

**IWIRC Ontario Network  
Board of Directors Meeting**

**MINUTES**

March 8, 2017 – 9:15 a.m. EST

---

Meeting held at BMO, First Canadian Place, 100 King St. West, 6th Floor Toronto, ON M5X 1H3

Present: Kyla Mahar – Chair  
Toni Vanderlaan – Vice Chair  
Deborah Hornbostel – Secretary  
Tushara Weerasooriya – Director of Programs  
Sara Van Allen – Director of Programs  
Maya Poliak – Director of Membership  
Natasha De Cicco – Director of Community Service  
Rachel Bengino – Director of Communications/Website  
Constance de Grosbois – Director at Large

Phone: Dina Milivojevic – Director at Large

Regrets: Melaney Wagner - Past Chair  
Karen Kimel – Treasurer  
Katherine McEachern – Director at Large

The meeting commenced at approximately 9:15 a.m.

**1. Minutes from February 7, 2017 Meeting**

- **MOTION:** Motion by Constance to approve the Minutes of the February 7, 2017 Board meeting. Motion was seconded by Toni and carried by the Board.

**2. Founders Award Nominations - Ryan Award Nomination**

- Kyla advised that the Ontario network submitted an application for the Ryan Award for outstanding IWIRC network of the year on March 3, 2017 and thanked Constance, Deborah and Toni for their efforts in preparing the nomination application.

**3. Programs**

- AGM/Cooking Event
  - Feedback from attendees at the event was all positive.
- April 2017 Lunch and Learn
  - Katherine Forbes of Richters will be the moderator and take the lead on organizing a panel on recent retail restructurings to take place during the last week of April, 2017.

- Lunch and Learn events are generally member only events except for lenders who are invited but we should consider inviting men to the next event in order to showcase the women on the panel.
- Tushara will circulate the "Lender List" for members to review and add other lenders to it. The board will decide whether to invite lenders to the event for free in order to improve the networking opportunity and promote IWIRC.
- The event will count as substantive hours for lawyers. Toni will look into requirements/qualifications for CPA CPD.
- Summer Social Event
  - Opportunities for tennis and sailing events were discussed and will be investigated for the next meeting. It was decided that a golf event would not be pursued due to cost concerns.

#### **4. Finance Update**

- As Karen was absent, Kyla advised that we currently have cash on hand of over \$15,000 and we should aim to spend money towards attracting new members.

#### **5. Membership**

- Maya advised that she was not getting membership updates. She will contact Shari Bedker to adjust the settings.
- Kyla advised that we recently obtained about three new members and therefore membership is about 59. She would like to see it around 65-70.
- Maya will work on designing a pamphlet and email to non-members outlining the benefits of membership
- Consider getting some exposure on *Insolvency Insider*
- Consider a membership drive event ie. Wine/fashion event with a free membership draw
- Consider a free membership draw at each event as members usually continue to maintain their memberships thereafter.
- A sub-committee will be set-up to identify targets.

#### **6. Community Service**

- Natasha advised of the available dates for the Soup Sisters and it was agreed that December 4<sup>th</sup> was the best date as it was during the season to give back to the community. The cost is \$55 per person. Natasha will gather further information in able to confirm the booking.
- Consideration of building a house via Habitat For Humanity was proposed but it was decided that it was too much of a commitment for the network on its own and that it would be a good idea to partner up with another organization such as TMA NOW, OBA, CAIRP etc.
- Natasha also proposed that a portion of funds from events be donated to Nellie's Shelter for abused women and Jessie's Centre for teenage moms and that clothing be donated to Dress For Success at events.

**7. Website/Communications**

- Rachel is working on resolving technical difficulties in getting pictures posted from the AGM/Cooking Event

The Meeting adjourned at 10:15 a.m.



---

Deborah Hornbostel  
Secretary