



ONTARIO CHAPTER OF THE WILDLIFE SOCIETY

ANNUAL GENERAL
MEETING 2024



OCTWS 2023-2024 ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

Additions to the Agenda

Motion to approve Agenda

General Introduction



OCTWS 2023-2024

Current Board of Directors

Past President: Matthew Furst

President: Kelly McLean

Vice President: Pauline Kosmal

Treasurer: Jen Shuter

Secretary: empty

Board Members: Matt Purvis, Justine Kaseman, Rhea Noronha, Don Barnes, Bryan Hughes

Student Chapter Representative: Rebecca North



OCTWS 2023-2024 NFP Status Reminder

As of December 2022, OCTWS is now a registered not-for-profit corporation with an affiliation agreement with the Canadian Section of The Wildlife Society

New format of board of directors

- Directors are now 7 individuals rather than 8
- Student chapter representative is no longer a director, but encouraged to attend BoD meetings



OCTWS 2023-2024 PRESIDENTS REPORT

Welcome to membership

Thanks to all organizing members

Standing Committees Terms of Reference

- Education and Information
- Membership and Recruitment
- Annual General Meeting
- Nominating and Elections
- Audit
- Conservation Affairs
- Awards



OCTWS 2023-2024 PRESIDENTS REPORT

OCTWS Student Chapters

- The Trent University student chapter executives are working on reviving the chapter with Dr. Sarah Jamieson
- Matt Purvis is exploring the potential of a chapter at Fleming & possibly engaging with the Trent Chapter
- Lakehead U Chapter



OCTWS 2023-2024 PRESIDENTS REPORT

TWS Chapter/Section Collaboration Meetings.

- We have been in attendance at several meetings with other TWS Sections and Chapters as well as CSTWS representative meetings



OCTWS 2023-2024 STANDING COMMITTEE REPORTS

EDUCATION AND INFORMATION

MEMBERSHIP AND RECRUITMENT

ANNUAL MEETING

NOMINATING/ELECTIONS COMMITTEE

AUDIT

CONSERVATION AFFAIRS

AWARDS



OCTWS 2023-2024 EDUCATION AND INFORMATION

Co-Chairs – **Kelly McLean** and Pauline Kosmal

Committee members

Kelly McLean, Pauline Kosmal, Matt Furst, Rhea Noronha,
Justine Kaseman, Jocelyn Kelly, Jelany Duali

Activities:

Newsletter - We have transitioned to shorter communications that are more frequent. Themed newsletters are being planned (i.e. job ads, student feat.).

*we are always looking to add content to our newsletters!



OCTWS 2023-2024 EDUCATION AND INFORMATION

Activities con't:

Social Media - We have been much more active on our social medias and have a canva pro account (free for NFP!) to create visuals. Hosted a few instagram “takeovers”, and would like to start a “Membership Monday” similar to TWS

Graduate Student Handbook - Started putting together a graduate student handbook with a list of wildlife researchers

Mudpuppy trip - Nine participants from across Ontario came together in Oxford Mills to find mudpuppies over the weekend of Feb. 10th.



OCTWS 2023-2024 EDUCATION AND INFORMATION

Potential Future Events

- Sci-comm competition (elevator pitch, infographic, graphical abstract)
- Blog posts and student spotlights
- Field trips
- More R workshops



OCTWS 2023-2024 MEMBERSHIP AND RECRUITMENT

Chair Don Barnes

Committee

Jennifer Shuter, Kelly McLean, and Matt Furst.

Activities

- As of February 2024, the OCTWS Membership was 95 members. We recognize that we need to work on maintaining members once they join. The in-person conference last year really helped grow our membership, and we are hopeful that we are able to re-engage with more members with our in-person 2025 conference



OCTWS 2023-2024 ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

Chair Bryan Hughes

Committee:

Kelly McLean, Matt Furst, Jennifer Shuter, Pauline Kosmal,
Jelany Duali, Jocelyn Kelly, Matt Purvis, Rhea
Noronha, Justine Kaseman

Activities:

- Overview of organization of OCTWS' AGM/Conference
- Recommendations for next year's AGM/Conference



OCTWS 2023-2024 ONT CONSERVATION AFFAIRS

Committee: Matt Furst, Jocelyn Kelly, Jelany Duali

Activities:

- CSTWS is currently seeking a chair for their CAC
- We sent out one opportunity for engagement with Policy

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OCTWS 2023-2024 AWARDS

Committee: we do not have a designated committee

Activities:

- Currently planning two types of awards
 1. Student travel awards (amounts TBD)
 - a. One will be a smaller amount for an Ontario-based conference of the selected individuals choosing
 - b. The second will be a larger award for an individual to attend the TWS conference in Maryland



OCTWS 2023-2024 AWARDS

Activities Con't:

- 2. Certification bursary
 - These awards will be provided to cover the cost of four OCTWS members to become an AWB or CWB. Individuals must be eligible to receive these accreditations to receive this bursary.

We are planning to provide childcare support for individuals that attend our 2025 in-person conference.



OCTWS 2023-2024 TREASURER'S REPORT

Treasurer: Jen Shuter

Time period in this review: Jan. 1, 2023 - Dec. 31, 2023

Reminder: As of 2022, members can now pay by e-transfer (preferred) or on our website, via SquareSpace.

Updates:

- Annual Tax and Activity Reports for 2023 submitted to TWS in Jan. 2024
- As a NFP, the process for CRA reporting has changed, so Jen is meeting with a tax advisor to ensure all required forms and documentation are completed
- Will be documenting the process, to ensure that it is easy to follow for future years



OCTWS 2023-2024 TREASURER'S REPORT

Updates (cont'd):

- The board decided to apply for a OCTWS credit card - for activities/services members were having to use personal credit cards for (e.g., conference bookings, software license payments)
- Required creation of a separate savings account to serve as security against the requested credit card limit (i.e., \$2000)
- Card received end of Feb. - will be transferring software license payments to it



OCTWS 2023-2024 TREASURER'S REPORT

Summary of accounts (Jan. 1 to Dec. 31, 2023):

	Total	Chequing	Savings	Credit Card
Balance on Jan 1, 2023	\$8,248.02	\$8,248.02	N/A	N/A
Income	\$19,842.96	\$19,842.96	\$2000.00	N/A
Expenses	\$19,116.62	\$19,116.62	\$0.00	N/A
Balance on Dec. 31, 2023	\$8,964.95	\$6,961.46	\$2003.49	N/A



OCTWS 2023-2024 AUDIT

Committee:

Activities: Approval of OCTWS financials

Matt Furst & Matt Purvis have gone through the 2023 financials and everything matches up and is in order



OCTWS 2023-2024 NOMINATING/ELECTIONS

Chair Kelly McLean and Matt Furst
Committee:

Activities:

-- Commencement and finalization of 2024 elections for BoD



DIRECTION FROM MEMBERSHIP FOR 2022-23

THIS IS WHERE WE GIVE THE MEMBERSHIP A CHANCE TO TELL US WHAT DIRECTION TO TAKE OVER 2024-25.

Some suggested discussion items:

- Populating our Standing Committees with interested members
- Suggestions about webinars/workshops
- Interest in being the Canadian Section DEI rep from ON
- Interest in TWS certification
- Other points to discuss??



OUTGOING PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE MOTION TO CLOSE THE AGM

OUTGOING PRESIDENT'S CLOSING REMARKS

MOTION TO CLOSE THE AGM

