

**Minutes of ACRE Annual General Meeting****Date:** March 28, 2024**Prepared by:** Gord Hill**Present:****Board of Directors:**

Stephen Woodley, President
Gord Hill, Secretary
Gary Fehr, Treasurer
Heather Barna, Director
Stephan Moresoli, Director
Marie-Claude Osterrath, Director

25 Members were present for the AGM held at the Meredith Centre 23 Chemin Cecil,
Chelsea QC J9B 0A5

See [the PowerPoint document presented at the AGM](#). The slides in this presentation accurately set out the matters discussed at the AGM.

The AGM was hosted by Stephen Woodley and Valeria Kuzivanova.

1. Meeting Introduction (slide 2)

Stephen opened the meeting by reviewing the proposed agenda sent to all ACRE members on March 11, 2024.

2. Adoption of Minutes from 2023 AGM (slide 3)

Resolution: Proposed by Stephen to approve the Minutes from the 2023 AGM and SGM.

Vote: Carried with no objections.

3. Fun Quiz (slides 4-9)

Valeria presented a fun quiz featuring wildlife camera photos (slides 4-9).

4. President's Report (slides 10-11)

Stephen reviewed ACRE's background and its four main priorities:

- Land trust
- Public policy advice
- Public education
- Provider of science-based information for the community

Key administrative accomplishments in 2023-24:

- Hiring Valeria as ACRE's full-time program manager
- Updating the website and implementing new policies
- Completing land management plans
- Conducting a financial audit
- Creating new brochures on EcoGifts and other conservation options
- Addressing challenges such as:
 - Insurance company canceling bike coverage
 - ECCC's FMV valuation dispute regarding the ecological gift for McMartin Forest

5. Wild Leek Restoration (slide 12)

Stephen discussed ACRE planting 1,500 bulbs since June 2022.

6. Parent Creek Project (slide 13)

Stephen reviewed ACRE's restoration efforts and interactions regarding the bank of Parent Creek.

7. Review of ACRE Lands and Upcoming Stewardship Activities (slides 14-17)

Stephen reviewed ACRE's land holdings, their ecological significance in connecting corridors to Gatineau Park, and wildlife surveillance activities in 2023-24.

8. 30/30 Land Conservation (slides 18-22)

Stephan Moresoli reviewed the 30/30 conservation goals, Chelsea's municipal conservation efforts, and ACRE's contributions. Special thanks to Stephan Moresoli for his work on behalf of ACRE.

9. ACRE Work Planned for 2024 (slides 23-24)

Stephen presented ACRE's projected activities for 2024-25:

- Potential acquisition of four properties
- Parent Creek restoration
- Continued 30/30 efforts in Chelsea
- Restoration of endangered tree species
- Enhanced ecological monitoring

10. Acknowledgments (slide 25)

On behalf of ACRE, Stephen extended gratitude to ACRE's supporters, donors, and contributors, including:

- Megan Throop
- Andy Shaw
- Carl Savignac
- Rink Delange
- CREDDO
- Anonymous donor(s)
- General donors
- Stewardship Committees
- The Board of Directors

11. Financial Matters (slides 26-36)

Presentation: Treasurer Gary Fehr presented and explained the audited financial statements. The auditors have confirmed that the financial statements fairly represent ACRE's financial position as of December 3, 2023.

Resolution: Stephen Woodley proposed the approval of ACRE's 2023 audited financial statements.

Vote: Carried with no objections.

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Gary also reviewed the 2024 budget approved by the Board in January 2024. The budget's accuracy will depend on the completion of four significant land acquisitions and associated fundraising efforts. However, all fixed expenses related to existing properties and operations are fully funded, ensuring financial stability.

12. Community Survey Results (slides 37-38)

Valeria reviewed the responses from 165 participants regarding preferred community awareness activities.

13. Stewardship Committees Reports (slides 40-53)

Overview: Slide 39 lists the four Stewardship Committees and their members.

Forêt aux Étangs (slides 40-43 presented by Carolyn Farquhar)

- The FAE Committee reviewed trail use statistics
- FAE's 2023-24 activities: trail maintenance, camera trap surveys, butternut and American elm restoration
- FAE's 2024 monitoring plans: wild leek, tree mortality plots, bat survey, bioblitz (salamanders, spring ephemerals, species at risk)

Place EcoRubin (slides 44-46, presented by Carl Savignac)

- The Committee presented a map detailing the existing 470m trail and planned 750m expansion
- Identified the need for two boardwalks
- 2023 work: protecting 10,000 planted trees, maintaining the electric fence

Hundred Acre Wood (slides 47-50 presented by Marie-Claude Osterrath)

- The HAW committee provided a description of the forest, its trails and access points, and its camera trap survey findings
- Future plans: interpretative signage, tree planting, trail improvements, invasive species identification, habitat restoration

Larrimac Forest (slides 51-53 presented by Mark Wilson)

- The LF Committee described the ecological significance of the forest, and community trail usage

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- 2023-24 work included fence removal, mission statement development, committee expansion, trail usage assessment, land management planning
- 2024-25 goals: community information session (June), planting disease-resistant trees, multiyear tree health studies, trail condition assessments and improvements

14. Vote on Existing and New Directors (slides 55-57)

Nominations proposed by Stephen for ACRE Board:

Existing Directors:

- Heather Barna - biologist, formerly national planner with Nature Conservancy of Canada
- Gary Fehr - business and finance, current Treasurer
- Gord Hill – retired environmental lawyer, other board experience, current Secretary
- Stephan Moresoli - geospatial engineer, surveyor
- Stephen Woodley - ecologist, IUCN, current President

New directors:

- Olga Tasci – CEO, non-profit cooperative housing
- Vincent Barrette – Forest engineer, MRC Des Collines
- Meredith Brown – Biologist, former Ottawa River Keeper, IJC Board member

Vote: Carried with no objections.

15. Adjournment

Time: 9:00 PM

Minutes Approved By The Members of ACRE at AGM 2025:

Chairperson: _____

Date: _____