

SGI Green Party AGM - 2022

Sunday, November 27, 2022. 2-4 pm. In person at the Central Saanich Seniors Centre and on-line Zoom Meeting

Minutes

1. **Call to Order by CEO Dan Kells**
2. **Welcome and Territorial acknowledgements by Rainbow Eyes, Deputy Leader of the Green Party of Canada(GPC).**
3. **Introduce Guests:** Dan introduced our in person guests Elizabeth May, Rainbow Eyes and Bridget Burns.
4. **Attendance:** 60 attendees in total. There were 47 SGI EDA members, 31 SGI members in the room and 16 members on Zoom. There were 13 guests.
5. **Approve the Agenda:** Motion: Ian Cameron, Seconded: Elizabeth May. **Approved.**
6. **Approve Minutes from the [2021 AGM January 22, 2022](#):**
Motion: Linda Brown, Seconded: Sharon Forrester. **Approved.**
7. **CEO's Report: Dan Kells.** I thank Rainbow Eyes for providing us with a land acknowledgement to remind us about the true nature of the land that we are meeting upon today.

I will begin by recognizing two former members of our executive board who have recently lost their spouses. Our sincere condolences go to Bob and Shelagh, as well as our gratitude for the excellent service they provided to our Electoral District Association.

In the broader picture, the pandemic has affected many people in our society and has touched us all in some way. This gathering of community is one small step that can help our collective healing.

This year, it was August before we got to meet in person and begin our group activities.

I know that many of you here attended our summer picnic, which used to be an annual event until the last couple of years. Hopefully, we can get back to that event as a yearly activity.

The favourite event for everyone is the Saanich Fall Fair. The popcorn that we make and give out is well known to fairgoers and is a fun way for us to meet people. Elizabeth ensures she makes it to this fair every year and there is generally a crowd around our booth as people await an opportunity to speak with her. We even had Johnathan Pednault working with us at our booth this year. This is definitely the prime event for us to meet the public of Saanich-Gulf Islands, sign up new members and help to keep the Green Party of Canada known in this riding.

But it is not all fun and games. We are after all, a community organization and as such, we engage in a variety of local activities.

This EDA has a program that awards a \$500 scholarship to one deserving student at each of the seven high schools in our riding. As the certificate reads, they have “Exhibited commitment to effective citizenship through volunteer work to improve our world” I have spoken with many of these exceptional students and every one of them is a bright light for our future. Our hope and trust really does reside in the youth.

In regard to matters of youth, one of our executive members, Helena Murray-Hill, who is operating the Powerpoint today, is a UVic student and is presently making efforts with others to reinvigorate the Young Greens at the University of Victoria. This riding probably has the oldest demographic of any EDA in Canada and we want to bring on more young members.

Our EDA makes a genuine effort to stay in touch with our membership in several ways:

A. We publish a terrific newsletter every month. As an example of what we publish, our own Nancy and Gary write a very informative gardening article every month that will definitely help you improve your gardening.

B. Our most popular publication comes from Elizabeth, which is called Good Sunday Morning. This has many subscribers across the country and is always informative. During the recent Green Party Leadership contest, we gave an opportunity to all six candidates to contribute their views in ten weekly editions and this was well used by all.

C. There is also our website, at eda.sgigreens.ca, full of good local information and links. It also serves as a public archive for our newsletter, Good Sunday Morning and the EDA's constitution and meeting minutes.

I must recognize the members of the executive board, who work on a volunteer basis to allow this EDA organization to continue the outstanding work that it does within this essential party.

Those special people are: Nancy Searing, Linda Brown, Helena Murray-Hill, Jennifer Kennedy, Mary Leslie and myself.

Like any organization should, we strive to have a turn-over of people on our board to allow for fresh approaches and new thinking.

This year is seeing a significant turnover in our executive. Earlier this year, Karen Lindsay resigned and we are sorry to lose her abilities from our board, but grateful for her continued assistance with the newsletter and Good Sunday Morning.

This meeting today is the last board function for Linda Brown and Nancy Searing. Linda and Nancy both served on our board with enthusiasm and kept a high standard for us all to work towards and they have my deep gratitude for the volunteer time they gave to us.

The last resignation that I will mention was that of our fabulous Financial Agent, Sharon Forrester. SGI received eleven years of service with a smile as Sharon ensured that our books were kept up and reports were delivered. Our new Financial Agent, Jennifer Kennedy, has a hard act to follow but I have confidence in her skills to continue the excellent record keeping that Sharon did provide to us.

Finally, the most important people in the room are all of you. Without engaged members, there would truly be no point in our existence. I thank you for that level of interest and I will work with you, our members, Elizabeth, and this board to continue keeping Saanich-Gulf Islands a strong and respected EDA.

8. **Financial Report: Jennifer Kennedy.** Jennifer provided a summary of the SGI 2001 [Profit and Loss](#), and [Balance Sheet](#).

9. **Federal Council of the Green Party of Canada: New Leader and Council Members**

Dan spoke about the many changes to the GPC which includes; A new Leader, Elizabeth May; a new Deputy Leader, Jonathan Pednault; a new Executive Director, Kevin Dunbar; a new Federal Council President, Ian Soutar and a new BC Rep, Deraek Menard.

10. **Motion to Approve the reports:** Ellen Guttormson, Seconded: Tom Mitchell. **All Reports Approved.**

11. **Q & A**

No questions from the floor or from Zoom. Ian Cameron passed congratulations to Elizabeth from the GPC Ombuds and Appeals Committee.

12. **Elections of the New Executive**

Outgoing: Linda Brown, Nancy Searing

Remaining: Dan Kells, Jennifer Kennedy, Helena Murray-Hill, Mary Leslie.

Incoming: Mona Donovan. **Unanimous.**

13. **Motion to Amend the Constitution and By-Laws of the Saanich-Gulf Islands Green Party Electoral District Association.**

Present By-Law, Part 1, Section 20.

Nominations will close 45 days prior to the SGI AGM. There will be no nominations from the floor of the General Meeting.

Proposed changed to:

20. Nominations will close 7 days prior to the SGI AGM. There will be no nominations from the floor of the General Meeting.

Unanimous.

14. **Adjournment:** 3:34pm

Guest Speakers:

SGI MP & Leader of the GPC: Elizabeth May

GPC Deputy Leader: Jonathan Pednault

GPC Executive Director: Kevin Dunbar

GPC Federal Council President: Ian Soutar

GPC Federal Council BC Representative: Deraek Menard

GPC Mobilizer for BC, AB, Yukon and the Territories: Bridget Burns

Minutes recorded by Nancy Searing