

# Annual General Meeting Minutes

Meeting Date: May 9, 2017

Location: Edmonton Expo Centre

Time: 11:15 – 12:58 pm

ITEM #	ORDER OF BUSINESS	ACTION
	<p><b>CALL TO ORDER</b></p> <p>President and Chair, Patti Swanson, declared quorum and called the Alberta Association of Architects' (AAA) 2017 Annual General Meeting (AGM) to order at 11:25 a.m.</p>	
	<p><b>MINUTE OF SILENCE</b></p> <p>Patti Swanson asked the members to join together for a minute of silence in memory of the members of the profession who had passed away since the last AGM.</p>	
	<p><b>INTRODUCTIONS OF DISTINGUISHED GUESTS, PAST PRESIDENTS, ADMINISTRATION, AND COUNCIL</b></p> <p>Patti Swanson thanked the following sponsors to the day's events:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Arrow Engineering – Title Sponsor</li> <li>• AES Engineering – Sponsor of the Keynote Speaker</li> <li>• Alberta Roofing Contractors, Alberta Masonry Council, and PCL Construction Management Inc. – Sponsors of the Professional Development sessions</li> <li>• Capital Colour – Print Sponsor</li> </ul> <p>Patti informed the members in attendance that the Honourable Brian Mason, Minister of Infrastructure and Minister of Transportation would be joining us before lunch to deliver greetings. She also welcomed the following distinguished guests:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• From the Consulting Architects of Alberta: Jayne Jeneroux, Executive Director</li> <li>• From the Consulting Engineers of Alberta: Ken Pilip, CEO &amp; Registrar</li> <li>• From ASET: Barry Cavanagh, CEO &amp; General Counsel</li> <li>• From Collins Barrow: Thomas Gee, Partner</li> </ul> <p>Patti asked the following groups to stand and be recognized by the members:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Past Presidents in attendance</li> <li>• Robert Bennett, AAA Registrar and Henry Howard, Chair of the Registration Committee</li> <li>• Administration staff of the AAA</li> <li>• 2016 – 2017 Council</li> </ul> <p>All were thanked for their hard work and outstanding contribution during this past council year.</p>	

ITEM #	ORDER OF BUSINESS	ACTION
1	<p><b>ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA</b></p> <p>Patti called for a motion:</p> <p><b>Move that the members of the Alberta Association of Architects approve the Annual General Meeting Agenda dated May 9, 2019, as presented.</b></p> <p>Moved by Keesa Hutchinson Seconded by Henry Howard</p> <p>There were no questions or comments from the floor. Motion was carried.</p>	
2	<p><b>ADOPTION OF MAY 13, 2016 AGM MINUTES</b></p> <p>Patti called for a motion:</p> <p><b>Move that the members of the Alberta Association of Architects approve the May 13, 2016, Annual General Meeting Minutes as presented.</b></p> <p>Moved by Darryl Rewniak Seconded by Karel Pokorny <b>CARRIED</b></p> <p>There were no questions or comments from the floor. Motion was carried.</p>	
3	<p><b>PRESIDENT'S REPORT</b></p> <p>Patti Swanson presented the President's report.</p> <p>Patti began by indicating how fortunate she has been to work with a dedicated group of people. Peter Osborne and his accomplishments as president made her job easier as he created a culture of trust and respect among Council and administration, providing her with an easy transition.</p> <p><b>Council</b></p> <p>In addition to addressing ongoing regulatory issues at both provincial and national levels, Council has spent a great deal of energy tackling a number of the following initiatives:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The theme for the 2016 Think Tank was Advocacy. Think Tank was a great opportunity for Council to freely explore advocacy issues that affect the professions. The establishment of the Advocacy Committee came out of the discussion that took place at Think Tank.</li> <li>• Members of Council met with both the Minister and Deputy Minister of Alberta Infrastructure with the goal of introducing the AAA to our new government and affirming the importance of ongoing dialogue between AI and the AAA. Through these meetings, we were able to secure a spot at the regularly scheduled Industry Liaison meetings with AI and other industry partners.</li> <li>• Council prepared a proposal for revamping the Life Membership category and also created a new award of merit. These changes were made to better reflect current trends and changing demographics.</li> <li>• Council worked on changes to the composition of future councils by proposing to add an additional Licensed Interior Designer (LID) to Council. This change will help strengthen the profile of our LIDs and supports proposed future changes to our membership.</li> </ul>	

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3	<p><b>PRESIDENT'S REPORT (CONT'D)</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Work on amendments to the Architects Act continues. Legislation Committee's work has slowed down as a result of the change in government. We do, however, continue to work with the Professional Governance Branch to move the proposed changes to the Act and Regulation forward.</li> </ul> <p>These issues are a small part of what Council has been working on over the last year. Patti acknowledged all members on Council for their admirable commitment to the professions.</p> <p><b>Administration</b></p> <p>Patti indicated that many positive changes have occurred at Duggan House under the careful watch and leadership of Barbara Bruce. The following highlight just a few of the initiatives to demonstrate how AAA Administration is working for the members:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>A members' survey was conducted to determine the needs and desires of our membership going forward.</li> <li>Online professional development reporting and online voting were launched.</li> <li>The mentors' guideline for the Intern Architect Program (IAP) has been updated.</li> <li>An updated logbook template for Intern Interior Designers has been implemented.</li> <li>Work is underway to completely revamp the AAA website.</li> <li>A complaints training course was developed and offered to assist our complaints review investigators and hearing panel members with their duties.</li> <li>The development of the building envelope course is nearing completion.</li> <li>The cease and desist process that addresses instances of illegal practice has been streamlined for efficiency and effectiveness.</li> <li>Numerous policies have been developed to ensure decisions are made rationally and methodically.</li> </ul> <p>Patti is grateful to everyone at Duggan House for their work over the past year towards organizational excellence. They have made Council's job much easier and the work they do on behalf of our membership is appreciated.</p> <p><b>Volunteer / Committee Members</b></p> <p>Patti acknowledged the commitment and hard work of our numerous committees and volunteers. Our association relies on the support and strength of our members and it is through these contributions that we can ensure our sustainability and shape the future of our professions. Patti thanked all of our committees and volunteers for all they do.</p>	
4	<p><b>REGISTRAR'S REPORT</b></p> <p>Robert Bennett presented the Registrar's report:</p> <p>Robert commented on the continuing growth of the AAA membership during 2016, despite the recent economic challenges faced by our province, and provided some detailed figures including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The modest increase of 2.8 percent in the number of registered architects to 1166</li> <li>Licensed interior designers numbered 69 at year end</li> <li>A decrease of 12 percent in the number of intern architects and a decrease of 15 percent of intern interior designers, which may be, in part, a reflection of the economy</li> </ul>	



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4	<p><b>REGISTRAR'S REPORT (CONT'D)</b></p> <p>Robert commented on how the membership in those categories, numbering 330 and 35 respectively, are still substantial.</p> <p>Due to demographic changes in the working public at large, the number of retired members increased to 85 at the end of 2016 (from 70 in 2015). Considering all categories of membership, the number of those on record with the AAA has decreased marginally by approximately 3% to 1761 during 2016.</p> <p>The figures for newly registered members in Alberta during 2016 were as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 54 through completion of internship (first registration)</li> <li>• 43 through reciprocity (Canadian Professionals)</li> <li>• 12 through inter-recognition (US Professionals)</li> <li>• 2 through the Broadly Experienced Foreign Architect Program</li> <li>• 2 through reinstatement (previously registered with AAA)</li> </ul> <p>We continue to review and approve new architecture and interior design practices as well as revisions to ownership in existing practices, maintaining compliance with the Architects Act and General Regulation. Our records at year end reflected a total of 630 firms and corporations, with 261 (or 41.4 percent) located outside of Alberta.</p> <p>We also continue our efforts in standardizing and simplifying the registration process for architects, interior designers and their practices. In conjunction with ongoing legislation review, some small changes governing the process of registering firms and corporations have been proposed and, if implemented, hold the promise of reduced complexity. Mandatory professional development requirements are also carefully monitored to ensure that all members are meeting established standards.</p> <p>Robert spoke of his confidence in the management procedures and recordkeeping at AAA for registration of Registered Architects, Licensed Interior Designers and their practices and expressed his gratitude to the staff at Duggan House who continue to be on top of the considerable administrative challenges posed by the registration processes. Their contribution is important to the regulation of the practice of architecture and interior design within our mandate to protect the Alberta public.</p>	
5	<p><b>TREASURER'S REPORT</b></p> <p>Treasurer Coben Christiansen reported that the AAA continued its record of strong financial performance in 2016. The Auditor's Report prepared by Collins Barrow was clean and provides the requisite third party oversight for our internal financial management and for our stakeholders. Coben extended Council's thanks to the administration team of Duggan House for their careful management of our finances and for the development of the financial statements.</p> <p>Coben highlighted some specific points in the financial statements including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Operational revenues in 2016 exceeded expenses by over \$580K due to healthy membership, two successful professional development events, Banff Session, and careful management by Council and staff</li> <li>• The 2017 budget was developed to be a deficit budget intentionally considering the up and down nature of the on and off Banff Session years.</li> </ul> <p>Coben was pleased to report that there would be no increase in member dues in 2017, with the expectation that we would be able to use surplus funds from 2016.</p>	

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5	<p><b>TREASURER'S REPORT (CONT'D)</b></p> <p>The AAA's cash position remained strong at the end of 2016 and, therefore, we were able to transfer \$270K to designated funds, as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• \$170K was used to top up the Financial Stabilization Fund to \$720K</li> <li>• \$100K was used to increase the Duggan House Maintenance and Historic Fund to \$200K.</li> </ul> <p>Council made a motion to move \$343,250 from unrestricted funds for a number of important projects in 2016, as follows: legislation review, website development, policy writer, complaint review training, database enhancement, building envelope course, Duggan House workstation upgrade, new filing system, basement improvement project and archive file conversion.</p> <p>Our Statement of Financial Position is very strong, which allows us to weather the current economic climate and look at ways of providing new and better services to our members in 2017.</p> <p>Coben indicated that it was an honour to serve as the AAA Treasurer this past year. This Council and Administration at Duggan House are dedicated to maintaining members' goals of ensuring long-term financial stability for the AAA in years to come.</p> <p>Coben Christiansen made the following motions:</p> <p><b>As Treasurer, I move that the members of the Alberta Association of Architects accept the Audited Financial Statements of 2015 as presented.</b></p> <p>Seconded by Doug Ramsey</p> <p>There were no questions or comments from the floor. Motion was carried.</p> <p><b>As Treasurer, I move that the members of The Alberta Association of Architects appoint Collins Barrow Edmonton LLP as auditor for 2017.</b></p> <p>Seconded by Barb Shipman</p> <p>There were no questions or comments from the floor. Motion was carried.</p>	
6	<p><b>AMENDMENT TO BYLAWS</b></p> <p>Patti Swanson stated that a notice was sent to members via e-blast on April 24, 2017, regarding four bylaw amendments that would be voted on at the 2017 AGM. The four proposed changes were as follows:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Enhanced LID representation on Council</li> <li>2. Name update of the Department of Interior Design at Mount Royal University to reflect the name change at Mount Royal University (MRU) as they no longer have Art History within the department.</li> <li>3. To allow for mid-term or early term election appointment of Council members to fill vacancies regardless of the reasons for vacancies</li> <li>4. To allow the AAA to implement a consistent policy which appropriately recognizes the status of Life Members.</li> </ol>	



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6	<p><b>AMENDMENT TO BYLAWS (CONT'D)</b></p> <p>Patti indicated that the members would vote on these proposed changes one at a time, then have an opportunity to discuss each one.</p> <p>Patti called for the following motions:</p> <p><b>MOTION 1 – LID REPRESENTATION:</b> That the members of the Alberta Association of Architects approve the proposed changes to bylaw 4.2(1) to add one ex officio Licensed Interior Designer to Council, as presented.</p> <p>Moved by Beverly Wilson Seconded by Donna Assaly</p> <p>Patti noted that in the long run, it is our intent for both LID representatives on Council to have full voting rights. Unfortunately, at the moment, our Act specifies only one voting LID. As such, we have to add the second LID through a bylaw change as an ex-officio (non-voting) member for the time being.</p> <p>There were no questions or comments from the floor.</p> <p>Motion was carried.</p> <p><b>MOTION 2 – DEPARTMENT NAME CHANGE AT MRU:</b> That the members of the Alberta Association of Architects approve the proposed changes to bylaw 4.2(1)(d) to update name of department to “Interior Design” at Mount Royal University, as presented.</p> <p>Moved by Donna Assaly Seconded by T. Mindy Isford</p> <p>There were no questions or comments from the floor.</p> <p>Motion was carried.</p> <p><b>MOTION 3 – VACANCIES ON COUNCIL:</b> That the members of the Alberta Association of Architects approve the proposed changes to bylaw 4.9 to allow for mid-term or early-term election appointment of Council members to fill vacancies, regardless of the reasons for vacancies, as presented.</p> <p>Moved by Darrel Babuk Seconded by Karen Bilinske</p> <p>Patti noted that the current bylaws do not allow for a vacancy to be filled in the circumstance where we have a vacancy from the beginning of the term. The bylaws are specific on what happens if someone dies or steps down, but if for some reason we have a vacancy following an election, we do not have a mechanism to fill that spot for another year. This proposed change addresses that deficiency.</p> <p>Patti asked if there were any comments or questions.</p>	

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6	<p><b>AMENDMENT TO BYLAWS (CONT'D)</b></p> <p>Questions / comments from the floor:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>It was suggested that remaining Council step up to cover absences rather than call for another election. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Response: We now have an online voting system to help facilitate extra Council elections, if needed. It is also important to have full voices at the table.</li> </ul> </li> <li>What mechanism of appointment would be used to fill the vacancy? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Response: The usual nomination process would be used—a call for nominations would go out to members, nominations received by the AAA would be reviewed by Nominating Committee who would send recommendations to Council. Council would then review recommendations and appoint accordingly.</li> </ul> </li> </ul> <p>With no further comments or questions from the floor, Patti called for a vote. Motion was carried.</p> <p><b>MOTION 4 – LIFE MEMBERS:</b> That the members of the Alberta Association of Architects approve the proposed changes to Bylaw 7.11 to allow and implement a consistent policy which appropriately recognizes the status of Life Members, as presented / or amended.</p> <p>Moved by Darryl Procinsky Seconded by Terry Hartwig</p> <p>Patti expressed her appreciation to those members who contacted the office with questions around these bylaw changes when the notice was sent to members. We have responded to those individuals, but their comments have helped us to anticipate questions from the floor and prepare for today.</p> <p>The honor of Life Membership has been a combination of milestone and merit whereby members who have been part of AAA for 30 years have been eligible to be nominated by their peers for the honor of Life Membership. Part of the criteria has been their exceptional contribution and leadership. Each year a modest number of nominations are received, Nominating Committee reviews the nominations, and deserving individuals have been recognized with the title of Life Membership.</p> <p>In reviewing the demographics of our membership however, we are aware of the coming wave of baby boomers soon to reach the 30-year mark. We realize that there will likely be more deserving members than we can accommodate under the current system.</p> <p>Rather than leaving deserving members behind, Council is proposing an adjustment to how we recognize our longstanding members.</p> <p>To assist with explaining the proposed changes around Life Membership, a chart showing the current terms and the proposed changes was displayed on the screens for review by members. The key differences are as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The milestone component remains at 30 years' membership.</li> <li>The merit component has been removed. We have established a separate award of merit for this purpose.</li> <li>The waiver of fees that honourees under the current program have enjoyed will not be applied to new honourees (except for retired members – we will waive the \$60 fee).</li> </ul>	



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6	<p><b>AMENDMENT TO BYLAWS (CONT'D)</b></p> <p>One of the reasons for this is that increasingly Life Members are continuing to work and the loss of revenue from active members would be a significant hit to the budget. When the Life Membership category was first developed many years ago it was largely applied to retired members. Retirement is a very different concept these days.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Current Life Members will be grandfathered as such that they won't have to pay individual dues. If they continue to have an active practice, however, they will continue to pay firm dues.</li> </ul> <p>The intent is to pull names from the database on an annual basis, starting in January 2018, and recognize all those members who have met or exceeded the 30-year mark (and not previously honoured) by:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Including their names in an e-bulletin</li> <li>• Receiving letters of congratulation</li> <li>• Being recognized in the annual report</li> <li>• Being recognized as a group at the AGM (or during a Banff year, perhaps at the evening GALA)</li> </ul> <p>The wording in the bylaws indicates, "Council <u>may</u> confer life membership..." This is intentional so that Council has the right to deny or defer life membership to any member they have a concern about, i.e. someone in the midst of a complaint investigation.</p> <p>We are proposing a clarification to the wording in the NOTE after Section 7.11 (3). This NOTE does not actually form part of the bylaw itself, but serves as an explanatory note to the reader to clarify the intent of the bylaw. After some feedback from our membership, we are proposing to reword this note to say:</p> <p><b><i>"NOTE: A retired Life Member is not required to pay any fees, dues or levies. All other Life Members will pay fees, dues or levies and be subject to all professional regulatory requirements."</i></b></p> <p>Patti called for an amended motion, as follows:</p> <p><b>AMENDED MOTION:</b> That the members of the Alberta Association of Architects approve the proposed changes to Bylaw 7.11 to allow and implement a consistent policy which appropriately recognizes the status of Life Members, as presented with an amendment to the NOTE after section 7.11 (3) as discussed.</p> <p>Moved by Darryl Procinsky Seconded by Brian Oakley</p> <p>There were no questions or comments from the floor. Motion was carried.</p>	
	<p><b>GREETINGS BY THE HONOURABLE BRIAN MASON, MINISTER OF INFRASTRUCTURE AND MINISTER OF TRANSPORTATION</b></p> <p>Patti introduced Minister Mason by providing a brief bio, then invited him to the podium to deliver his greetings.</p> <p>Minister Mason began by thanking Patti for the dedication, greeted the membership on behalf of Premier Notley and other Ministers, and indicated that he was pleased to join the AAA at the AGM.</p>	



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	<p><b>GREETINGS BY THE HONOURABLE BRIAN MASON, MINISTER OF INFRASTRUCTURE AND MINISTER OF TRANSPORTATION (CONT'D)</b></p> <p>Minister Mason noted his appreciation for the creations and efforts of our membership and the value their contributions make to the province.</p> <p>The Government of Alberta is investing funding (\$29.5B) towards infrastructure, working on incorporating innovation and green-build initiatives to improve environmental outcomes and carbon footprint. They are also working towards developing a framework to choose enhanced technologies such as solar energy and modernizing current infrastructure.</p> <p>The government continues working on improving policies and processes (procurement) which encourages innovation and using QBS on larger projects (they are currently exploring the merits of QBS for selection of public projects).</p> <p>Minister Mason went on to say that the government relies on the knowledge of architects and interior designers to assist the government in achieving their goals, and, as such, AAA has been invited to attend the Industry Liaison Committee based on the February 2017 meeting with Patti Swanson, Barbara Bruce, Linus Murphy, and Greg Beck.</p> <p>He thanked the members for their contributions, creativity, ingenuity, and expertise.</p>	
7	<p><b>2016-2017 COUNCIL ELECTION</b></p> <p>Patti Swanson began by thanking the 2016 / 2017 Nominating Committee members, Peter Osborne, Donna Assaly, and Christopher Babits.</p> <p>The slate was presented to the membership in accordance with our bylaws. Patti announced that the following individuals have been elected to the 2017-2018 Council:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Ben Klumper, Architect</li> <li>• Donna Assaly, Licensed Interior Designer</li> <li>• Keesa Hutchinson, Architect</li> <li>• Keir Stuhlmiller, Architect</li> <li>• Robert Spaetgens, Architect</li> </ul> <p>The new Intern Representatives appointed to Council this year are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Dania Atassi, Intern Architect</li> <li>• Marcie-Rae MacFarquhar, Intern Interior Designer</li> </ul> <p>Patti presented and welcomed the new members of the 2017-2018 Council.</p> <p>Patti called for a motion:</p> <p><b>MOTION:</b> That ballots and any associated election records and materials for the 2016 – 2017 Council Election be destroyed.</p> <p>Moved by Peter Osborne Seconded by Janette Gescher</p> <p>There were no questions or comments from the floor. Motion was carried.</p>	

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8	<p><b>RETIRING COUNCILOR PRESENTATION</b></p> <p>Patti Swanson stated as happens every year, some key members of Council would be moving on. They have served the membership well and will certainly be missed. She acknowledged the retiring councilors from the 2017 – 2018 AAA Council and presented each of them with a certificate.</p> <table border="1"> <tr> <td>Peter Osborne</td><td>2016 – 2017</td><td> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Immediate Past President</li> <li>Chair, Nominating Committee</li> </ul> </td></tr> <tr> <td></td><td>2015 – 2016</td><td> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>President</li> </ul> </td></tr> <tr> <td></td><td>2014 – 2015</td><td> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Vice-President</li> </ul> </td></tr> <tr> <td></td><td>2013 – 2014</td><td> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Councillor</li> </ul> </td></tr> <tr> <td>Darryl Rewniak</td><td>2011 – 2017</td><td> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Councillor</li> </ul> </td></tr> <tr> <td></td><td>2012 – 2013</td><td> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Chair, Practice Support Task Force</li> </ul> </td></tr> <tr> <td>Jane Lawson</td><td>2013 – 2017</td><td> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Councillor</li> <li>Licensed Interior Designer Representative</li> </ul> </td></tr> </table> <p>Patti also called upon the following ex-officio members of Council whose terms were completed this year. Certificates were presented to those in attendance.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Erin Chartrand, Intern Architect Representative 2016 – 2017</li> <li>Fontaine Schaerer, Intern Interior Designer Representative 2016 – 2017</li> <li>Logan Armstrong, Student Representative University of Calgary 2016 – 2017</li> </ul> <p>Patti thanked all of the retiring Council members for the time and energy they gave to our professions.</p>	Peter Osborne	2016 – 2017	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Immediate Past President</li> <li>Chair, Nominating Committee</li> </ul>		2015 – 2016	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>President</li> </ul>		2014 – 2015	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Vice-President</li> </ul>		2013 – 2014	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Councillor</li> </ul>	Darryl Rewniak	2011 – 2017	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Councillor</li> </ul>		2012 – 2013	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Chair, Practice Support Task Force</li> </ul>	Jane Lawson	2013 – 2017	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Councillor</li> <li>Licensed Interior Designer Representative</li> </ul>	
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9	<p><b>PRESENTATION OF THE PRESIDENT'S MEDALLION</b></p> <p>Patti Swanson stated it was her pleasure to announce that Elizabeth Songer, Vice President, would become the 2017-2018 President. She then made a formal introduction of Elizabeth to the members. Patti removed the President's medallion and placed it around Elizabeth's neck.</p> <p>Elizabeth, in turn, thanked Patti for her achievements over the past year, placed the silver Past President medallion around Patti's neck, and added that she was honoured to present her with the President's plaque.</p>																						
10	<p><b>INCOMING PRESIDENT'S REPORT</b></p> <p>Elizabeth Swanson presented the incoming President's report.</p> <p>Elizabeth noted that 2016 saw an assortment of Council and staff effort focused on initiatives to develop and improve membership support. She thanked the Executive Director, Barbara Bruce, and the hard-working administrative team at Duggan House for their ongoing commitment to the Alberta Association of Architects.</p> <p>Studio visits to local firms for staff members were initiated, so that those in Duggan House would be more connected to the work our members do on a day-to-day basis.</p> <p>A very important initiative taking shape is that of consolidating the AAA and IDA to create one self-governing body that will regulate both Architects and Interior Designers in the province. A lot of thoughtful work will need to go into this amalgamation to ensure the standard of care both organizations provide is not diminished as we come together. We have a window of opportunity with the opening of the Act to both provide clarity to the</p>																						



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10	<p><b>INCOMING PRESIDENT'S REPORT (CONT'D)</b></p> <p>public around the practice of interior design and to provide greater support to our professional interior design members.</p> <p>As much as the AAA does for its members, one area that has been recognized as needing improvement is the website and our virtual experience. The communications team has been working on addressing the deficiencies and although it is still a work in progress, the ability to report professional development online is a welcome milestone.</p> <p>One event Elizabeth was honoured to attend was the Induction Ceremony. Although it may seem like an event only for the individuals being inducted, it is, in reality, a milestone for the profession in our province. As our collective membership ages, we will soon be facing a decrease in architecture and interior design professionals in the province. The event was very moving; to see the struggle and dedication of work and pride of success for those who walk across the stage and into their professional status. This pride is reflected in the faces of family members in attendance and those who have mentored the inductees through the formative stages of their careers. It makes one so proud to be part of these professions.</p> <p>Elizabeth closed by saying that she looks forward to serving the membership as President in the coming year and is honoured to be entrusted to carry forward the tireless efforts of her predecessors. There are many exciting projects underway and she is confident that the team of councilors elected will work hard to think strategically and critically, discuss thoroughly, and employ a forward-looking perspective as we work to do our part to improve the built environment we share.</p>	
11	<p><b>RECOGNITION OF VOLUNTEERS AND LONGSTANDING MEMBERS</b></p> <p><b>Volunteers</b></p> <p>Elizabeth indicated that silver pins were created in the shape of the AAA seal to commemorate those who take time out of their busy schedules to volunteer with the AAA. She asked all volunteers on any of the numerous committees to please stand and be recognized by their peers. She also thanked them for sharing their passion of their profession.</p> <p><b>Longstanding Members</b></p> <p>Elizabeth stated that gold pins were created in the shape of the AAA seal to commemorate membership of 25 years or more, 40 years or more, and 50 years or more. She noticed that some members were sporting their pins this day.</p> <p>All members with more than 25 years / 40 years / 50 years were asked to approach the front of the room to shake hands with the new President of the AAA and to take photos. Members gave all of the longstanding members a round of applause.</p>	
12	<p><b>LIFE MEMBERSHIP PRESENTATION</b></p> <p>Elizabeth stated that the AAA defines a Life Member as someone who has practiced the profession with distinction and notably contributed to the advancement of the profession or architecture or licensed interior design. This year four members received this honour.</p> <p>The first honouree was Derek Haight. Derek approached the stage where he delivered his acceptance speech in which he thanked his nominators and those responsible in honouring him this year. Derek received a standing ovation at the end of his speech.</p>	

ITEM #	ORDER OF BUSINESS	ACTION
12	<p><b>LIFE MEMBERSHIP PRESENTATION (CONT'D)</b></p> <p>Gerald Forseth was the second honouree. Upon reaching the podium, Gerald expressed he was thrilled that he was able to give an acceptance speech unlike when he was made an honorary AAA member where he couldn't thank his father before he passed away. An integral player in drafting the Architects Act, Gerald indicated that this profession supported his love of the arts and travel. He said he would continue to promote the profession through mentoring. Gerald thanked his nominators, Council, and the membership for this honour. He received a standing ovation at the end of his speech.</p> <p>The next honouree was Robert LeBlond. Unfortunately, Robert was unable to make it to accept this honour in person, but one of his nominators, Mark Chambers, was called upon to deliver his acceptance speech in which he indicated he was extremely moved by this honour.</p> <p>The final honouree was Jeremy Sturgess. Unfortunately, Jeremy was also unable to make it to accept the honour in person. He, however, sent a note to Administration ahead of the AGM in which he thanked the AAA for this honour and regrettably was unable to attend due to a previous engagement.</p>	
13	<p><b>TOM SUTHERLAND AWARD OF MERIT</b></p> <p>Elizabeth Songer introduced the new Tom Sutherland Award of Merit which honours and recognizes a member of the AAA who exemplifies exceptional leadership qualities, excellence in design and extraordinary service to the community...all the qualities personified by the late Tom Sutherland.</p> <p>On behalf of Council, Elizabeth indicated that she was honoured to present this award posthumously to the award's eponym...Tom Sutherland.</p> <p>Elizabeth called upon Doug McConnell of DIALOG to say a few words about Tom Sutherland, the man.</p> <p>Doug provided a brief bio of Tom Sutherland Tom Sutherland was born in Edmonton in 1961. He received a Bachelor's degree from the University of Manitoba and went on to receive a Master's degree from the Harvard Graduate School of Design. After graduation, he practiced for ten years in Boston and Toronto before returning home to Edmonton.</p> <p>In 1997, Tom joined DIALOG becoming the Firm's Managing Principal in 2008 with his leadership at the core of the firm's culture and values. His accomplishments include the Royal Alexandra Hospital's Robbins Pavilion, the Kaye Edmonton Clinic, the Grande Prairie Regional Hospital, the Edson Healthcare Centre, the NAIT's HP, Spartan and Petro-Canada Centres, and NorQuest College's Singhmar Centre for Learning.</p> <p>Tom's passion for his community and profession culminated with his leadership in the development of Edmonton's Capital City Downtown Plan where he relished the opportunity to help Edmonton become a greater city.</p> <p>Tom received numerous honors during his career for making a positive impact on Edmonton, and in the support of the profession of Architecture in Alberta. He was an RAIC Fellow, led the creation of the Prairie Design Awards and led the AAA's Practice Entity Task Force. Tom supported many community organizations including as a Board Member and Chair of Capital City Savings and the Global Design Alliance.</p>	



ITEM #	ORDER OF BUSINESS	ACTION
13	<p><b>TOM SUTHERLAND AWARD OF MERIT (CONT'D)</b></p> <p>On April 2, 2015, Tom died tragically in a skiing accident. Throughout his life, Tom was committed to improving community and the profession of architecture, his life and efforts an inspiration for others. His legacy lives on through his family, and the joy his designs bring.</p> <p>Elizabeth thanked Doug and presented the award to Tom's widow, Sandi Sutherland, who in turn thanked the AAA and its members for this honour.</p>	
14	<p><b>CLOSING REMARKS BY NEW PRESIDENT</b></p> <p>Elizabeth finished her comments by saying how honoured she is to be chosen as the 2017-2018 Council President and that she looks forward to leading Council in the coming term. She thanked the hard-working administrative team at Duggan House for their ongoing support and commitment to the AAA.</p>	
	<p><b>Date and Place of Next Annual General Meeting</b></p> <p>Elizabeth Songer announced that the next AGM would take place on May 11, 2018 in Banff at the Banff Springs Hotel.</p>	
15	<p><b>ADJOURNMENT</b></p> <p>With all business of the Annual General Meeting being concluded, Elizabeth Songer called for a motion for adjournment:</p> <p><b>Move that the May 9, 2017, Annual General Meeting of the Alberta Association of Architects be adjourned.</b></p> <p>Moved by Kyle Auch</p> <p>Patti Swanson declared the 2017 AGM adjourned at 12:58 pm.</p>	