

## **Canadian Association of Journalists**

Board of directors meeting  
Holiday Inn Toronto Airport  
Oct. 5, 2013

**Present board members: Ellin Bessner, Hugo Rodrigues, Manjeet Singh Atthwal, Nick Taylor-Vaisey, Sean Holman, Sean Kavanagh, David Wiwchar, Dale Bass, Paul Schneidereit, Francois Biber. Other: Anja Karadeglija, David McKie.**

1. D. Bass called the meeting to order at approximately 9 a.m.

2. H. Rodrigues moved that the CAJ appoint Francois Biber as regional director for Saskatchewan, effective immediately, for a term lasting until the next regional-director election period. M. Singh Atthwal seconded, motion carried.

3. D. Wiwchar moved that the board approve the agenda for the meeting. S. Holman seconded, motion carried.

4. D. Wiwchar moved that the board approve the minutes from the June 22-23 board meeting. H. Rodrigues seconded, noting that board members should make sure to keep an eye on their tasks from previous meetings. Motion carried.

5. D. Bass presented and moved the chair's verbal report. D. Wiwchar seconded, motion carried.

6. H. Rodrigues presented the president's report.

D. Wiwchar moved that H. Rodrigues represent the CAJ in the Global Investigative Journalism Network, motion carried.

H. Rodrigues moved the president's report, M. Singh Atthwal seconded, motion carried.

7. P. Schneidereit presented the treasurer's report.

D. Wiwchar moved to accept the following recommendation regarding the CAJ's rainy day fund: "split (at least initially) the funds we wish to invest into two parts and invest them in two GICs, one for 6 months and one for 1 year. That way, every 6 months at least half of our rainy day fund (and at times 100%) would be available for use, if needed. As the amount of funds grew, we could also add a third, longer-term GIC to the mix."

S. Kavangh seconded, motion carried.

8. The community manager's report was presented.

E. Bessner moved that the association check to see how many members on the CAJ listservs and social media sites are members, and send reminders (perhaps once a year), to them to sign up for membership. D. Wiwchar seconded, motion carried.

H. Rodrigues moved to accept the report, N. Taylor-Vaisey seconded, motion carried.

9. A. Karadeglija presented the administrator's report. E. Bessner moved the report, D. Wiwchar seconded, motion carried.

The board took a 15 minute break and reconvened at 11 a.m.

10. E. Bessner presented a verbal membership committee report.

H. Rodrigues moved to approve the service Unhaggle as a membership benefit. E. Bessner seconded, motion carried.

E. Bessner moved to approve the report, D. Wiwchar seconded, motion carried.

11. The board began the discussion about who is a journalist / what is journalism.

The meeting broke for lunch and reconvened at 1:20 p.m. D. McKie joined the meeting.

S. Holman moved to strike two committees, one on the definition of journalism and one on how to define eligibility for regular CAJ membership. Motion was withdrawn.

The discussion was referred back to the ad-hoc committee previously formed to address the issue, and the board directed that committee to take a look at these questions. N. Taylor Vaisey was added to that committee.

12. The board began a discussion about Media magazine.

H. Rodrigues moved that the CAJ form a publications subcommittee to work directly with Media Magazine. H. Rodrigues, D. Bass, and E. Bessner volunteered to be part of that subcommittee. E. Bessner seconded, motion carried.

13. The board discussed how the CAJ can work and collaborate with J-Source as it becomes an independent operation.

14. The board discussed the location where the Vancouver 2014 conference should be held.

P. Schneiderei recommended the CAJ hold the 2014 Vancouver conference at the Holiday Inn, May 9-11. D. Wiwchar seconded, motion carried.

15. D. Bass presented the events committee report. D. Wiwchar seconded, motion carried.

The board discussed the potential host city for the 2015 conference. The board considered either Halifax or Banff, and noted that the final decision will be subject to the location of the Global Investigative Journalism Network Conference, which may take place at UBC next year, and should also take in consideration where the Newspapers Canada conference will happen that year.

16. S. Kavanagh gave an update on the Spring 2014 Winnipeg conference and possible CAJ involvement and partnership.

H. Rodrigues moved that the CAJ fund the travel and accommodation expenses of Paul Radu to attend the Winnipeg conference in June 2014; That this funding be capped at \$2,000 and paid to conference organizers upon proper receipt of related expenses; and That the president report back to the board of directors within 30 days on the sponsorship privileges that would come with this support.

S. Kavanagh seconded, motion carried.

17. The board began discussion of the advocacy committee's mandate/terms of reference.

The meeting adjourned for the day at 5 p.m.

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1. The meeting reconvened at 9:15.

2. F. Biber talked about building the Saskatchewan chapter.

H. Rodrigues moved that the CAJ form a chapter in Saskatchewan. S. Holman seconded, motion carried.

3. The board continued its discussion of the mandate/terms of reference for the advocacy committee, including how the CAJ can improve its advocacy efforts.

D. Wiwchar moved that the advocacy committee be responsible for the sending out of press releases. F. Biber seconded, motion carried.

4. H. Rodrigues presented the awards committee report.

H. Rodrigues moved that the following fee structure apply to all award entries for the 2013 program and beyond until changed by the CAJ board (all fees include HST):

- CAJ member fee, individual entry - \$30 (no change)
- Non-member fee, individual entry - \$110 (no change)
- CAJ student member fee, individual entry - \$25
- CAJ student member fee, student category only – free (no change)
- Student category entry, large teams – contact awards committee to discuss
- Team entry, where all members are CAJ members - \$60
- Team entry, non-members - \$200

S. Kavanagh seconded, motion carried.

H. Rodrigues moved that the CAJ board accept the award program categories and eligibility criteria as recommended in the awards committee report of Oct. 5-6, 2013.

N. Taylor-Vaisey seconded, motion carried.

H. Rodrigues moved that the CAJ add the “revenue manager” module onto its contract renewal with SmallTownPapers Inc. to manage online payment of the 2013 CAJ Awards program at an additional cost of US\$398.

S. Kavangh seconded, motion carried.

5. N. Taylor Vaisey presented the National Capital Region chapter report. N. Taylor Vaisey moved the report, D. Wiwchar seconded, motion carried.

H. Rodrigues presented the Toronto chapter report in lieu of S. Rempel.

6. The board discussed the date and time of the next meeting by Skype teleconference. The date was set for January 26, 2 p.m. Eastern.

7. Meeting adjourned at 11:39 a.m.

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