

**Learning Unlimited**  
**Board of Directors Meeting**  
**Minutes**  
**Nov. 5, 2021**

**Present:** John Willson, Deb Forsyth–Petrov, Rich Bailey, Len Klochek, Janice Manias, Judy McCormick, Yash Sthankiya, Roger Tessier, Rosemary Tessier, Glenn Yaffee.

**Regrets:** Audra Hudek.

1. **Call to Order:** 1:30 p.m.

2. **Motion:** Approval of the minutes of the Oct. 7, 2021, Board meeting.  
Moved by Judy, seconded by Deb. Approved.

3. **Correspondence**

There was a request to use e-transfer rather than PayPal for fees payment. This was discussed when the Registrar’s report was tabled.

4. **New Business**

4.1 **Remembrance Day**

At the start of the lecture on Thursday, Nov. 11, Deb will read “In Flanders Fields”, with appropriate music.

4.2 **Registration Date for Winter 2022 series**

The date will be Nov. 15, 2021.

4.3 **Future of lecture delivery**

John and Len had put together and tabled a detailed paper: *Future program delivery options and risks*. Our old Fairfield system worked well until March 2020, when the pandemic restrictions ended in-person presentations. Moving to Zoom has worked out well but brought some unforeseen consequences. Now we compete with similar organizations for registrants, and we must think of course subject appeal.

Someday returning to Fairfield sounds attractive in some ways, but we must be aware of reduced seating capacity, technical challenges and additional costs. Social distancing requirements are unknown at the moment, and the possibility of integrating Zoom delivery with in-person is very complicated.

At this moment, we can afford the additional costs for Fairfield without increasing the fees, but going forward, we might not. And regardless of how we proceed, we will not be able to go back to the coffee/tea and cookies offering at Fairfield removing that social aspect.

We need to decide, going forward, how appealing the old Fairfield model really will be.

One possibility discussed would have one lecture series of the 3 in the Fall of 2022 run at Fairfield. We would pick a series that would be attractive there, e.g., a musical presentation. By that time, as other venues in Toronto are relaxing capacity restrictions already, we hope Fairfield would allow more than the 70 now given to us as a maximum. But if we get full registration for this, how can we know if the essential factor is Fairfield or that particular subject and speaker?

A possible answer is asking a speaker to do the presentation twice in the same series, once at Fairfield and once on Zoom, on a different day. That might be difficult to arrange but would be as close to a controlled experiment as we can get. Or, instead, run a Fairfield series for two sessions in a row and judge the popularity of in-person offerings after that.

Another possibility is to embrace a new business model, in which we would always run one series at Fairfield and 2 on Zoom. Fairfield presentations always required a lot of volunteer help, and those volunteers are harder to find now that we are not all at Fairfield. Plus, there's going to be a problem with the registration system for 2 kinds of attendees.

We did decide that the course outlines for the winter 2022 session will be posted on the website in the next couple of days. Then an email will be sent telling anyone who attended a course in the past, either at Fairfield or on Zoom that the course outlines are posted and registration will start on Nov. 15.

#### **4.4 Privacy Policy Update**

Rich tabled the Corporate Secretary Report. He reported on the Mississauga's organization's status and LU's privacy by-laws. He also mentioned how PIPEDA applies to non-profits. He will continue to monitor government privacy legislation and how to applies to non-profits.

#### **5. Treasurer's Report**

No report was tabled but John Willson gave a verbal report. The bank has finally changed our signing authorities so our creditors can now be paid. And next month we should have a Treasurer's report that can be tabled. The bank has promised to send copies of all the signed documents to John.

#### **6. Committee Reports**

##### **6.1 Technology**

Len tabled this report. We have gone through 3 weeks of Zoom webinar presentations with only minor technical blips. Len met with Fairfield's manager. The capacity is now 35 but is expected to rise to 70. Fairfield has done an impressive job with accessibility renovations.

##### **6.2 Curriculum**

Judy tabled this report. Julia Zarankin will replace the Winter session speaker who withdrew; Julia is our most popular Zoom speaker to date. Another very popular LU speaker, Carolyn Harris, needed special accommodation to present in the Winter Session because of another

commitment. Her schedule has been condensed to 8 weeks by doubling the lectures on 2 days. On these days, all questions will be deferred to another lecture day.

### **6.3 Registration**

Yash tabled this report. The Fall 2021 series began on Oct. 19. A cyber-attack that day on the site of Aborg, LU's service provider, made LU's website unavailable that day.

Fortunately, Roger was able to have everything corrected the next day. The Registrar and Webmaster received 26 emails, mainly about link problems. As of Nov 4, 2021, 483 registered for the lectures, compared to Fall 2020, when 476 registered. We had a few international registrants, from the U.S., Germany and Italy.

We cannot accommodate the request to pay using e-transfer instead of PayPal. Zoom automatically sends the registrant to PayPal. The e-transfer option would require an immense amount of work for LU. The registrant can use a credit card to use Pay Pal.

### **6.4 Social**

There was no report.

### **6.5 Third Age Network**

TAN has hired a lawyer to draft a copyright waiver, which will be shared with all TAN members. They are expecting to have this done soon. We will continue to monitor this development.

## **7 Additional business**

It was proposed that we take photos of Board members to be posted on the website. This could make it easier to attract volunteers, by making Board members "real people". We will probably take these photos at the next Board meeting.

## **8 Next Meeting:**

The next meeting will be on Thursday, Dec. 2, at 1:30 p.m.

## **9 Adjournment: 3:03 p.m.**