

**Eastern Edge
AGM Minutes 2023**

Saturday, Nov 30th, 2024, 1-4pm
in-person and on Zoom at Eastern Edge



In Attendance:

Shan Pomeroy, Ashley Hemmings, Christine Wight, Pamela Mackenzie, Rhyder Evans, Nasim Makaremi, Elijah Martel, Amanda Penney, Michelle Lacour, Laura Sbrizzi, Neddal Ayad, John Cosgrove, Christian Dauble, Gaaya Murugan, Jennifer Morgan, Melissa Samms, Raianny Queiroz, Johnny Rose, Ting Ting Chen, Carmen Munoz

Online attendees:

Theresa Murphy, Luca Jesse Apel

Order of Business

- Call to order
- What's an AGM?
- Land Acknowledgement
- Approval of agenda
- Approval of 2023 AGM minutes
- Chair's report
- Director's report
- PD, outreach, and safety
- Accessibility updates
- HOLD FAST
- Main Gallery Committee
- Residency Committee
- rOGUE Gallery Committee
- Fundraising Committee
- HR Committee
- Financial Planning
- Voting on by-law adjustments
- Voting on board members
- Other business

Call to order:

Made by Rhyder 1:10pm.

What's an AGM?

Rhyder defines the AGM and explains what to expect from the meeting.

Land Acknowledgement:

Ash reads out the land acknowledgement

Agenda:

Motion to approve by Gaaya, seconded by Michelle.

Minutes:

Motion to approve 2023 AGM minutes by Michelle, seconded by Gaaya.

Chair's report:

Rhyder presents the chair's report.

The board tried to optimize YOTA funding, formalize all practices and approaches, and start strategic planning processes while celebrating the 40th anniversary.

Rhyder presents a note on strat plan from Tom Cooper, EE's 2024 strat planning facilitator.

Director's Report:

Ash present's director's report; introduces the team - core and temporary - and the board + explains who is stepping down from this board this cycle, elaborates on 40th Anniversary celebrations and partnership highlights.

PD, outreach, and safety:

Amanda introduces the report on PD, outreach, and safety. The team, including summer students, completed several safety courses to remain up to date on appropriate protocols.

THRIVE info session attended by Elijah and Amanda to more adequately provide to the shifting needs of the community in downtown St. John's.

Amanda lists the many PD programs that staff availed of throughout 2024, as well as EE outreach highlights, also describing EE's hopes to grow through participating in more outreach, PD, and partnerships in the future.

Accessibility updates + Emerging artist workshop series:

Laura runs through EE's accessibility changes, including an Accessibility Menu for

visiting and exhibiting artists to better meet their needs.

Laura describes the Emerging Artist Workshop Series, aimed at youth and emerging artists, which ended up cumulatively resulting in 120 participants; proceeds to list the individual workshops performed throughout the year. (8 workshops total with a good variety of content)

HOLD FAST:

Elijah introduces and describes HOLD FAST Festival, explaining the growth of the festival in recent years, including the quandary about whether or not HF should become incorporated as a standalone nonprofit. A volunteer Working Group came together to research and recommend whether or not HF should incorporate; the result was that it is too soon as of yet.

Elijah describes the 2024 HOLD FAST Committee, festival artists, and writers. Pivoting to think about how HF is integrated into our schedule and our programming now that we know it's staying beneath the EE umbrella.

Nods to HF Variety Show; 25th Anniversary celebrations, HF documentary, and a reduced 24HAM to a mini 6-hr marathon as a primer for the EE Members' Show.

Elijah debriefs on the HF Art Crawl - approached as a project of being intentional and better supporting the participants.

Main Gallery Committee:

Rhyder presents the Main Gallery Committee report, introducing the committee members, and the exhibitions that occurred in the space throughout 2024; introduces next year's exhibits and the exhibitions that were chosen during the Main Gallery Committee meeting in January of 2024; explains reasons for deferral in selection until 2026.

Residency Committee:

Michelle presents the Residency report - prepared by Shan - introducing the committee members, and the residents that used the EE studio space throughout 2024; introduces next year's residents and the residency slots that were selected during the Residency Committee meeting in February 2024. Calls for submissions will now align more closely with Main Gallery and rOGUE calls.

rOGUE Committee:

Michelle presents the rOGUE Gallery report - prepared by Anhelina - describing the committee members, and the exhibitions that occurred in the rOGUE throughout 2024, lists the shows planned for the coming year, as well as changes to programming.

Fundraising Committee:

Rhyder presents the Fundraising Committee report in the chair, Luke's absence, describing the increase in funding efforts, the various events that took place, and the amount of funds brought in from each.

Query: Carmen - Is there a sponsorship package?

Rhyder: It's being prepared now and there is a sponsorship package due to be ready this year.

Query: Johnny R - does EE keep a list of successful and unsuccessful grants?

Michelle: Yes. Our whole financial statement is available to view and the budget is formally presented to the board by the ED each year.

HR Committee:

Rhyder introduces the HR committee and describes the committee's projects throughout the past year, including new Terms of Reference and early processes to integrate a Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Committee within the next year.

Amanda - We also moved staff to a 4 day work week as a pilot program to reduce the number of hours and increasing the hourly pay, going until March, after which the board will decide whether or not we will continue.

Financial Management:

Michelle introduces the 2023-2024 financial statement, providing a QR code to view it on the website, and explaining a recent reorganization of the budget layout and listing our main funding sources and expenses.

Query: Carmen - who is the bookkeeper?

Michelle: Carolyn Dalton is the bookkeeper and Harris Ryan is the accounting firm we work with.

-Break for Pie-

Changes to Bylaws:

Rhyder lists proposed changes to bylaws, adjustments to language, and additional committees added, etc. These changes were proposed at a Special General Meeting last winter with board, staff, and membership present. By-laws were circulated online.

Rhyder calls for a vote. Membership votes in favour of proposed changes.

Voting on new and returning board members:

Rhyder describes board members added mid-year, members up for re-election, and

new members up for election. Five prospective new board members are interested in joining and four are stepping down. Rhyder reads out the bios of all board members interested in being officially voted in.

All EE members in attendance proceed to vote for new board members and the votes are counted.

Board members officially voted/re-elected on:

Shan Pomeroy

Rhyder Evans

Angelina Schevchenko

Christine Wight

Mariana Carvajal

Carmen Munoz

Ting Ting Chen

Johnny Rose

Pam Mackenzie

Motion to adjourn made by Melissa.

Seconded by Gaaya.

Meeting adjourned at 3:13pm.