Annual General Meeting of Easter Seals be adjourned.

CARRIED

The business portion of the meeting concluded and the meeting adjourned at 5:10pm.

12. Introduction of Provincial Ambassadors

The Chair introduced the 2023 Provincial Ambassadors Niki Tokhi and Ryerson Beardmore who both spoke about their decision to become Ambassadors, about some of their challenges and their experience with Easter Seals to date. The Chair thanked them for their dedication and advocacy on behalf of Easter Seals Ontario.

13. 2022 Scholarship Presentation and Volunteer Awards (*denotes recipients present)

The presentation of scholarship and volunteer award recipients was emceed by President and CEO, Kevin Collins. Many recipients were present and were provided the opportunity to say a few words.

Recipient

Dante Wellington*

Justine Wilmot

Arianna Slowley*

Sidney Hubbard*

Tai Young*

Logan Pickells*

Yemina Goldberg*

Béatrice Fraser

Emily Giugovaz

Victoria Chen

Hoor Ulain Nassani *

Sebastien Parent*

Zoe Hennessy

John Ali Hemani

Martin Brunet

Lauren King

Gabriel Li

Arianne Andary

Akshayan Nimalathanan

Scholarship Received

Board of Directors Scholarship

Connie O'Connor Memorial Scholarship

Easter Seals Ontario

Easter Seals Ontario

Easter Seals Ontario

Easter Seals Ontario

Easter Seals Ontario

Erica Vanclief Memorial Scholarship

Future Leader Award

Hira Post Graduate Scholarship

Hira Scholarship

Hira Scholarship

Hodglynn Holsteins Scholarship

John Domenic Caggiula Memorial Scholarship

Kevin and Christy Kelly Scholarship

Sal Iacono Family Bursary Endowment Fund

Truelove Dell Scholarship

Ursula Carsen Scholarship

Vigneswaran Scholarship

Recipient

Meredith Wiens*

Mike Melnik*

Barrie Colt's Foundation & Howie Campbell *

Volunteer Service Award Received

Ruby Award

Yvonne Alexander Award

Diamond Creative Altruism Award

Michael Carli*	Diamond Leadership
Hawerchuk Strong 10	Award of Distinction
Steve Glynn	Award of Distinction
David Udovic*	Award of Distinction
Adam Thompson and Thompson Enterprises Inc.	Spirit of Giving Group/Team
Andy Barnard & the Lakeshore Leafs Team*	Spirit of Giving Group/Team
Jay Donnelly & the Fermar Paving Limited Team*	Spirit of Giving Group/Team
Steve Croft & the F.R.I.E.N.D.S. Team*	Spirit of Giving Group/Team
Malcolm Croskery & The ORBA North Team*	Spirit of Giving Group/Team
Jamie Dilaudo & The ORBA Southwest Team	Spirit of Giving Group/Team
International Union of Local Operating Engineers 793*	Spirit of Giving Group/Team
Highland Farms	Spirit of Giving Group/Team
BioPed*	Spirit of Giving Group/Team
Richard Kumpf	Spirit of Giving Individual
Hoor Ulain Nassani *	Leader of Tomorrow
Ed Hakonson*	Easter Seals Alumni
Jimmy Stillo	Service Award
John Iaboni*	Service Award
Tessa Hettrick*	Service Award
Nathalie Sitar*	Service Award
Vince Mirabelli*	Service Award
Dennis LeBlanc	Service Award
Gilles Fournier	Service Award
Century 21 Millennium, Inc.*	Service Award
Century 21 Green Realty	Service Award
Century 21 Heritage Group*	Service Award
Dave Short*	Service Award

14. Closing Remarks

The President and CEO once again congratulated all scholarship recipients and thanked the volunteer award winners for their dedication and commitment to helping children and youth with physical disabilities. The floor was handed back to the Chair who added his thanks to everyone for their time and incredible support over the past year.

The Chair adjourned the meeting at 6:47p.m.

Kevin Kelly
Chair, Board of Directors