

South-East Ottawa
Community Health Centre



Centre de santé communautaire
du sud-est d'Ottawa

**South-East Ottawa Community Health Centre
Annual General Meeting
September 11, 2025**

Members Present:

Directors: Sarah Kennell, President, Beth Haslam, Dominique Conway, Jacqui Drope, Sandra Mutilva, Ose Omeregie, Itunu Omoliki, Chris Farley Ratcliffe

Lifetime Members: David Hole, Jalil Marhnouj

Proxies: Kayt Render, Suzanne Swan, Pamela Obegu, Kevin Mansfield, Isabelle Sirois, Marcie Doran, Claudette Simoneau

Call to Order

Sarah Kennell, President, called the meeting to order at 6:05p.m. She welcomed everyone and introduced special guest, Counsellor Riley Brockington.

Sarah acknowledged that we are meeting on the unceded territory of the Algonquin Anishnabe people.

Verification of Quorum: We have 30 members, and our bylaws state we require a minimum of 10 % of total members to constitute quorum. There are 10 members present, and the President has received 7 proxy votes, therefore quorum has been achieved

A simple majority for members present is 3, in addition to the 7 proxy votes.

Sarah explained that only registered members can vote, not staff members or guests.

Approval of Agenda No amendments were suggested

Motion #1: It was moved by Beth Haslam, seconded by Ose Omeregie to approve the Agenda as circulated. **Carried**

Approval of Minutes of the AGM on September 12, 2024

Motion #2: It was moved by Beth Haslam, seconded by Sandra Mutilva to approve the minutes of the Annual General Meeting held on September 12th, 2024 as circulated.

Carried

Looking Back and Forward – 40 years plus at SEO

Sarah Kennell introduced a panel discussion on **Looking Back and Forward – 40 years plus at SEO, a Fireside Chat** with David Hole (former Executive Director), Mohamoud Hagi-Aden (Community Leader and former staff) and Toni Jacob, (Executive Director of ACB Wellness Centre). Sarah invited the panelists to reflect on the work of the organization in the past, present and future.

Executive Director's Report

Kelli Tonner, Executive Director, began by thanking Amanda Bonacci and her team for the Multicultural Event that preceded this meeting.

Kelli reflected on the past year – challenges and successes. The Centre continues to serve a complex population with new and pressing needs. SEOCHC has stepped up to meet the needs by increasing investments in programs and services. In spite of health human resource challenges, we continue to serve our community with a focus on equity.

Kelli thanked all the dedicated staff, the board of directors for their expertise and skills, our many volunteers, partners and funders, as well as the folks who use our services and teach us to be better. We have continued to work with a sense of purpose and privilege, and draw hope from the work we do together to create a healthier more compassionate world.

Presentation of Awards:

Martha England, Manager of Social Services, presented the 2025 **Partnership Award** to Rebecca Nagrodski from the Caring and Sharing Exchange, and Eleanor Norman, on behalf of Karen Mount of ACCESO Canada, who together are the soul and the stuff of the Backpack Program. They have been working for almost two decades, and this has enabled us to distribute 500 backpacks to school children in our communities this year alone.

Kelli introduced two new awards – the **Community Leadership Award** was given to dedicated volunteer, Iman Abdien and the **Rising Changemaker Award** for a youth in our community, which was presented to Ahmed Faqi, an activist and event planner, who provides community leadership to foster unity and belonging.

Acknowledgement of Staff who have reached milestones:

Kelli explained that we usually recognize staff who have reached milestones in years of service at SEOCHC, but there are so many this year that they will be honoured individually at a special staff meeting.

The following staff are celebrating 15 years at SEOCHC:

- Aisha Mbiletem, Nurse Practitioner
- James Tanguay, Community Services Coordinator
- Laurie Ann Larouche, Medical Secretary
- Natalie Fournier, Finance Assistant

- Namrata Patel, Nurse
- Stephanie Dickinson, Seniors Program Coordinator

The following staff have been with the centre for 20 years:

- Annette Charron, Registered Dietitian
- Radiah Jouad, Community Connections Coordinator

Kelli Tonner, E.D., has been with the Centre for 25 years plus.

Ana Mercedes Guerra, Counsellor/Clinical Supervisor has been with SEO for 32 years

And Sandy McIntyre, Registered Dietitian, has been with us for 33 years!

The large number of staff who have been with us for the long term is a testament to our centre where colleagues feel like family and are united by a sense of purpose and caring for our community.

Treasurer's Report

Dominique Conway, Secretary Treasurer of the Board presented the Audited Financial Statements for the fiscal year ending March 31st, 2025.

The financial statements were made available on our website, and at their meeting of June 19th, 2025 the Board voted to recommend acceptance of these statements.

Motion #3: It was moved by Dominique Conway, seconded by Ose Omoregie to accept the Audited Financial Statements for the fiscal year ended March 31st, 2025 as presented.

Carried

Motion #4:

It was moved by Dominique Conway, seconded by Itunu Omoliki to appoint Welch LLP as our Auditors for 2025/26 and that the Board will establish their compensation.

Carried

Dominique concluded her report by thanking her colleagues on the Board of Directors, the Finance and Human Resources Committee, as well as the management and staff of South-East Ottawa Community Health Centre for their support and dedication in maintaining the financial integrity of the organization on a sound basis.

Report of the Nominations Committee and Election of Directors

Jacqui Drope reported on behalf of the Nominations Committee, which also included Sandra Mutilva and Itunu Omoliki. Our by-laws state that our Board will consist of no less than 10 and no more than 12 board members. We have 9 Board members who are mid-term, and tonight we are electing or re-electing 3 Board members. All candidates are eligible for election and bring a variety of skills and attributes to the Board. Their bios were included in the AGM package.

Beth Haslam has finished her first term and is not seeking re-election. The board thanks Beth for her thoughtful contributions.

Two members have finished their first term on the board and are seeking re-election, they are Dominique Conway and Suzanne Swan.

Chris Farley Ratcliffe is a new candidate running for a 3-year term.

Motion #5: It was Moved by Jacqui Drope, seconded by Sandra Mutilva to re-elect Dominique Conway and Suzanne Swan as Directors for a 3-year term. **Carried**

Motion #6: It was Moved by Jacqui Drope, seconded by Dominique Conway to elect Chris Farley Ratcliffe to the Board for a 3-year term. **Carried**

Sarah concluded the meeting by thanking everyone for coming.

Motion #7: It was Moved by Sandra Mutilva, seconded by Ose Omeregje to adjourn the meeting at 7:09 p.m. **Carried.**

Sarah Kennell, Chair

Jeannie Taylor, Recorder