

FRIENDS OF WABAKIMI

Notice of Annual Meeting of Members

Notice is hereby given that the 2023 annual meeting of the members of *Friends of Wabakimi* (FOW) will be held on the date, at the time, and at the location specified below.

Date: Sunday, March 12, 2023
Time: 9:00 – 10:00 AM (CST) (10:00 a.m. EST)
Location: Superior Room (Online access with Zoom)
Clarion Hotel
Alliant Energy Center
2110 Rimrock Road
Madison, Wisconsin USA

The meeting will occur in conjunction with *Canoecopia* which will be held in the adjacent Alliant Energy Center from Friday, March 10 to Sunday, March 12. Enter the hotel via the front lobby where you will be directed to the Superior Room which will open at 9:00 AM. Plan to arrive well before the meeting is scheduled to start to allow time to register.

It is imperative that the meeting start punctually as the facility being provided by the good folks at *Canoecopia* is only available for a limited time. The meeting should last no more than 45 minutes after which FOW members will be encouraged to visit *Canoecopia* exhibits, attend speaker presentations and take advantage of special discounts only available during the show.

AGENDA

1. **Call to Order & Determination of a Quorum** Vern Fish, President
2. **Introduction of Board of Directors** Vern Fish, President
3. **Approval of the Agenda** Vern Fish, President
4. **Adoption of *Minutes of 2022 Annual Meeting of the Members***
John Holmes, Sec/Tres
5. **Election of Directors** Vern Fish, President
(Slate of Nominees, page 2)
6. **Approval of *Financial Statement*** John Holmes, Sec/Tres
(December 31, 2022)
7. **Recognition, Awards & Updates** Vern Fish, President
8. **Adjournment** Vern Fish, President

Election of Directors

At each annual meeting, the members present or represented by proxy will select a minimum of three (3) and a maximum of fifteen (15) Directors to serve until the next annual meeting. The following slate of individuals have agreed to serve as Directors until then subject to their election by a single, simple majority vote. [Bios on our web site.](#)

Mary Jean Blaisdell (2026)
Randy Trudeau (2026)
Maurice Poulin (2026)
Beth Rausch (2026)
Trevor Twose (2026)

Quorum

A quorum for the transaction of business at any meeting of the members shall be one-fifth (20%) of the membership but in any case, not less than ten (10) members entitled to vote at the meeting whether present in person or represented by proxy. If, at any time during a meeting, a quorum is not present, the remaining members present may not transact any further business other than to record the names of those present and adjourn the meeting to a future fixed date, time and place.

It is vital that each member make every effort to attend this meeting so that the required quorum can be achieved and the meeting can proceed. Members unable to attend this meeting are urged to complete the *Proxy Vote 2020* form provided with this *Notice of Meeting* and described below.

Proxy

Every member entitled to vote at a meeting of the members may by means of a proxy appoint an individual who need not be a member as his/her nominee to attend, vote and act on his/her behalf to the extent of the authority conferred by the proxy. A proxy executed in writing by a member or his/her attorney on a form of proxy approved by the Board shall be valid for one year from the date of execution unless revoked by the member in written notice to the Secretary.

No individual other than the President or in his/her absence, the Vice-President, may represent more than one member by proxy. A completed form of proxy naming the President or in his/her absence, the Vice-President, as the proxyholder must be received by the Secretary not less than forty-eight (48) hours prior to the meeting or in the case of a completed form of proxy naming an alternate proxyholder, deposited in person with the Secretary by the alternate proxyholder prior to the meeting being called to order.

Eligibility to Attend

The only persons entitled to attend a meeting of the members are those members in good standing or their respective proxyholders, Incorporators, Directors, Officers and any others who by virtue of their office are entitled or required under any provision of the Ontario *Corporations Act* (1990) or the *By-law* to be present at the meeting. Any other person may be admitted only if invited by the individual presiding over the meeting with the majority consent of the members present at the meeting.

Eligibility to Vote

The only members entitled to vote in person or by proxy at the annual meeting of the members are those who have been in good standing for a minimum of forty-five (45) days prior to the meeting, *i.e.*, prior to January 25, 2023. Memberships that expire on or before March 15, 2023 should be [renewed ONLINE](#) or using our mail-in form. For a seamless continuation, a renewed membership will become effective on the expiry date of the current membership.

**FRIENDS OF WABAKIMI
MINUTES of the
ANNUAL MEETING OF THE MEMBERS**

**Date: Sunday, March 12, 2022 at 9:00AM CST
Madison, Wisconsin USA**

Also conducted online via ZOOM

Present in Person (20): Vern Fish (President), Dave McTeague (Chair), William Pyle, Doug Blount, Dan Otto, Dan Baumgartner, Andy Boddy, Scott Pirsag, Tom Mertens, Beth Rausch, Berlin Nelson Jr, Bill Conner, Vince Fiorito, Terry DeFraties, Jim Kerler, Liesa Kerler, Hank Ostwald, Jeff Schimpff, Scott Spink, John Rodthe

Present on ZOOM meeting (16): J Holmes (Sec/Treasurer), K Babinchak, Ray Tallent, Mary Jean Blaisdell, Debbie Doyle, V Steeves, M Poulin, Tety De Boer, A Gorman, Travis Williams, Heather and Peter, Chris Mayberry, Jeff White, Mhairi McFarlane, Brent Sinclair,

Present by Proxy and Represented by the President (64):

The President, having determined a quorum of one-fifth (20%) of the 253 members in good standing and eligible to vote was present in person or represented by proxy, called the meeting to order at 9:02 PM CST.

FOW Overview.

Vern Fish (president) gave an overview of the organization.

Adoption of Agenda

Resolved That: The Agenda proposed in the *Notice of 2022 Annual Meeting* be adopted.

Moved by: Dave McTeague

Seconded by: Doug Blount

Carried

Adoption of 2021 Annual Meeting of Members Minutes

Resolved That: The Minutes of the 2021 Annual Meeting of members be adopted.

Moved by: Berlin Nelson Jr.

Seconded by: Scott Pirsag

Carried

Election of Directors

Resolved That: The following persons be elected to serve as Directors of Friends of Wabakimi for the 2022 to 2025 term; Doug Blount, Ray Tallent, Mhairi McFarlane

Moved by: Maurice Poulin

Seconded by: Bill Pyle

Carried

Approval of 2021 Financial Statement

Resolved That: The *Financial Statement* prepared by John Holmes, FOW Secretary Treasurer for the period ending December 31, 2021 be approved.

Moved by: Andy Boddy

Seconded by: Hank Ostwald

Carried

Updates

The FOW fund raising campaign of 2020 was to allow parks staff to fly out large debris and garbage from 4 lakes in Wabakimi Park. This work was partially completed this summer (2022) and will be completed in 2023. The FOW raised approximately \$7000 for this initiative.

The FOW fundraising campaign of 2021 was to pay for the construction of a Wabakimi Park kiosk(s) at park entrances or other appropriate locations. A cheque for \$5330 was sent to Ontario Parks for this initiative. We plan to contract a local indigenous artist to help with the design of the kiosk and have approximately \$1800 for this.

The Conservation Committee continues to work with the LCC, MNRF, Wabakimi Park and other stakeholders to monitor Crown land activity with a view to protecting Crown land canoe routes and campsites. Our preferred roading route for forestry access into the Armstrong Forest has been adopted.

A Rendezvous committee has been established in order to organise a get together in Thunder Bay and Armstrong for paddlers and friends of the Wabakimi Area. The rendezvous is scheduled for September 8 to 11, 2022.

An Expedition Committee has been established to encourage and support expeditions into the Wabakimi area in order to verify and update our map information, provide information on the condition of portages and campsites, and to demonstrate that these canoe routes are being used.

Strategic Plan. The FOW continues to pursue its Strategic Plan through involvement with the Park Management Plan, collaborating with Park management on specific park projects, fundraising for Park projects, helping paddlers plan and conduct trips in the Wabakimi Area and being a voice for the protection of Crown Land.

The meeting was adjourned at 10:02 am CST.

Dated: March 12, 2022.

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Vern Fish".

Vern Fish, President

NOTICE of MOTION

No other item of business shall be included on the Agenda for any meeting of the members unless a member's proposal for inclusion of one or more items of new business has been received by the Secretary on a form approved by the Board at least thirty (30) days prior to the giving of notice so that such item or items of new business can be included in the notice of the meeting.

Article 9.6 - Friends of Wabakimi By-law (Limit of Business)

Please type or print neatly in ink!

Whereas: [optional] _____

_____,

Resolved that: _____

_____.

Submitted by: _____ **of** _____
Full Name of Member--No initials! City/Town, Province/State

Signed _____ **Dated** _____, 20____
Signature of Full Name as printed above Month, Date Year

Mail to: FRIENDS OF WABAKIMI
Vern Fish, President
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Scan/Email vernfish@aol.com OR
info@wabakimi.org