

84th ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING – Minutes
Porchlight Counselling and Addiction Services

September 25, 2024 – 6:30 pm.

Meeting called to order by Diana Drackley at 6:30 pm

Land Acknowledgement by Cameron Dearlove

Motion: To approve minutes of the 83rd Annual General Meeting of September 25, 2023

- *Moved by Sherri Hughes, seconded by Jessica Hill; carried*

Presentation of Audited Financial Statement

Nathan Graham, Auditor, Graham Matthews

- Thanked Cameron and Diane for assistance with the audit.
- Unable to issue a non-qualified opinion, for not for profit or charity organizations we have to qualify the revenue, this is standard procedure.
- Overall revenue is up to \$2,423,165 compared to \$2,077,499
- Noted continued reliance on grant funding with \$1,212,350 in grant revenue.
- Last year we had a surplus of \$45,731; this year we have a gain of \$369,590
- Staff wages, Professional Development has increased due to new staff and grant projects.
- Overall strong financial position for the organization.

Motion to approve the 2023-2024 Audited Financial Statements as presented

- *Moved by Diana Drackley, Seconded by Douglas Bartholomew-Saunders; carried.*

Motion to approve Graham Matthews as the auditor for 2024-2025

- *Moved by Jessica Bellamy, seconded by Alaa Arman; carried.*

President's Remarks

- Would like to celebrate and reflect on our successes. Some examples of this are the increased capacity of our services, our new office, and increased fundraising.
- Thanked staff on behalf of the board for their work and commitment to Porchlight.

- Thanked community partners and funders on behalf of the board for believing in what we do to service our community.
- Diana as the president of the board thanked the board and staff leadership for working diligently for the agency as it had made a big Difference.

Executive Director's Remarks

- Welcomed attendees to the first AGM in Porchlight's new counselling space.
- Reflected on the year's theme of expansion, with a 71% revenue increase over two years.
- Major accomplishments:
 - Opened new, larger Counselling Centre on Bishop Street.
 - Relocated and expanded Ancora House, increasing women's recovery beds from 6 to 10.
 - Grew Taming the Dragon to all elementary grades (Lyle S. Hallman Foundation).
 - Expanded Young at Heart seniors programming (Ministry of Seniors and Accessibility).
 - Launched drop-in counselling at MACS (150 Main).
 - Brought mental health supports to supportive housing sites.
 - Continued leadership in the Plan to End Chronic Homelessness.
 - Hosted Community Conversations with local equity-driven partners.
 - Participated in regional planning tables (OHT, Drug Strategy, GBV Table).
 - Collaborated with Camino, WR Suicide Prevention Council, Cambridge Food Bank, Muslim Social Services, and others.
- Concluded with appreciation for staff, partners, and the community.
- Encouraged continued support as Porchlight expands to meet growing needs.

Motion to accept the annual report

- *Moved by Jessica Hill, Second Diane Drackley; carried.*

Motion to accept the actions of the board of directors of porchlight Counselling and Addiction Services for the year of 2023/2024

- *Moved by Sherri Hughes, seconded by Jessica Hill; carried*

Diana Drackley Called the end to the business meeting for 2023-24. Following the business meeting, Danielle Raimbault from Wanner Mennonite Church shared about the impact Porchlight's partnership has had on their congregation.