



ALBERTA DEBATE AND SPEECH ASSOCIATION

203 Silver Springs Way NW

Airdrie, Alberta T4B 2Y3

Phone: 403-479-6700

Email: contact@albertadebate.com

Website: www.albertadebate.com

Minutes of the Annual General Meeting at Western Canada High School, March 10, 2018

Welcome and thank you for coming today!

1. Call to order: 1:30 pm
2. Roll Call
 - Circulation of Attendance Sheet – Quorum has been met.
 - Introduction of Board Members present
3. Approval of previous 2017 AGM minutes as having being read – Mover: Sylvia Hayward
Second: Darren Kiziak Approved unanimously.
4. President Report: It's been a great year. Major initiative: complete overhaul of bylaws and policies. Hoping to continue with ADSA re: FAQ, website updates. Thank you for all of your support.
5. VP Speech: Program was successful and smooth this past year. Record number of students participating. Thanks to Western and Webber One student representing Canada at worlds Speech in April.
6. VP Bilingual: Came into the position as a volunteer. Focus was getting list of potential bilingual volunteer judges. The list has been started and the list will be made available to coaches. Other initiatives: updating website to be bilingual. Research packages were translated into French.
7. Reports from the Executive Director and Treasurer
 - Highlights from Daria Skibington-Roffel and Nathan Treloar
 - Annual financial report – Nathan: Last year was rocky. Budget now split into two: General Account and Casino Account.
 - Move to accept Financials: Sylvia Hayward. Second: Shelsey Finch. Carried.

8. Bylaws (order of consideration for proposed amendments)

a) Motion to treat amendments in blocks (as circulated in email) Mover: Jen Arko
Seconded: Darren Kiziak Result: Carried Unanimously

a. Accept grey Amendments Mover: Quentin Krogstad Seconded: Sylvia
Hayward Result: Carried (1 Opposed)

-grey: minor corrections, grammar, consistency of reference, numbering

a. Consider the Blue Amendments as a block. Mover: Bryan Ma Seconded: Darren Kiziak
Carried

b. Accept the Blue Amendments Mover: Hania Aamer Seconded: Linda Aschenbrenner
Carried

-blue: moved from a different section of the document

c. Consider the Green Amendments as a block. Mover: Jennifer Gordon Seconded: Linda
Aschenbrenner Carried

Accept the Green Amendments Mover: Vanessa Moerike , Seconded: Linda
Aschenbrenner Carried

d. -green: brought up-to-date with current practice

e. -yellow: amendments for individual consideration, generally noted with comments in
the attached documents

1. Consistency changes, minor grammar and spelling corrections and re-numbering
(highlighted in grey);

2. Text moved from one section to another to improve organization (highlighted in blue);

3. Amendments that bring Bylaws and Policies up-to-date with current practice, as it has
evolved (highlighted in green);

4. Amendments to be considered individually:

a. **Bylaw No. 3, 5 (Membership), 5.4** – allowing for warnings prior to expulsion in
case of rule violation **Mover: Sylvia Hayward Seconded: Alex from Westmount)**
Carried

b. **Bylaw No. 3, 7 (Institutional Membership), 7.2** – increasing annual Institutional
Member fee (changing from \$150.00 to \$200.00) **Mover: Quentin Krogstad**
Seconded: Shelsey Finch Question: Was this determined as sufficient? Nathan
replied that this should help cover the \$7000.00 deficit. Result: Carried with 2
abstentions.

c. **Bylaw No. 4, 2 (Elections), 2.2** – Extending terms for all Board Members to
match Treasurer and allowing longer terms where there are no other candidates.
Mover: Jennifer Gordon Seconded: Kim (from Henry Wisewood) Discussion
about the term parameters. Recruiting on the basis of two-year terms. Allows
for votes every two years. Prevents massive turnover all at once. Terms could
be staggered effectively. Result: Carried unanimously

- d. **Bylaw No. 6, 5 (Signing authority)** – Allowing any Board Member to be designated signing authority by the Board **Mover: Nathan Treloar Seconder: Jennifer Arko Discussion about Board members, such as the Treasurer being in another city. Both Nathan and Linda from Edmonton said they were okay with it. Result:**
 - i. **Amendment: Sylvia Hayward moves to change “Cheques” to “ with any two authorizing debit transactions.” Seconder: Kelsey Stevenson Unanimously carried.**
 - ii. **Mover to accept the amended changes to the bylaws: Sylvia Hayward Seconder: Kelsey Stevenson Result: Carried**
- e. **Bylaw No. 2, 4.3** – Concerning expectations for Institutional Members to host tournaments (further updated since last year) **Mover: Guillaume Laroche Seconder: Nathan Treloar Discussion: What if schools co-host? Differences between two schools hosting an event together at one school or at both schools (open at one, beginner at another). Board will Result:**
 - i. **Amendment: “co-host at a single site event” Mover: Jane Hayward Seconder: Janice McClennan Carried with 1 opposed.**
 - ii. **Motion to accept the bylaw as amended, Mover: Guillaume Laroche Seconder: Nathan Treloar Discussion: What happens when they are not hosting until later on in the season? If we are close to the end of the season, one could get away with not hosting, but they might be contacted to host in the following year. Would an excused school have “met the requirement”? Yes. What if the administration of the school only allows for one tournament every two years? Would those kids not be able to compete? What if the school’s administration only allows for debate or speech, but not both? They can apply for exception for the Board or they could show the bylaws to their Administration. If schools have arrangements with a university or each other and students are given plenty of opportunity to compete, then that city or area has met their requirement. Suggestion that schools could host tournaments after the season as well. Carried with 1 opposed and 1 abstention.**

Policies and Procedures (order of consideration for proposed amendments)

1. Consistency changes, minor grammar and spelling corrections and re-numbering (highlighted in grey); Text moved from one section to another to improve organization (highlighted in blue); Amendments that bring Bylaws and Policies up-to-date with current practice, as it has evolved (highlighted in green);
2. **Quentin Krogtag moves to group the grey, blue and green as one block. Seconder: Lennard Fink. Carried with 1 abstention.**
 - a. **Moving to adopt the grey, blue and green as changed. Carried unanimously.**
3. Amendments to be considered individually:
 - a. **Policy 1 (Local Events), 1.5 & 1.6** – recognized qualifying tournaments **Mover: Guillaume Laroche Seconder: Kate Franks Discussion: This is useful for French**

- debates that are not currently recognized. (i.e.: French Law Day Mock Trial or French Model Parliament) **Result: Carried unanimously.**
- b. **Policy 1 (4: Statistics), 4.2 – ADSA oversight of stats Mover: Guillaume Laroche Seconder: Lennard Fink Discussion: Hand-tapping and spreadsheets are approved by ADSA. Result: Carried unanimously**
 - c. **Policy 1 (4: Statistics), 4.6 – requirements for tournament hosts keeping stats Mover: Guillaume Laroche Seconder: Lennard Fink Discussion: How to break ties in important tournaments where ties need to be broken. (i.e.: Regionals or Provincials – not for the afterschool tournaments.) The steps are more definitive than they were. Result: Carried unanimously.**
 - d. **Policy 1 (7: Awards), 7.2d – New bilingual awards Mover: Kate Franks Seconder: Jen Arko Discussion: There are no plaques for JH Bilingual Provincials (beginner/open), so new plaques will be Result: Carried unanimously.**
 - e. **Policy 1 (9: Debate Championships), 9.6 – requiring bilingual tournament participation prior to Regionals; Mover: Guillaume Laroche Seconder: Kate Franks Discussion: There are so few opportunities. Result: Carried Unanimously.**
 - f. **9.9 – waiving debate qualifying requirements in special circumstances Mover: Kelsey Stevenson Seconder: Lennard Fink Discussion: For schools that have tried to compete but have not been able to because they were declined, prolonged illness, had an interview for university acceptance, SAT exams, weather related cancellations, etc. Result: Carried unanimously.**
 - g. **Policy 1 (10: Speech Championships), 10.5 – Waiving speech qualifying requirements in special circumstances Mover: Lennard Fink Seconder: Sylvia Hayward Discussion: Are the “special circumstances” too broad? Board would look at the student’s track record. Example of the National Team Debate Tryouts and Speech Provincials happening on the same day. Result: Unanimously carried.**
 - h. **Policy 1 (11.1: Code of Conduct), addition of section concerning judges Mover: Jennifer Arko Seconder: Kate Franks Discussion: To standardize expectations of judges’ behaviour. Gives coaches the tools to handle judges who are not performing to that standard. There should be a document that coaches share with potential judges in the parent letter or code of conduct. What about non-parents? Volunteers have to register at judges at tournaments anyway, so they are included. Result: Carried unanimously.**
 - i. **Policy 1 (11.1: Code of Conduct), Debate, (k), (l): acceptable use of electronic devices Mover: Guillaume Laroche Seconder: Darren Kiziak Discussion: Students have been seen using their devices during tournaments for purposes other than timing (i.e.: people who are not currently speaking). This is currently against the rules and still will be with this change. Alberta students find it odd that they are not allowed to time themselves when speaking compared to other provinces who are. (National tournaments allow for**

students to time themselves with their cell phones.) **Result: Carried with 1 opposed and 1 abstention.**

- j. **Policy 1 (11.2: Code of Conduct), Coach presence at all tournaments Mover: Kate Franks Seconder: Jane Hayward Discussion: Each school has its own requirements for teachers sponsoring clubs. Result: Carried Unanimously.**
 - k. **Policy 1, Rules for Debate (2: Eligibility), 2.9, allowing hybrid teams in clubs of fewer than 4 members Mover: Nathan Treloar Seconder: Vanessa Moerike Discussion: For very small clubs who may not have enough members to pair off as partners. This would allow for them to work with another school to create a hybrid team. (Example: Alberta School for the Deaf was not able to participate this year because of the former policy.) Result: Carried Unanimously.**
 - l. **Policy 1, Rules for Debate (3: Rules), 3.9, defining “squirrelling” (unfair definition of term) the debate Mover: Bryan Ma Seconder: Linda Aschenbrenner Discussion: Clarification of a term for consistency. (Defining the term properly) Result: Carried unanimously.**
 - i. **Mover: Sylvia Hayward Mover: Hania Aamer Amendment to Section 3.9a – Remove the bracketed part that states that impromptu rounds are not allowed at Regionals and Provincials) Result: Carried Unanimously.**
 - m. **Policy 1, Rules for Debate (3: Rules), 3.10, outlining rules for bilingual debate in current practice Mover: Jennifer Gordon Seconder: Kate Franks Discussion: None. Result: Carried with 3 abstentions.**
- b) Nomination and Election of New Board
- Call for nominations from the floor
 - Standing for election:
- President: Guillaume Laroche (former VP Debate) Mover: Kate Franks – Carried unanimously.
- Treasurer: Nathan Treloar (2nd of 2-year term) Mover: Linda Achenbrenner – Carried.
- VP Debate: Jason Hong Mover: Guillaume Laroche – Carried.
- VP Speech: Jennifer Gordon (former Regional Speech Rep) – Mover: Kate Franks – Carried unanimously
- VP Bilingual: Lea Caplan Mover: Guillaume Laroche - Carried
- Elected at Regional Coaches’ meetings (Edmonton and Calgary):
- Calgary SH Debate: Ramona Boyle
- Calgary JH Debate: Julie Chrapko
- Calgary Speech: Lennard Fink (former VP Speech)
- Northern Alumni Rep: Hania Aamer
- Edmonton JH Debate: Vanessa Moerike
- Edmonton SH Debate: Linda Aschenbrenner Fiona Williams - Carried
- Edmonton Speech: Fiona Williams accepting until June.
- Southern Alumni Rep: Bryan Ma

c) New Business

- a. Linda Aschenbrenner – Thank you to Kate for serving as President and getting the work done with the bylaws and policies. Presentation of gift to Kate.

d) Call for motion to adjourn: Sylvia Hayward 3:55 pm.