



# **Ottawa Valley Food Co-op 17th Annual General Meeting 6:30 pm Thursday June 4, 2025 Sno-Drifters Hall, Eganville Minutes**

## **1. Welcome and Introduction**

Janice Bell opened the meeting. She thanked the Board of Directors for their service during the year.

**2. Minutes of last meeting** – were approved as circulated. Moved by Cameron, seconded by Lynne.

## **3. Guest Speaker**

Janice introduced our guest speaker: Tatianna Desak, an Public Health Inspector with the Renfrew County and District Health Unit (RCDHU).

The co-op has transitioned from being a farmer's market to a food premise. This has required that both the co-op and some of our producers have had inspections from the RCDHU.

Tatianna described the role of the Public Health Inspectors, what happens during an inspection – what they are looking for, and what has changed regarding the OVFC.

The PowerPoint of this presentation is attached to these minutes.  
Janice thanked the speaker.

Janice wrote after the meeting that: OVFC's last inspection at the SnoDrifter's building was on May 20, 2025. The OVFC is subject to yearly inspections. The next inspection will be scheduled by RCDHU, likely through Cheryl directly. Chase (an inspector with the RCDHU) mentioned that the OVFC doesn't need to worry about scheduling its next inspection, as RCDHU will reach out themselves (even if the year lapses). All inspections will be scheduled on a delivery day, during distribution hours. They are satisfied with the procedures currently in place, including the use of coolers on the floor (since the food doesn't come into contact with the floor).

#### **4. Annual Reports**

- Janice presented the Annual Report for 2024. The Co-op continues trying to increase our sales so we can better serve both our producers and customers. We do provide an on-line local marketing service throughout the year, even in the winter time when local markets are closed.
- Cheryl Keetch presented the Coordinator's Report for 2024.
- Joanne McManus presented the Financial Statements for 2024. Thanks to revenue from the on-line auction and other events, the Co-op had a small loss.

#### **5. Election of the Board,**

The following people were elected to the board (the term in 2 years).

Neil Douglas  
Lynne Epps  
Amanda Hudson  
Joanne McManus  
Cameron Montgomery  
Mike Steeves  
Chris Tanner

Perri-Rae Boell remains on the board as she has one more year to serve.

#### **6. Membership Discussion**

- There was a discussion around fees/ memberships. We do need to collect membership fees as we are registered as a co-op and our current fee is required for membership as per our bylaws. Amanda, Rod (meeting attendee) and Joanne are going to look at membership fee alternatives - ie. annual fees, grandfathering etc.
- There was some discussion on potential fundraisers - Christmas dinner, auction, adding an option for donations to orders
- There was some discussion around producer problems with LFM.