

Record of Decisions

**Executive Meeting, 11:30 a.m. Wednesday, 26 February 2014
at VGG Foundation, 10 Summerhill Avenue, Toronto, ON**

1. *Greetings & Welcome*

George Pepall welcomed David Oberholtzer, Rodney Paige, Garfield Portch and Robert Timberg.

2. *Approval of Agenda*

Motion to approve – Carried.

3. *Approval of Record of Decisions dated December 11, 2013*

Motion to approve – Carried.

4. *Financial Update*

The Treasurer presented the financial statement (unaudited) for the year ended December 31, 2013. The Society appears to have ended the fiscal year on solid ground. Income should exceed expenses by approximately \$9000.

The Treasurer also presented a proposed budget for 2014 based on 1200 dues-paying members, a decrease of approximately 7% over 2013. The proposed budget has expenses exceeding income by \$8000. However if the federal subsidy for TCP is received again this year, the loss will be eliminated. The proposed breakeven budget was received.

5. *Membership Update*

The Treasurer's update on membership in the Society was received. The Society enters the year with a total membership (including life and honorary members) of 1700, down from 1789 at December 31, 2012. Members and chapters are currently in the process of renewing their 2014 memberships.

6. *Chapters*

The Treasurer noted that new Society chapters have been established in Sault Ste Marie and Timmins, Ontario, and Surrey, British Columbia. He also noted that the chapter in Colborne, Ontario is in arrears in paying its annual chapter fee. The Executive Manager was asked to contact the chapter to discuss. [The Executive Manager contacted the chapter and was advised that the club has ceased operating as membership had dwindled to a couple of collectors.]

7. *Recognizing 50-Year Chapters*

The President reported he is working with Trajan Publishing on a way to recognize 50-year chapters in TCP, beginning with the May-June 2014 issue. He will report back at the next meeting of the executive.

8. *RPSC and FQP*

The President provided an update on the Society's arrangement with the FQP which allows their members to join the Society and continue their membership in the FQP in one registration step. He reported that the FQP had raised in a letter a concern about the unavailability of certain insurance documents in French, and also the extra burden the new process is placing on the organization. The President will respond, with assistance from Garfield Portch, who is knowledgeable about insurance matters. Five FQP members have used the joint registration process to date.

9. *Website Stats*

The Executive Manager presented stats collected by webmaster Robin Harris on page hits between January 17 and February 16, 2014. Although at least 3 months of collecting stats are needed to be certain

of patterns, to date the majority of visitors to the Society's website are from Canada, followed by India and the USA, and the page about Canada Post is the most frequently visited page on the site.

10. *Youth Philately in Canada*

The President and Rod Paige reported on an informal meeting to discuss youth philately in Canada which they held in St Catharines on January 25, 2014 with Yvan Latulippe, the Society's Francophone Youth Coordinator, and Wuchow Than of Hamilton. Among other things, they agreed to work on establishing a Canada-wide network of youth ambassadors. In his column in the coming March-April 2014 issue of TCP, the Executive Manager is asking for volunteers to fill the youth ambassador roles.

11. *TCP*

Tony Shaman, TCP Editor, has under review the Report from the Geldert Award Selection Committee.

No one has stepped forward to date to volunteer as advertising manager. In his forthcoming column in the March-April 2014 issue of TCP, the Executive Manager is asking again for a volunteer.

12. *Awards Advisory Committee*

The President noted that Charles Verge had suggested establishing an Awards Advisory Committee. The suggestion raised the broad question about how awards are decided upon. After a wide-ranging discussion it was agreed the new committee was not required. Mr. Verge will be thanked for his suggestion.

13. *President's Award*

No written guidelines exist for this award. After discussion, it was proposed that the award be in the absolute discretion of the President who will determine the worthy candidate(s).

Motion to approve – Carried.

14. *Institutional Knowledge*

Certain members (e.g., Charles Verge) carry a vast amount of institutional knowledge in their collective memories. That knowledge must be set down in writing or other permanent form else it will be lost. Various ways of collecting the information and presenting it to members was discussed, including memoirs, and columns in TCP.

15. *Survey of Members*

Work on the electronic survey of members to canvas their opinions on some or all of the Society's operations is underway. The Executive Manager is preparing the survey.

16. *Unification of TAPE and RPSC Foundation*

This issue will be discussed at a meeting of the Foundation, and the President will report back.

17. *Governance – Directors/Duty Officers Self-Assessment*

The Executive Manager will further revise the draft questionnaire and circulate it to the executive for comment prior to the next executive meeting. The aim is to circulate the questionnaire in May 2014 to the outgoing board with the request they complete and return it prior to the Convention.

18. *Strategic Plan Review*

The Executive Manager will send out a marked-up copy of the Society's 2009 Strategic Plan, showing changes suggested by various members of the executive.

19. *Conventions*

Halifax 2014: From all reports the Convention is on track.

2016: The Kitchener-Waterloo chapter is currently looking “a bit rocky” as a host for the 2016 Convention.

20. *Translation of Articles for Website*

The President advised that Robert Pinet has agreed to translate certain articles from French to English for the website.

21. *Stakeholders in Philately (“SIP”)*

The SIP bank account holds a small amount of money provided by the Society, BNAPS and Trajan Publishing. It is proposed to close the account and transfer the funds to the RPSC Foundation, which has objectives similar to SIP’s. Before doing so, it was agreed that letters be written for publication in TCP, BNA Topics and CSN explaining the proposal.

22. *Next Meeting*

The next executive meeting will take place in mid-April, likely on the 22nd, and possibly in Kitchener-Waterloo. The President will however confirm.

23. *Adjournment*

Motion to adjourn at 3:15 p.m. – Carried.