

Minutes
Visual Researchers' Society of Canada
Association des chercheurs en audiovisuel du Canada
Annual General Meeting
Tuesday May 1, 2012, 6:00 pm
The Spoke Club, 600 King St. West, Toronto, ON

Present:

Laura Blaney	Roy Harris	Monica Penner
Erin Chisholm	Elizabeth Klinck	Helena Raposo
Gina Cali	Laura Lucas	Willa Marcus
Elspeth Domville	Nancy Marcotte	Mia Webster
Donna Dudinsky	Kathleen McKenna	
Liz Etherington	Laurie Near	

Board of Directors: Elizabeth Klinck, Chairperson, Nancy Marcotte, Vice-Chairperson, Erin Chisholm, Treasurer, Helena Raposo, Secretary and Kelley Fry and Mia Webster, Officers

Minutes: Helena Raposo

1. Meeting Called To Order: 6:45 p.m.

2. Minutes of 2011 AGM Present by Helena Raposo: Approved by Gina Cali and Roy Harris.

3. Appointment of Officers: Elizabeth Klinck announced that Officers Odette Desormeaux, and Michael Ostroff resigned from the VRSC/ARAC Board of Directors. Mia Webster from Montreal and Kelly Fry put their names forward and were voted in unanimously. Mia Webster will be the new VRSC/ARAC representative from Quebec and Kelly Fry will be our representative from Western Canada.

4. Financial Report and Audit of 2011 Financial Statements: Treasurer, Erin Chisholm, reported that Barbara Sears' brother donated \$10,000 to The Barbara Sears Endowment Fund. This money has been moved to a separate account from the VRSC account to a BMO trading account and is making some money for the VRSC. The Sears Endowment Fund is to be used for training and the further professional development of editorial and visual research. As for the VRSC account, Erin reported that they were in good standing. See financial report attached. The audit was done for free by Barbara St. Germaine and Patty Caron. Donna Dudinsky and Nancy Marcotte moved to accept the financial report.

5. New Markets/Formats/Clients for Members: Elizabeth Klinck asked to strike a committee to help find new markets for the VRSC membership, such as eBooks, Gaming and Advertising Agencies. Monica Penner and Helena Raposo volunteered to take over this task from Elizabeth Klinck. Also, Vice chairperson Nancy Marcotte has been asked by the Congrès des archivistes du Québec to do a presentation. More details to be announced later.

6. VRSC Preferred Rate Discussion: The Rates Committee (Roy Harris, Elspeth Domville and Nancy Marcotte) negotiated preferred rates for the VRSC membership, with NBC Archives, ABC Videosource, Image Works and Bridgeman Art Gallery. They

have renewed our agreements with WPA, Getty images, Footage Bank. Negotiations are underway with CTV and T3 (formerly Thought Equity) Please see the VRSC website for further details.

Roy and Elspeth met with Karen Bower of CBC Archives Sales to discuss the recent issues VRSC members are having with CBC.

Karen was very concerned with the lack of service our members have been experiencing from CBC Archive Sales. As a new manager of this team, she hopes to rectify this situation as best she can.

7. Barbara Sears Endowment Fund Update/Training: As stated in the Financial section of these minutes, a \$10,000 dollar donation has been added to this fund. Elizabeth Klinck asked for suggestions regarding training. After some discussion, a motion was passed that a workshop on music clearances be given. Elizabeth Klinck will give out further details in future.

Due to lack of submissions, The VRSC Training Week has been cancelled this year. A motion was unanimously passed, however, that a Stock Footage Forum still be arranged for October in Toronto and in Montreal in Feb/March. Roy Harris volunteered to organize the forum in Toronto. If you have any ideas for this event please send them to Roy. Nancy Marcotte will be organizing the forum in Montreal again this year.

8. Fundraising Activities/Membership Dues: A brief discussion about how to fundraise for the VRSC was had. Pursuing a charitable status seemed complicated. Monica Penner volunteered to research on possible grants the VRSC could apply to. It was unanimously voted that the VRSC Membership dues be increased to \$85 per year, commencing in 2013. It was discussed that future VRSC workshops should charge a fee for members and non-members. This would be a way increase our financial resources.

9. New VRSC/ARAC Website Unveiling: The VRSC/ARAC website has been updated with a fresher new look! Although, Jack Martin worked on the website free of charge, due to the amount of work he did, it was motioned by Donna Dudinsky and Kathleen McKenna that an honorarium of \$500 being given to Jack Martin for the three months of work he did on our behalf. This motion voted in unanimously.

10, Gemini and Gemeaux Awards Update: For now, the Geminis will be keeping the editorial and visual research awards separately. Elizabeth Klinck will be speaking with the governance committee at the Academy to ensure that they remain as separate awards for next year. Nancy Marcotte has applied to the Gemeaux for a visual research award. Nancy has to prepare a letter and an application.

12. FOCAL Juries Report: Elspeth Domville reported for the English Canada FOCAL Jury. This jury was comprised of Roy Harris, Monica Penner, Donna Dudinsky and Kathleen McKenna. They juried for the Short Productions category. Mia Webster was on the jury for French Canada Focal Jury and their group juried Entertainment Productions. Both groups reported on the variety of the work and were unable to tell us whom they selected because announcements had not yet been made.

13. History Makers International: Elizabeth Klinck reported that History Makers gave out 40 bursaries to visual researchers. She hopes that this initiative would be renewed next year. The archives who participated in the event gave great feedback.

VRSC members Gina Cali and Mia Webster, both attended the event and remarked that the sessions were varied and informative, they met many producers, there were great master classes and a wonderful opportunity to meet other visual researchers from around the world. They both felt it was worth attending. Elizabeth also commented that American visual researchers are forming their own group based on the VRSC!

14. Social Media: Gina Cali volunteered to look after our VRSC Twitter account. We still need a member to look after our Facebook account. Donna Dudinsky was going to look into doing so.

15. Job Postings: Elizabeth Klinck has been distributing the job postings to our membership for 5 years. She asked our membership if someone would volunteer to take it over. Nancy Marcotte has volunteered to email job postings for the ARAC. We still need someone to do it for the VRAC and volunteers will be asked to take over this task.

Other Business:

The Apostrophe in Visual Researchers' Society of Canada

Kathleen McKenna requested that we standardize the use of the apostrophe, in Researchers'. She has noticed different uses.

What's in a Name? / Mission Statement/Slogan

Donna Dudinsky and Nancy Marcotte to tackle the Mission Statement so that it reflects the variety of services VRSC/ARAC members offers. For the most, we are all visual researchers, however, some our editorial researchers and some also provide music clearances. It was discussed whether or not we should change our name; Since we are mainly composed of visual researchers, it was decided, the name would not change. Also, discussed was a possible slogan to add to the website.

Adjournment: Elizabeth Klinck and Roy Harris moved to adjourn.