

**OTTAWA SUZUKI STRINGS
ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING
Monday, November 13, 2017, 7:00 PM
Woodroffe High School**

The numbers in parentheses indicate how many votes each parent gets if he or she has more than one child enrolled in the school.

Parents Present: Nabil Absi (2), Ashok Balakrishnan, Sylvia Chan (2), Grace Cheng, Mei-Lin Chow, Deanne Donohue (2), Simone Gendron, Ammar Gharbi, Dan Harrel (2), Angela Hui (2), Alaa Jermet, Johanna Jochumsdottir, Anna Katra (2), Paul Keen (2), Julia Martin (4), Alan Ng, Malini Panchadcharam (2), Rachel Picard, Brooke Talisman, Emad Talisman, Savitha Unni, Marion Xhignesse, Liguang Wang
Sub-total: 34

Parent Proxies: Sumi Aota, David Bales (2), Annalisa Bonardi, Sarah Kalhok Bourque, Mathilde Brodeur, Laith Bustani (2), Paulo Felipe Carvalho, Cristian Cordova, Jin Dodd, Branka Dzerdz (2), Dianna Graham, Shannon Johnston, Scott Macklin (2), Tasmin Pan, Katya Permiakova, Shan Rao, Alma Rahmani, Mathieu Saindon, Claire Savage, Margaret So, Nassrin Terstena, David Tichbourne, Wei Zhong

Sub-total: 27

Non-parent Board Members: John Royle, Francine Schutzman
Sub-total: 2

Total number of votes: 63

Non-voting observer: Arlene Lang

The meeting was called to order at 7:10 PM.

1. Approval of the Minutes of the Annual General Meeting of November 21, 2016.

Moved by Marion Xhignesse, seconded by Julia Martin. Carried.

2. Report of the President, John Royle:

A. John reviewed the school's mission.

B. Our finances are in good shape, with a balanced budget for the current year and a surplus from last year of \$4,500. Enrollment is up to 120 students, vs 101 last year.

C. Anna Katra headed the outreach committee, which is an ongoing initiative. We attempt to establish public awareness of who we are through word of mouth, community concerts, social media (Facebook), special outreach events and advertisement.

D. Some highlights of last year include:

i. Monday night playdowns, recitals, Kiwanis

ii. Community concerts

iii. Special outreach events funded by a grant from the Community Foundation of Ottawa, including several workshops

iv. Visits from Alexander Shelley, conductor of NACO, and naming of OSS as part of the NAC's ambassadorship program

- v. Guitar group performance at the Chilean Embassy
- vi. Fundraising gala for the Stellae Boreales tour
- vii. Stellae Boreales tour to Argentina

E. Faculty

- i. Jerry Caaba, Jezlyn Lang and Nathan Bredeson are new group-class teachers.
- ii. Alyssa Stevenson is teaching theory this year.
- iii. Peter Rapson is a new faculty member.
- iv. Lisa Moody has left the school faculty but will continue to assist occasionally.

F. Thanks to:

- i. Judy Ginsburg, Administrator
 - ii. Deanne Donohue, School and Volunteer Coordinator
 - iii. Anna Katra and Adam Cicchillitti for maintaining the Facebook site
 - iv. Summer student Eric Tichbourne
 - v. Meenakshi Gupta for helping achieve grant money from the Community Foundation of Ottawa
 - vi. All of our volunteers -- parents, family and friends
 - vii. Departing board members Johanna Jochumsdottir, Randi Karstad and Duncan McCallum.
- G. John asked the parents to give feedback on how the school is doing, to spread the word if they're happy, and to contact the Administrator or the Board with concerns.

3. Presentation of the Financial Review conducted by Ouseley Hanvey Clipsham Deep LLP, for the last fiscal year, ending June 30, 2017. The review shows a surplus of \$4,500 on income of \$217,000.

Acceptance of the financial review was moved by John Royle and seconded by Brooke Talisman. Carried.

4. Motion: That Ouseley Hanvey Clipsham Deep LLP be appointed to conduct a Financial Review for the current fiscal year, ending June 30, 2018.

Moved by Marion Xhignesse, seconded by Julia Martin. Carried.

5. Election of Directors:

Motion:

1. That the following be elected as Directors of the Ottawa Suzuki Strings for the coming year:

Bill Absi
Ammar Gharbi
Meenakshi Gupta
Anna Katra
Paul Keen
Marina Kun
John Royle
Francine Schutzman

2. In addition to the above members, that there be two open Board of Director positions, to be filled by Board appointment, if and when the Board finds appropriate candidates.

3. In addition, that the following be approved as an Advisory (non-voting) Board member: Elaine Klimasko (Artistic Director).

Moved by Ashok Balakrishnan, seconded by Marion Xhignesse. Carried.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:00 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Francine Schutzman, Secretary