



2023 Annual General Meeting President's Report

Respectfully submitted by Jane Fawcett

The year 2022 started off with lockdowns due to an Omicron variant spreading throughout the province putting a halt to our planned walks. But by spring our walks started with more and more walkers coming out as the weeks progressed. Your executive committed themselves to find ways for members to continue walking in their neighbourhood with the continuance of the Neighbourhood Tracking sheet. A number of walkers used this sheet to pay for permanent trails when we weren't able to get out and walk with each other. Kathy Luten and Marg Dempsey kept members and the public informed about upcoming walks through our Facebook page, website and other social apps. Throughout the year I wrote and sent out Quarterly Communiqué's keeping members informed. I wrote 3 articles about the Ottawa Voyageurs activities for Karen Venema, our Ontario Director to use in her Ontario Reports for Volkssport Canada.

I would like to acknowledge, and thank each member of the Executive for the many talents they bring to our Walking Club and the amount of the work that they contribute to our walking club. I'd like to thank Lynda O'Dwyer for her many years as co-membership coordinator as she stepped down in July. We are always looking to new members who would be willing to share their talents by joining the Executive and bring new ideas to our members.

Our Executive held a Zoom meeting with Michele Bell and Michel Turcotte to explain their clubs use of coupons instead of cash. In the end the club adopted a trial use of coupons that was suspended in December 2022 as only a handful of walkers were using them, and the tracking of the coupons added more work for our Treasurer Michelle Demers.

I provided the paperwork for the following Executive members to receive recognition for their service from the Canadian Volkssport Federation; Kathy Luten- 20 years, Karen Venema - 15 years, Marg Dempsey - 5 years. All but Marg have had their awards presented to them at walks, or in Karen's instance at the Walking Festival in Penticton last May.

I attended the Annual General Meeting of the Canadian Volkssport Federation via Zoom on April 2 as the Ottawa Voyageurs Club President.

I participated in both the spring and fall Clean the Capital events. Thank you for Kathy Luten for coordinating our events. Our next one is scheduled for tomorrow, Sunday April 23.

For the Walking Festival in Penticton in May, I collected photos from club walks from over the years and submitted them to the representative who was collating them for a slide show at the banquet. I shared the photos with OVOV members via an email. For the festival Silent Auction, I took one small and one large ceinture fléchée and an English copy of the history book written by Benoît.

I was the point of contact and in charge of registration for the Tulip Festival on May 21 and 22. Benoît and I pre-walked a new 5 km route for the More Days Walking event in early August.

I attended the IVV Congress as an observer with Graham and Karen who was the Canadian delegate in Kehl, Germany and Strasbourg, France in late August.

I helped our Social Convenor Perry with taking orders for our Club's 35th Anniversary picnic and walk at Petrie Island on September 10, 2022. Our celebration was a great success due to the coordination from Perry and her team of helpers including Jessie and Michelle, ordering and picking up the food and drinks,

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propane bbq, and cake. Thank you to Marion for great routes to walk, and the weather couldn't have been better. As a thank you to Club members, and a healthy budget, your executive decided to give everyone who had been a member in good standing until December 2022, a free membership for 2023.

Since the spring your executive have been looking at options for new club shirts that are lighter in material and wick-away to replace the old t-shirts. I met with two different suppliers and currently working with i-tag Promotions. Marion and I met with the rep and she brought two sets of t-shirts to walks for members to look at and feel the material. A decision will be made soon. Watch for an email explaining the process. Members will be asked to prepay for their t-shirts as a 50% deposit is due when the order is placed.