



COMMUNITY LIVING ASSOCIATION FOR SOUTH SIMCOE

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING MINUTES

7:00 p.m., September 16, 2025

Gibson Centre, Alliston, Ontario

Welcome:

Andrew Walker, Executive Director provided a warm welcome to everyone attending the meeting. He provided the land acknowledgement and let everyone know that the meeting is being recorded.

Andrew introduced the Annual Report document. It provides good information on CLASS including the impacts we have experienced including the people we have lost.

Approximately 35 people were in attendance.

Welcome

Tom Eagan

Tom Eagan welcomed everyone to the meeting. He introduced the following guests:

- **Garror Sands and Svetlana Egorova, Auditors, Truster Zweig LLP, Chartered Accountants**
- **New Tecumseth, Mayor Richard Norcross**
- **Board of Directors introduced themselves.**

1. ADOPTION OF MINUTES

Mary-Lou Osborne

Mary Lou Osborne presented the minutes of the September 24, 2024 Annual General Meeting.

"Motion To accept the minutes of the last Annual General Meeting held September 24, 2024

- a) Moved by Cindy Brent, seconded by Michael Kollhossner
- b) Discussion? - No
- c) All in favour? Yes
- d) Opposed if any? - No
- e) Carried - Yes

BUSINESS ARISING FROM MINUTES

There was no old or new business arising from the minutes.

2. REPORTS

President's Report

Tom Eagan

Annual General Meeting, September 16, 2025

This past year has been one of renewal, partnership, and progress for our organization and the people we support. As we reflect on the year's achievements, we are reminded that our success is always rooted in the strength of community — families, staff, partners, and the people we support who inspire us every day.

We are proud to share that we have made significant strides in developing our new strategic plan, which will guide our work for years to come, and in beginning our accreditation journey with FOCUS, demonstrating our commitment to quality and accountability. From strengthening community participation opportunities, to enhancing residential supports, to supporting people to use their Passport funding in more meaningful ways, each initiative has been guided by our mission to foster inclusion and independence. These accomplishments would not have been possible without the dedication of our staff, the guidance of our Board of Directors, and the trust of families and the people we serve.

At the same time, we know our sector continues to face real challenges. Workforce shortages, rising housing costs, inflationary pressures, and increasing demand for services require all of us to think differently and work collaboratively. We have leaned on our partnerships — through the Central Region Planning Table, the Ministry of Children, Community and Social Services, and with our many local developmental service agencies — to find creative solutions and ensure that people with developmental disabilities have the supports they need to thrive.

Looking ahead, our priorities are clear: to continue building a sustainable and skilled workforce that ensures consistent, high-quality support; to expand opportunities for social and economic inclusion; and to deepen our advocacy for long-term housing and support solutions. We remain committed to ensuring that every person we serve is valued, included, and supported to achieve their goals. On behalf of the Board of Directors and our leadership team, thank you for your ongoing support. Together, we are shaping a community where everyone belongs — one where dignity, inclusion, and opportunity guide everything we do.

Motion: "that the President's Report be accepted as presented."

- a) Moved by Mary-Lou Osborne seconded by Taylor Oliver
- b) Discussion? - No
- c) All in favour? - Yes
- d) Opposed if any? - No
- e) Carried -Yes

Treasurer's Report

Alan Dresser

The Finance Committee consists of Board President, Tom Eagan (Chair), Board Member, Alan Dresser (Treasurer) and Board Vice-President, Mary-Lou Osborne. The Committee receives staff support from Executive Director, Andrew Walker, Chief Operations Officer, Lisa Patterson, and Director of Finance, Wole Adefila.

This committee monitors and reviews all resources and recommendations having financial implications for the Association on behalf of the Board.

Quarterly the Board of Directors reviews financial statements and explanations of variances from budget are explained. This includes reviewing the current cash position and donations received.

Our audited financial reports are available on CLASS website. The Committee and the Board of Directors support's the Auditors' Report which will be provided by a representative of the firm Truster Zweig LLC - Svetlana Egorova.

Thank you.

Motion: "that the Treasure's Financial Report be accepted as presented."

- a) Moved by Cindy Brent, seconded by Tom Eagan
- b) Discussion? - No
- c) All in favour? - Yes
- d) Opposed if any? - No
- e) Carried - Yes

3. **AUDITOR'S REPORT**

Svetlana Egorova

Svetlana Egorova, Truster Zweig provided the auditor's report.

Thanked Wole Adefila, Director of Finance and the Finance team for being attentive and providing all the information in a timely basis while working on-line.

Svetlana commented that CLASS continues to be in a good financial position.

Motion: “that the audited financial statements be accepted”

- a) Moved by Taylor Oliver, seconded by Cindy Brent
- b) Discussion? No
- c) All in favour? Yes
- d) Opposed if any? No
- e) Carried - Yes

Motion: To appoint the Auditor Truster Zweig LLP, Chartered Accountants as auditors for the Corporation for the fiscal year ending 2025/2026 and authorize the Board of Directors to fix the remuneration:

- a) Moved by Marc Ronan, seconded by Dana De Sante
- b) Discussion? - No
- c) All in favour? - Yes
- d) Opposed if any? - No
- e) Carried - Yes

Motion: “To ratify, sanction, confirm and approve all acts, contracts, proceedings, appointments, elections and payments enacted, made, done and taken by all Directors and Officers of the Corporation since the close of business at the last Annual General Meeting’.

- a) Moved by Cindy Brent, seconded by Alan Dresser
- b) Discussion? No
- c) All in favour? Yes
- d) Opposed if any? No
- e) Carried - Yes

4. NOMINATIONS COMMITTEE REPORT

Dana De Sante

Dana De Sante reviewed the profiles of the Board members standing for re-election and provided kind words to describe their dedication to CLASS. He also spoke of the recent resignations of Colleen Butler and Dr. Matthew Myatt.

Director Nominations – visit <https://www.class.on.ca/about/team> for bios and profiles of board:

- Mary-Lou Osborne
- Taylor Oliver

Dana reviewed the profiles of the Board members standing for re-election:

- Mary-Lou Osborne
- Taylor Oliver

All accepted their nominations.

Motion: “that the report of the Nominations Committee be accepted”

- a) Moved by Alan Dresser, seconded by Marc Ronan
- b) Discussion? No
- c) All in favour? Yes
- d) Opposed if any? No
- e) Carried - Yes

Motion: “that all nominees be elected and inducted into the Board of Directors”

- a) Moved by Cindy Brent, seconded by Marjorie Miedema
- b) Discussion? No
- c) All in favour? Yes
- d) Opposed if any? No
- e) Carried-Yes

5. **INSTALLATION OF BOARD MEMBERS**

Mayor Norcross

Richard Norcross, Mayor of Town of New Tecumseth told the membership it was an honour to install the Board and thanked the Board members for volunteering their time. The Board was installed with all the Board members reading the installation commitment.

6. **SELF-ADVOCATES PRESENTATION**

Kim Bos

Andrew welcomed and introduced Kim Bos:

July 23 marked a truly special moment — the official groundbreaking of Margarett Park, Innisfil’s new fully inclusive park for people of all abilities.

It was a day filled with pride, emotion, and celebration. Many CLASS staff and people supported came out to honour Kim and her years of advocacy and leadership on this project. It was especially moving for Kim, who shared her journey and joy with everyone in attendance.

This park is more than just a physical space. It’s a symbol of inclusion, belonging, and community — values that CLASS lives and breathes every single day. We are incredibly proud to have stood alongside Kim and so many others to mark this milestone.

Now, I’d like to invite Kim to share a few words.

Kim Bos's Speech

Hello Everyone,

My name is Kim Bos. I live in one of CLASS's group homes in Gilford. I'm here today to talk about two things that are very important to me: making parks more accessible and helping people speak up for themselves.

For many people, swinging isn't just fun — it helps the body relax. It brings joy, freedom, and makes you feel like you belong.

When I was about 4 years old, my dad took apart a jolly jumper and added it to a swing so I could use it safely. I was able to swing just like everyone else. But as I got older, I couldn't use regular swings anymore. When I went to the park with family or friends, I saw others having fun on the swings, and I felt left out. I remembered how my dad helped me swing, and I wished I could do it again.

After almost 50 years, I finally got to use an adapted swing again — and it changed everything. I felt free, happy, and included. I thought, ***everyone should be able to feel this way***. No one should be left out of something they love.

Parks should be for everyone — kids, adults, and seniors. A place to play, connect, and enjoy time together.

That's why I want to join the Accessibility Committee in Alliston. I want to help make parks and public spaces better for everyone.

At CLASS, we're also growing our Self Advocates Committee. This is a group where people with lived experience can speak up, share ideas, and support each other.

Here are some things we're planning:

- Inviting police to talk about human trafficking and cyberbullying
- Hosting mental health awareness sessions
- Menu planning and adapted cooking activities
- Learning how to speak up when something doesn't feel right
- Building confidence to ask questions and share ideas

We want everyone to have a voice — and to feel confident using it.

Because this is about more than just swings or meetings. It's about belonging, connection, and dignity. And that's something I want for everyone.

Thank you for listening — and thank you for helping make South Simcoe a place where everyone belongs.

The attendees gave Kim a standing ovation.

7. ACCREDITATION UPDATE

Lisa Patterson

Lisa Patterson, Chief Operations Officer provided a slide show presentation of the accreditation process. The presentation outlined what accreditation means and why it is an important undertaking for CLASS.

Accreditation is an independent external review against best practice standards. Accreditation goes beyond compliance; it's about excellence in services. Accreditation aligns services with our vision of dignity, value and inclusion for all.

The process provides a platform for best life, how do we help, how do listen differently, how to hear better.

The timeline is October 2025 – October 2027. During this period work will be committed to improve services and apply the standards and recommendations. It is anticipated that the spring/summer of 2028 FOCUS will conduct a validation visit.

Comment from the Floor:

Janet Knight questioned why the Parent's and Advocate Support Group did not appear in the 2024 meeting minutes.

It appears that the group did not present at the 2024 AGM and did not request to report at the 2025 meeting.

8. ADJOURNMENT

Tom asked for a Motion: "to adjourn the September 16, 2025, CLASS Annual General Meeting"

Moved: Cindy Brent

Seconded: Taylor Oliver

Carried.

On behalf of the Board of Directors, Tom thanked everyone for coming and adjourned the meeting at 8:02 p.m.



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Thomas Eagan, Chairperson



Andrew Walker, Executive Director