

The Canadiana Restaurant, Etobicoke ON

Meeting Called to Order at 7:30pm

Chair Tom MacFarlane welcomes everyone.

Minutes of Previous AGM of June 13, 2018 Presented

Motion to Approve: minutes *as circulated.*

Moved by Lezli Kuntze 2 nd by Jane MacFarlane Carried

Directors Report:

President's Report – Tom MacFarlane

Tom thanks his fellow Directors for their time and effort to help successfully run this small business called EMP.

Last fall, we mounted our fifth show at Meadowvale and by all accounts, A Funny Thing Happened at the Way to the Forum (hereinafter called “Forum”) was a success. You will see by the Treasurer’s report that we even made money! Thanks especially to Danielle Amoroso and Ian Beckles for producing the show.

Chris Pearson coordinated a great annual Pot Luck evening once again at Montgomery Inn in December. For those of you who like to plan ahead, it will be on Monday December 9, 2019 this year.

As announced last year, EMP mounted a fund-raising event called Decades of Broadway Hits on May 3 and 4, 2019. This show, at the Legion on Lakeshore, was a success and a huge thanks goes out to Marion Abbott who organized the talent for the event and put together a great evening’s entertainment. We even made some money! As you will hear from Martin, La Cage is now cast and the production is moving forward.

News from Meadowvale – Subscriptions are up to 60% of house, which means we only have to sell 40%. The new Encore Series line-up with no shows in January and Theatre Unlimited’s show in April seemed to work well. We are forced to open a little earlier to avoid Halloween.

News from MTM – Mississauga Music Theatre – There is a proposal from MTM to incorporate as a Not-For-Profit and a Registered Charity. This would give MTM status as a organization, not just a collective. This in turn would help with negotiations at the Theatre and the City of Mississauga (by the way – EMP is applying to become an Affiliate Group of Mississauga which would bring some benefits).

We are saddened to announce that Arts Etobicoke have decided to withdraw from participation regarding our Whitlam facility. This City owned space is vital to our set building and storage capability. We are currently looking at alternative administration ideas for this facility and will hopefully find a way to continue to use this space.

As you know, we support an annual Scholarship at Etobicoke School of the Arts. Tom will be attending their commencement in two weeks to present the award on behalf of EMP.

Tom thanks everyone for their help, enthusiasm and support to our theatre company.

Treasurer's Report – Bruce Jackson

See reports.

Bruce reviews the audited Notice to Reader. We are currently running in good business order.

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Motion to approve the audited Notice to Reader for 2018/19 as presented.

Moved by David Charchalis
2nd by Ian Beckles
Carried

Bruce reviews the Balance sheet, Income statement and Comparative income statement reports
Bruce notes that the honorarium for our show was paid out of the BOT.

Tom discusses our BOT account. In past, we generated income from the BOT funding and was used to accumulate many assets for EMP. The popularity of the BOT has declined and as a result the BOT net revenue for last year was only \$660.00.

Originally, the money generated from BOT was used for capital expenses. For the last few years we were able to use the funds for honorariums. The BOT remaining funds will be depleted after our next 2019/20 season.

Executive Producer - Martin Kuntze

During the 2018/2019 year we had three shows in scope: 'Forum, Decades of Broadway and La Cage'. Both shows produced this season paid for themselves and "head office" didn't lose any money either, so we've had a pretty good year.

Danielle Amoroso and Ian Beckles have been our producers for all three shows, and they continue to do an outstanding job. My heartfelt thanks for their ongoing enormous contributions on one of the "thankless" positions. Kelly McInnes has been backing them up as Assistant Producer and we have another volunteer showing interest for La Cage' so this position is doing very well.

Ann DeNardis-Tomcko continues to do an extraordinary job at stage management. She will be returning to manage LA Cage'. Her position is far from thankless, her casts seem to love her, Martin thanks her as well.

'Forum was directed by Jillian Rodrigue, returning to us for a third show, and MDd by Andrew Ascenzo, returning to us for a second show, and choreographed by David Smith who volunteered to take that on after performing with us in South Pacific. They were a pleasure to work with and by all accounts, including Martin, it was an excellent show, very well received.

Decades of Broadway was assembled, directed, and played by Marion Abbott. Essentially the show was EMP "unplugged", produced at minimum cost as a fundraiser. A large variety of talent turned out and fun was had by all, especially the audience. A number of elements came together to make the show a success, hopefully all repeatable. Many thanks to Marion for such a fine job proving the format can work.

'La Cage will be directed by Clive Lacey, who's returning to our family, MDd by Mark Peterson, persuaded to commit after some effort but he's happy to be working with Clive again and Biaba Senecal also returning to us after many shows elsewhere. Auditions are largely complete although we're looking for more Cagelles (men who can dance, not a surprise). Our first production meeting will be held soon, and all indications are we're off to a great start.

There continue to be indications that our mid-summer start for rehearsals for our fall show limits interest from both our potential cast and directorate. So far, we've not been harmed significantly; we've eventually found good people for every role or position. Other options, for instance a denser rehearsal schedule, present they're own problems, so we still hesitate to stray from the formula.

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Vice President & Show Selection Committee – Kevin Dunne

As Vice President, Kevin's duties include acquiring the performance rights from the various publishing houses. It ties in well with his duties as the show selection committee chairman. Some years it's easier, other years like this one not so much. As you may have heard the performance rights for our 2020 show, Fiddler on the Roof is not available for licensing at the time we would be performing it.

Fortunately, we at EMP have a policy of applying for show rights 18 months in advance. This gives us enough time to get the rights to a replacement show.

A decision was made to move up our 2021 show We Will Rock You to fill the spot of Fiddler. A side note to this, it also fixes the problem we had in the 2021/22 Encore Series for that year. CCMP was planning on doing Rock of Ages and two rock shows would no doubt send shock waves through Mississauga.

All of our other selected shows will also move up a year.

Billy Elliot moves up to 2021/22

Sweeny Todd moves up to 2022/23

The show we will be presenting for 2023/24 will be Carousel.

As a result of our Fiddler situation, Kevin will be re-convening the show selection committee a little bit earlier than expected in order to keep our 5 years of selected shows that EMP would like to maintain.

Kevin will be asking for help from the membership in putting together a committee some time after the summer.

New Marketing Portfolio - Kati Pearson

As head of marketing and publicity, Kati is responsible for ensuring that the public is informed about our shows, and that our cast sells our shows to their friends, family, and, where applicable, their fans.

Kati facilitates group sales by providing show information and pricing to local retirement homes, clubs, and social groups. Kati also gets in touch with local media, and research free advertising opportunities within local papers, and online lists.

Sunshine & Social Events – Chris Pearson

As director Chris is responsible for the Christmas social and providing some sunshine to bereaved or ill members.

The Christmas social was held in early December at the Montgomery Inn in Etobicoke. Approximately 40 members past and present attended. We enjoyed a potluck, played some games and gave away some poinsettias. It was a great evening.

This year one sympathy card was sent to a member.

Social Media & Communications & Membership Development - Mandy Leon

This year, we welcomed Monita and Ronita Mohan to the EMP team.

Another big thank you to Lezli who continues to donate her time transitioning roles to Monita and Ronita.

Monita has taken over the newsletters and has done an amazing job of getting a monthly publication out to our mailing list. It includes community news, pictures and fun puzzles.

Ronita has taken over the website and helping with facebook. She designed the new look and feel of the site,

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and continues to do updates and maintenance. If you haven't seen the redesign yet, check it out!

We're so happy to have Monita and Ronita onboard.

A relevant web presence is extremely important, especially as we're aiming to grow our audience and member base. So thank you to Monita, Ronita and Lezli for keeping this all up to date.

Current Facebook Summary

Total Facebook likes:

June 2016: 865
June 2017: 960
June 2018: 1,155
June 2019: 1,296

Organic post reach 2019: 1,600

We have had steady growth. We've spent \$0 on Facebook ads since the last AGM.

Our online network with other local outlets has been a nice cross-over, we continue to foster those relationships.

Also we are continuing with Twitter & have introduced an EMP Instagram account. Follow us @etobicokemusicalproductions – we currently have 465 organic followers!

Secretary - Janet Scinocca

Janet is responsible for recording and distributing EMP Board meeting minutes. Janet also processes EMP memberships and looks after EMP box office ticket sales (for spring productions) and any other box office inquiries.

Appointment of Auditors for 2018-2019 and 2019-2020

Motion to appoint the firm Edward & Manning LLP Chartered Accountants to prepare the Notice to Reader for the year 2018-2019 for a fee not to exceed \$1,950.00

Moved by Bruce
2nd by Laura
Carried

Motion to appoint the firm Edward & Manning LLP Chartered Accountants to prepare the Notice to Reader for the year 2019-2020 for a fee not to exceed \$1,950.00.

Moved by Bruce
2nd by Lezli
Carried

Tom presents a new EMP Membership fee format.
In order to change membership fee structure, EMP will need to change the current By-Law.
See By-Law#1 Amendment#1.

EMP is proposing to change the by-law to designate the 3 levels of membership:

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- a) Full Member is open to persons 16 years of age and older with full voting privileges. Annual dues shall be set at each AGM for the following year.
- b) Youth Member is open to persons 15 years and under with no voting privileges. Annual dues shall be 50% of those set for Full Membership.
- c) Associate Member is open to non-performing persons of the production or EMP administration with no voting privileges. Annual dues shall be 25% of those set for Full Membership.

David Charchalis states that for insurance purposes, membership will be required for anyone involved in a show. This has been required also by the City of Mississauga. David also mentions that previously there had been accidents back stage. The membership fees are not a lot of money and give people a sense of belonging to the group.

Jane MacFarlane asks if one member is part of another MTM group will they need to pay an associate membership fee with EMP. Tom informs Jane that an associate fee must be paid for each group they are involved in.

Mike Casey is concerned that the new bylaw contradicts our current bylaw.

Tom states that there is some urgency to get this done to get our affiliation with the city.

David recommends that we add a legacy member category that will refer to any past member but is no longer involved with productions.

First three points in bylaw should be for production members only.

****All persons involved with EMP and productions must be a current paying member**

We need to separate legacy members from production members.

Mike Casey suggests we need a new section for existing memberships to update the bylaw.

Tom agrees and in order to move forward we need to add in a new section in the current bylaw.

The AGM meeting breaks for 10 minutes and resumes after the new section has been written.

Tom adds section D to the current amendment.

- d) Legacy Member is identified as a previous full member and will retain membership with no voting rights.

Motion to approve Bi-Law #1 Amendment #1with the addition to the D section.

Moved by Lezli
 2nd by Jane
 Carried

Treasurer – Bruce Jackson

Motion to keep the current annual membership fees for 2019/2020 to \$40 for individual and \$60 for family.

Moved by Bruce
 2nd by Laura
 Carried

Motion to keep the number of Directors at 8.

Moved by Kevin Dunne
2nd by Ian Beckles
Carried

**Election
of New**

Board of Directors

Tom MacFarlane opens the floor for nominations.

Standing for re-election:

- Kevin Dunne for Vice President
- Martin Kunze - Executive Producer
- Mandy Leon – General Director
- Kati Pearson – General Director
- Chris Pearson – General Director/Vice President
- Janet Scinocca – Secretary - 2-year term
- Bruce Jackson – Treasurer – 2 year term

Tom calls for nominations on the floor for general directors.

No other nominations were received from the floor.

Motion to close nominations

Moved by Jane MacFarlane
2nd by David Charchalis
Carried

As there are no further nominations, all those standing for election are acclaimed.

Open Discussion

Bruce attended an Ontario gaming meeting. Charitable bingos have been revamped. They now have 4 bingo groups that have been converted to automated gaming. The 2 local bingo halls close to us are Delta Bingo and Downsview (Jane and Wilson).

The have created a category called ‘Assignments’. Ambassadors are trained (They work with players but do not have to deal or handle money). We would then have to pick an assignment to work.

The bingos that are currently running now are receiving \$500 per assignment. They are projecting \$800 to \$1000 for a one 4-hour time slot.

In order to sign up for Bingo, we would have to close down our BOT account. The return is much higher than our current BOT.

Lezli asks if the volunteer has to be a paid member. Bruce and Tom have confirmed most likely yes but it is something to look at.

As we already have a charitable license, it will be much easier for us to get set up. Bruce will look into to see what is available at Delta Bingo. We will need 2 people per 4-hour time slot.

Bruce asks if this is something that we are interested in pursuing. The majority agrees that this is a good idea.

Laura Wilde asks if it is possible to set up a donation table at Meadowvale Theatre. Kati Pearson responds by saying that as is, we cannot set up a table in the FOH for selling.

David will be attending a meeting and will bring up the question with the theatre.

Tom thanks Mary Ann Catral for all her help with the EMP graphics.

Jane has pointed out that Lezli Kuntze has started digitizing all our scripts and scores.

Motion to adjourn meeting

Moved by David
2nd by Lezli
Carried

Meeting Adjourned at 8:49pm