



Bell Pensioners' Group

Together, Protecting our Pensions and Benefits

NATIONAL ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

SEPTEMBER 15, 2020

1:30 – 2:30 pm

Chair: Denis Marquis, BPG National President

1:30

1. WELCOME AND INTRODUCTIONS

Good afternoon ladies and gentlemen and welcome to this special National Annual General Meeting (AGM). For those of you who may not know me, I am Denis Marquis and I have the privilege to be the president of the Bell Pensioners' Group since June 2019; I will be assisted in this meeting by Raynald Wilson, our Pension Committee Chair, acting today as the Host, and Pat Bossence, our National Secretary, who will make a record of today's sessions. As I said, this meeting is special and this, in two ways: indeed, this is the first time that we have an AGM at the national level in our 25 years of existence and moreover, it will be held in a virtual mode, thanks to this glorious coronavirus. While this virtual meeting, using the Zoom technology, allows a direct contact with a few hundred members, it has its limits and this is why we have provided an Instruction document to all participants with our final invitation note. For those of you who may not have had such virtual sessions in the past months, it may look a little complicated at first sight, but with the help of our self-taught volunteers Raynald, Tony L. and Pat, you will see that, like you heard many times at the beginning of the confinement period, it'll go fine ! As mentioned in the invitation note, questions and requests for clarifications were suggested to be sent in advance of the meeting and treated accordingly, but there will still be a limited possibility during this meeting, using the Question & Answer tool mentioned in the job-aid; Tony Lepine, our Vice-President for Ontario, has accepted to monitor and route these Q&A as they come along.

Just one clarification for the members that could only access this Zoom webinar via telephone – unfortunately, this is not the ideal tool to participate, as you can basically only listen to the presentations:

- We are not able to record your attendance
- You will not have the possibility to vote on the motions
- You will not be able to view the material presented on screens
- You will not be able to use the Q&A tool, so you will need to ask questions after the meeting

1.1 CALL TO ORDER – establish quorum

Currently, in our By-Laws, the only quorum rule that we have is with respect to our annual Chapter's AGMs and it reads as follows "The quorum for meetings of a Chapter shall be 10% of the Chapter membership or 30 members, whichever is less.". Consequently, from our research and given the current pandemic circumstances, we are fully confident to have a solid quorum with more than 100 members at each of our

two AGM sessions today. In fact, I can see that we have 128 participants for this session, including the 6 volunteers appearing on video.

1.2 APPROVAL OF AGENDA

I assume that you will have found the final version of this proposed agenda on BPG's website. So, unless there is any changes or additions identified at this time, I will come immediately to a motion in order to approve that agenda. Like all the other motions that will be proposed at this meeting, for the sake of time, we have already pre-assigned a mover for the motion. However, I will still ask if there is anyone from the audience who would like to second the motion; in order to do that, you will have to use this "Raise Hand" tool at the bottom of your screen, and then our Secretary Pat. will announce immediately the first one that she sees appearing on her screen.

Now, I will read the motion, ask for a seconder, and in parallel, Raynald will initiate the process to make a voting panel available to everyone; then, I will start the voting period for 30 seconds. Shortly after, Raynald should be in a position to announce the result of the vote. So, bear with us for this first motion to be voted on, we have tested that voting capability, but obviously not with the magnitude of the current audience.

(Read the motion + moved by Pat Bossence, ask for a seconder, and start the vote)

Moved by: Pat Bossence, BPG National Secretary

Seconded by: Diane Holgate

THAT the proposed agenda for this BPG National AGM being held on September 15, 2020 be approved

Raynald advises the results of the vote: 96% Yes, zero No, 4% abstain

The motion is carried

1:40

2. APPROVAL OF PREVIOUS AGM MINUTES

As you know, the majority of our Chapters have their annual AGM in the spring period, and they issue short minutes from these AGMs, which are approved at their next AGM the following year. Since it was impossible to have any AGM in any Chapter in 2020, for the reasons you know, it is proposed here to adopt in bulk all the minutes that originated from the 2019 Chapter AGMs - I am assuming here that every participant has had a chance to review the minutes of their respective Chapter in advance. So, let me read the motion to that end :

(Read the motion + moved by Steve Longeway, ask for a seconder, and start the vote)

Moved by Steve Longeway, Chair – BPG Membership & Operations Ctte

Seconded by: Diane Holgate

THAT the Chapters' last AGM minutes be approved

Raynald advises the results of the vote: 89% Yes, zero No, 11% Abstain

The motion is carried

<p>1:45</p>	<p>3. MESSAGE FROM NATIONAL PRESIDENT <i>presented by Denis Marquis, BPG National President</i></p> <p>In a normal AGM, the President has normally 20 minutes or so, to deliver a report on the “state of the nation”, if I may say, for the business surrounding BPG’s activity, and then allow for some interactivity with the Chapter members in a face-to-face mode. You will certainly agree that this Zoom application is certainly not an equivalent in order to do that. So, my report today will be somewhat brief and based on the PowerPoint document that you have hopefully found on our website. However, everyone is invited to contact me after this meeting if there is anything which could have been added or clarified in this report, and it will be my pleasure to get back to you on that. Let’s get to that brief President Report ...</p>
<p>1:55</p>	<p>4. APPROVAL TO AMEND BPG BY-LAWS <i>presented by Tony Lepine, BPG Vice President – Ontario and Chair of the Governance Committee</i></p> <p>As this will be the case for the next three items on the agenda, I will now be assisted by a Panelist, who will be introducing properly the topic highlighted in the agenda, for a period of 5 minutes (and our Host will identify to the Panelist when 4 minutes will have expired, in order for the Panelist to conclude); as mentioned before, a limited Q&A window will exist, to make sure that everyone has all the necessary information to be in a position to vote on the motion in an informed way, then I will proceed with the vote as we have now been fully trained for.</p> <p>And the first Panelist to assist me here will be Tony Lepine, our Vice-President for Ontario and the Atlantic provinces, and also, especially for this item here, the Chair of our Governance Committee. Over to you Tony for the next 5 minutes ...</p> <p>Now, please pay attention to my reading, since you will not have the full text of the motion on your voting screen this time, as we are limited to 250 characters. But, if you have the agenda of the meeting at your disposal, you will find the full text there ... Oops, looks like our Host Raynald was able to share his screen, so that we can all see the full text !</p> <p><i>Moved by Tony Lepine</i> <i>Seconded by: Don Dutton</i></p> <p>THAT the BPG by-laws be amended under Article 4-Meetings of Members, Section A- Annual and General Meetings Item 4.2-Place and Format of Meetings to read: ‘the Bell Pensioners’ Group may from time to time choose to hold virtual meetings using an appropriate electronic facility. Members participating may vote electronically subject to the following:</p> <p>(a) Votes are gathered in a way that allows them to be verified, tallied, and presented while maintaining votes anonymous’</p> <p><i>Raynald advises the vote was unanimous for the motion.</i> <i>The motion is carried.</i></p>

<p>2:05</p>	<p>5. PRESENTATION OF AUDITED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS <i>presented by Candida Lattuca, BPG Interim National Treasurer</i></p> <p>Now, for those of us (I am including myself in there) who love numbers, this is fun time! More seriously, I will ask Candida Lattuca, who is our new National Treasurer on an interim basis only since last June. But, I can reassure you that she has been well trained before and since then by our Past Treasurer Lee Anne Mackey, so Candida, please help us to go through enough numbers in 5 minutes ...</p> <p>We now have two motions to propose to you in accordance with this financial report; we will go one by one, and the first one reads as follows:</p> <p><i>Moved by: Candida Lattuca</i> <i>Seconded by: Dennis Lalonde</i> THAT the BPG Membership accept the Financial Statements as reviewed by BDO Canada for the year ending December 31, 2019</p> <p><i>Raynald advises the results of the vote: 99% Yes</i> The motion is carried</p> <p><i>Moved by: Peter Dilworth, Chair – BPG Audit & Finance Committee</i> <i>Seconded by: Ted Faulkner</i> THAT BDO Canada be appointed as public accountant to conduct a review engagement for the 2020 fiscal year-end at a cost of approximately \$8,000. as recommended by the Board of Directors of BPG</p> <p><i>Raynald advises the results of the vote: 97% Yes, 1% No, 2% Abstain</i> The motion is carried</p>
<p>2:15</p>	<p>6. ELECTION 2020-21 BPG BOARD OF DIRECTORS <i>presented by Tony Scandella, Interim Chair – BPG Nominations Committee</i></p> <p>And finally, since we have to plan for the posterity of our Bell Pensioners' Group, I will ask Tony Scandella, our new Chair of the Nominations Committee, also on an interim basis since last June, to report on the work of this Committee over the last year. Like Candida, Tony was also very well trained in these last months by our Past Nominations Chair, Donna Smith. Over to you Tony ...</p> <p>This time, we have five motions to propose to prepare for the immediate future of our organization; again going one by one, the first one reads as follows:</p> <p><i>(Read the motion + moved by Christian Roy, Vice-President for Quebec and member of the Nominations Committee (as Tony cannot propose himself being included in the motion), ask for a seconder, and start the vote)</i></p> <p><i>Moved by: Christian Roy, BPG Vice President – Québec</i> <i>Seconded by: Bryan Larry</i></p>

THAT the BPG membership renews the terms of Denis Marquis, Raynald Wilson, Denis Henry for an additional two-year term (2020-2022) and **THAT** the BPG membership elects 3 new Directors: Candida Lattuca, Tony Scandella, Karen Lawson for a two-year term (2020-2022) as recommended by the current BPG Board of Directors at the April 14, 2020 Meeting

Raynald advises the results of the vote: 95% Yes 5% Abstain

The motion is **carried**

Now, let's proceed with the second motion. This time, I have to make a point before we proceed: as per our Bylaws, and for the last 25 years, our Chapter Chairs have been elected by their respective Chapter during an Annual General Meeting (AGM). As you know, we did not have AGMs in the Chapters in 2020, so we now have to execute that process here today. Therefore, in order to respect the principle that a Chapter Chair is elected by the membership of her/his Chapter, I will ask that only the members of this specific Chapter should use their right to vote, all others should ignore the voting panel which will appear on their screen (don't worry, it will disappear automatically when our Host Raynald closes the vote), don't even tick on the "Abstention" button, as it will contaminate the voting results. We trust here everyone's integrity, because the voting process is anonymous, so we have no way to know who voted what, we just have a good idea on how many members from each Chapter are attending today.

Moved by: Carol Ann Cole, Outgoing Chair – BPG – Ontario Central Chapter

Seconded by: Karen Endicott

THAT the BPG membership of the **Ontario Central Chapter** elects Natalie Wright as a Director on the 2020-2021 BPG Board and the Ontario Central Chapter Chair as recommended by the current Ontario Central Chapter Executive

Raynald advises the results of the vote: 96% Yes 4% No Zero abstain

The motion is **carried**

Moved by: Marg Eades, Outgoing Director – BPG National Board, and also a member of the Ottawa/East & North Ontario Chapter

Seconded by: Don Dutton

THAT the BPG membership of the **Ottawa/East & North Ontario Chapter** elects Claude Elliott as a Director on the 2020-2021 BPG Board and the Ottawa/East & North Ontario Chapter Chair as recommended by the current Ottawa/East & North Ontario Chapter Executive

Raynald advises the results of the vote: 97% Yes, 3% No Zero abstain

The motion is **carried**

Now, let's proceed with the fourth motion:

Moved by: Tony Scandella, Interim Chair – BPG Nominations Committee

Seconded by:

THAT the BPG membership of the **Southwestern Ontario Chapter** reelects Steve Longeway as a Director on the 2020-2021 BPG Board and the Southwestern Ontario Chapter Chair as recommended by the current Southwestern Ontario Chapter Executive

Raynald advises the results of the vote: 90% Yes, 10% No Zero abstain

*The motion is **carried***

And finally, let's proceed with the fifth motion:

Moved by: Christian Roy, BPG Vice President - Québec

Seconded by: Carol Lacroix

THAT the BPG membership of the **Montréal Chapter** elects Louise Huneault as a Director on the 2020-2021 BPG Board and the Montréal Chapter Chair as recommended by the current Montréal Chapter Executive

Raynald advises the results of the vote: 93% Yes, 7% No Zero Abstain

*The motion is **carried***

2:30

7. MEETING ADJOURNMENT

Now, we are coming to the point where we have completed our meeting agenda. I will reiterate here that your volunteer team would have preferred by far to have those annual meetings as usual, in a face-to-face mode, in all your respective Chapters. We certainly hope that we will be able to do so next year and resume at the same time our 25th Anniversary celebrations from where we left them at the beginning of the year. Thank you very much for your patience and understanding, as I clearly recognize that you may have felt a little “rushed”, it may have looked too much “business”, not the kind of atmosphere that we prefer in our normal member meetings. Then, to conclude, I will propose a last motion to you in order to close our session, which is:

Moved by: Tony Lepine

Seconded by: Steve Longeway

THAT this BPG National Annual General Meeting of the BPG Membership be adjourned

Raynald advises the results of the vote 99% Yes 1% Abstain

Carried

Thank you very much again and please everyone, continue to take care for yourself and your loved ones, as this virus is still there for a while, at least until we have a good vaccine available for everyone !