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Attic Broadcasting, CHMA Annual Report 2021







Annual General Meeting Attic Broadcasting Co. Ltd. Tuesday, October 12, 2021 Online meeting held via Zoom

# Tentative Agenda

- 1) Call to order
- 2) Introduction of Board, Executive Staff & Station Manager
- 3) Procedures Governing Annual General Meeting
- 4) Additions to Agenda
- 5) Approval of Agenda
- 6) Minutes: AGM, September 22, 2020.
- 7) Financial Report
- 8) President's Report
- 9) Motion to confirm all resolutions of Attic Broadcasting Board of Directors including:
- (a) approval of BIPOC policy passed by the Board on April 7, 2021
- (b) adoption of bylaw change regarding the size and composition of the Board
- (c) approval of bylaw change to reflect change in Station Manager's title to Executive Director
- 10) Staff Reports
- 11) Other business

12) Election of Attic Broadcasting 2021-2022 Board of Directors (Explanation of online voting procedures) (Nominations to be accepted from the floor)

- 13) 10 minute recess for tallying
- 14) Announcement of 2020-2021 Board of Directors
- 15) Adjournment

President's Report Bruce Wark

I'm pleased to report that judging by the diversity and breadth of its programming, CHMA is flourishing thanks to the dedicated efforts of its staff and volunteers. I'm proud to be part of a station that broadcasts a wide range of musical styles and genres presented by dedicated and knowledgeable hosts as well as high-quality spoken-word programming that includes local news listeners can't hear anywhere else. The station now broadcasts more live programming than it has in many years giving it a distinctive sound and presence in the Tantramar area.

Since our last Annual General Meeting in September 2020, our Board has met every month. Aside from routine housekeeping duties, we conducted a formal performance review of our Station Manager which reached this conclusion: "James Anderson has done exemplary work as Station Manager since March 2020 fulfilling all of his job functions while providing leadership and inspiration to staff and volunteers."

The Board also approved a change in James's title from "Station Manager" to "Executive Director/CHMA Operations" to more accurately reflect his role in overseeing and co-ordinating operations that include over-the-air broadcasting, on-demand podcast production, web-based publishing and community outreach. Tonight, the Board will be asking members to approve a change in our bylaws to incorporate the new title.

We will also be asking members to approve a new policy the Board passed on April 7, 2021 to recognize Black, Indigenous and Other People of Colour (BIPOC).

Finally, we will be asking members to approve a change in our Board structure that would place a greater emphasis on student participation as well as providing more opportunities for diversity and inclusion. Executive Director/Operations Report James Anderson

Well, that was a historic year for CHMA! I can't say "Thanks!" enough to everyone that put massive amounts of time and energy into the organization and transformed this place into a dream station. We should all be very proud of all of our accomplishments over the past year and we can finally say that CHMA, as one of the smallest campus stations in Canada, is working above and beyond what we hoped, all this despite a global pandemic. I have to give a very special thanks to all of the volunteer programmers that kept the air electric and exciting, all of the Board members that kept us motivated and on course, and the incredible staff that understood the importance of what we're doing and worked so hard to keep the energy up.

Highlighting achievements for the past year is a very long list but here's a shot at it:

CHMA gets recognized as Sackville's source of local news with 20K monthly views on our website.

9 Summer staff and internships with a full volunteer Programmers calendar!

Incredible community support through the Monthly Sustainer program! 63 donors this year, with 25+ Monthly Sustainers!

Programmers broadcasting live from kitchen tables and cottages!

Programmers uploading their own shows!

7 Daytime Hosts hosting 5 days a week!

Podcasting has exploded! New distribution platform is amazing! 2 podcasting studios with online booking calendar! We've supported over 25 projects last year.

Over 30 weekly programs!

Internships! 4 full-time Summer Internships and 4 positions throughout the Fall/Winter semester.

An online store and incredible new Merch!

CHMA celebrates 35 years of FM and Bonzai celebrates 35 th year on-air!

We have a lease!

3000 hours of volunteering!

We have a light switch for the common area!

We have a corporate credit card!

Weekday Top-of-the-Hour News and Weather?!? Correct.

Farmers Market!

11 Board Members!

4 Finalists and 1 Winner at the NCRA Awards!

## Financial Update

With the addition of Quickbooks and Wagepoint, our day-to-day operations have been incredibly streamlined and have taken a lot of pressure off of my position allowing me to focus on other parts of the position.

We have been incredibly successful in diversifying our funding base this year and I feel very confident next year will be even better. Here are a listing of some of the funding we've received:

Community Radio Fund of Canada (COVID Relief Subsidy) Community Radio Fund of Canada (Local Journalists Initiative) NBSEED Canada Summer Works Magnet Internships Venture for Canada Internships Renaissance Sackville Rotary Club of Sackville Mount Allison International Student Internship Enactus MTA partnership

Other sources of funding can include our great Merch Store (both online, MTA bookstore and here at the offices) and the 30+ Monthly Sustainers and Donors. There was a little momentum with advertising and we've implemented a new sponsorship program that we're excited to work towards in 2022. We're also at the final steps of an agreement with Mount Allison to offer charitable receipts to donors.

Our yearly financial statements have yet to be finalized, I will distribute them to the board and membership as soon as they're available.

Our budget structure remains unchanged, and we have to work more on core funding. I look forward to meeting with the new board to revisit. Specifically we need to strengthen staff positions and consider a major overhaul in key equipment that hasn't been updated in 20 years.

Programming Directors Report Kheaven Brasier

As CHMA's outgoing Programming Director, I'm happy to report that we have had our **best year ever.** Our programming schedule is very strong, and we are running in full CRTC compliance in regard to Canadian content and Spoken word programming.

Now, a quick review of the programming initiatives developed at CHMA since the last AGM:

The addition of 6 uniquely automated show rotations playing the best new Canadian music and beyond representing a diversity of genres and voices (Four Strong Winds, Cantaloupe Island, Soul Sonic, What's Goin' On, Blue Moon, and Killer Haze)

Staff and volunteer daytime DJ's every weekday from 7am to 4pm (Morning Show, Midday Show, and Afternoon Show). They are reading news, weather, and sharing fun banter while playing the finest new Canadian music and more. Programmers are empowered to upload and schedule their own pre-recorded shows via Airtime Pro.

The option of hosting live broadcasts on CHMA from anywhere in the world via live broadcast software.

Live town-hall style meetings and debates hosted and sometimes moderated by CHMA using a combination of in-studio engineering and Zoom.

The successful participation in "A Day to Listen," produced by the Downie-Wenjack Fund to build cultural understanding and create a path toward reconciliation between Indigenous and non-Indigenous peoples.

A sharp increase in BIPOC artists featured on CHMA from virtually none to a minimum of 30% weekly of total music played.

The successful facilitation of live MASSIE radio broadcasts engineered at CHMA and coming live from Japan.

I am probably missing a few things, as it's been a wild ride since last year. It's been an honour helping with the station in the past year. Thanks to everyone for their hard work.

Congratulations to our newest NCRA Award Winning Program Full Disclosure! Thanks to all the programmers who did such an incredible job DJing their shows and filling out their logs. Keep working hard, keep the momentum going, and this next year will be even better.

I'll close this note out with a list of all the incredible shows that grace our airwaves, including those who are leaving us or have yet to come back on board. Last year around this time we had 22 local shows on the schedule. We currently have 35!

#### Spoken word and podcast (current)

#ILOVE ME: Thor Mckenzie
Ad-Hocalypse Now: Alex Robben, Seb
Colley, & Ian Addis
CHMA Talks: Erica Butler, Mege
Cunningham
Everything's Fine: A Field Stories Podcast:
Meghan Fraser & Alex DiLonardo
Sad Song Radio: Jon Claytor
Synths Always: How Electronic Music Made
a Century: Aimee Copping
Tantramar Report: Erica Butler & Meg
Cunningham
Wholenote: Morgan Lynch

#### Music Programming (current)

808: Mila Sevo The Afternoon Show, Siyun Chae, Thor Mckenzie, Shashank Arvindan Allegro: Kheaven Brasier Attic Transmissions / Attic After Dark: Chloe Lundrigan Banzai!: Jack Keddy Bhaktibeats: Greg, Seva, & Naraya Sandala Blind Date: Christina Acton & Hannah Tuck The Bluegrass Jam: Wilson Moore Craig Dunsmuir's Grotheries: Craig Dunsmuir Daydreaming in the Midst of the Night: Sivun Chae Dollar Bin All-Stars: Derrick Dixon Full Disclosure: Aura-Lynn Groomes Havana Syndrome: Gordon Isnor The Heart of Saturday Night: DJ Gae High Colour: James Anderson KulPop: Kirk Ferguson Laura Turns it up to 11even: Laura Kurdyak Listening Club: Noah Batten, Morgan Lynch, & Caitlin Strong Luxury Uptake: Justin Liefer Mar on Music: Mar Sellars The Midday Show: Siyun Chae, Morgan Lynch, Chloe Lundrigan, Shashank Arvindan Moonlight Mix: Mahalia Onichino The Morning Show: Quinn Waylaing, James Anderson (formerly Kheaven Brasier) Nana's Thoughts: Nana Ofori-Amanfo The Night Shift: Luca Capone No Label: Josh Brown Punk Rock Radio Hour: Penelope Anderson (formerly Obediah Anderson) Simply Folk: R.A. Lautenschlager Sunshine After Dark: John Huck

#### **Music and Spoken word Programming**

(Outgoing, or yet to be rescheduled) Anime with Anibae: Kevinique Stubbs Do We Know Things: Lisa Dawn Hamilton Emily and Peter Have Gone Fishing: Emily Shaw & Peter Cooke Hour of Jazz: Anna Hardie Hot Dog: Mic Bot Love, Joy, & Struggle: Leanne Laracy NYMH: Chloe Lundrigan Off the Cuff: Amanda Godin, David Archibald Radio Waving: Hannah Lucas Sappyfest Radio: Steven Lambk Surf's Up: Andrew Burt Tap In: Aditya Majithia This is Fine: A Podcast About Stress, Burnout, and Resilience: MTA Psychology Department: Lisa Dwan Hamilton



News Director/Journalist Report Erica Butler

The news team was Erica Butler and Meg Cunningham for most of the year, with Meg leaving in mid-September. For most of the year, we produced Tantramar Report five days a week, and published web versions of most stories. We started writing local news & info briefs daily for a top-of-the-hour segment currently being recorded by James Anderson. We post stories to Facebook and also have a daily new post notification 'newsletter' which has about 300 daily and 25 weekly subscribers.

We decided early on to suspend comments from the website, since we don't have the appropriate resources to manage the moderation of comments.

After Meg left in September, we have reduced the number of daily shows to 3 per week, on Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays. Erica continues to write daily top-of-the-hour briefs and produce Tantramar Report three times per week, as well as CHMA Talks, a weekly panel-style discussion show. There is also a daily (weekdays) post featuring the news & info briefs, with links to any stories published.

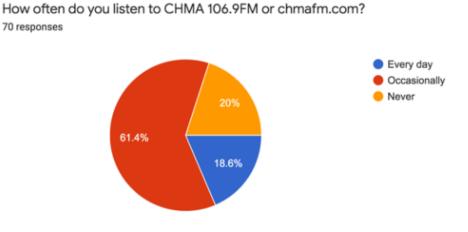
The plan is to hire a part time person to assist with the news department, and help cover holidays, in the near future.

We try to cover key Mount Allison issues, town council meetings and politics, local business and culture happenings, provincial issues of local relevance, and of course, COVID-19.

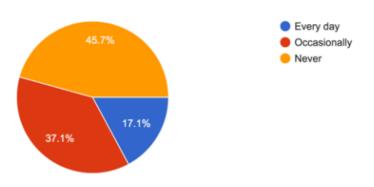
How we deliver local news is very much a work in progress and we're open to feedback and suggestions!

## LISTENER SURVEY

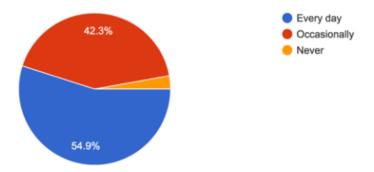
We conducted a listener/reader survey in May-June 2021. We had 71 responses. Here's some highlights of what we heard:



How often do you listen to Tantramar Report on CHMA 106.9FM or chmafm.com? 70 responses



How often do you read articles on CHMA's community news site? 71 responses



## CHMAFM.COM:

Traffic to the website has increased somewhat steadily, with slow downs in December and August that seem to correspond with holidays and a reduced number of stories published. Last September there were 15k hits on the site, and this past September there were 33k. Most months this year were in the 16k to 23k range.

The most read stories in the past year, from website stats, are listed below with their total views. Crime and COVID-19 figure prominently, which are most certainly local readers. A story on the Rima Azar controversy was picked up and tweeted (somewhat snarkily) by Jonathan Kay, and so it's fair to say most of those hits came from well beyond the Sackville region.

Top ten stories in terms of hits, Oct 8 2020 to Oct 8 2021:

- Students weigh in on what to do about Dr. Rima Azar 4,504
- "It can happen to you": One woman's COVID-19 story 3,525
- Thanks for "unbelievable" community support, and call for information regarding suspicious fires in Upper Sackville 2,937
- Fire and stabbing incident in Westcock 2,885
- A new chapter for Mel's Tearoom, Sackville's oldest diner and newest music venue 2,718
- Updated: Charge laid for assault hours before suspicious fire 2,638
- Say goodbye to the Aulac border checkpoint, as NB enters phase 2 on the "path to green" -2,541
- Sackville man sentenced to time served for assaults 2,417
- Two more deaths at the Drew Nursing Home 2,375
- "We just are not taking any chances": Russell on why people who work in Amherst must

perpetually self-isolate - 2,369

## Appendix A

The Board of Attic Broadcasting Co, Ltd. recommends the following two changes to the current by-laws:

## 1. By-Law 4.5:

## Current by-law:

The Annual General Meeting of Attic Broadcasting Co. Ltd. shall be held within the first fifteen (15) days of April of each year as set by a majority vote of the Board of Directors.

## Proposed by-law:

The Annual General Meeting of Attic Broadcasting Co., Ltd. shall be held within the first fifteen (15) days of October of each year as set by a majority vote of the Board of Directors.

## (Approved by the Board on August 10, 2021)

**Rationale:** Even though we try to schedule the AGM in the day or two between the end of classes and the beginning of the exam period, attendance is often disappointing, as students are typically very busy finishing their coursework and preparing for exams. By setting the date for the AGM in October, we hope to engage more Attic members. In addition, an October AGM is close to the end/beginning of Attic's fiscal year, so financial reports written in August and September will be more current than they are with the AGM in April. However, in order for this to occur, at one October AGM two financial reports will have to be presented. (Presently, the financial statements presented in April concern the fiscal year that ended the previous August.)

#### 2. By-law 5.3:

#### Current by-law:

At the Annual General Meeting, the Board of Directors shall be elected, and will be comprised of nine (9) members as follows:

1. a) Two directors shall be Mount Allison University full-time students who are Full Members of Attic Broadcasting Co. Ltd. and currently Active Members;

2. b) Two directors shall be Mount Allison University students who are Full Members but not currently Active Members;

3. c) Two directors shall be members of the Community at (unaffiliated with Mount Allison University);

4. d) Two Directors shall be members of the Community at large and/or affiliated with Mount Allison University;

5. e) One member shall be Faculty.

#### 2. Proposed by-law:

At the Annual General Meeting, the Board of Directors shall be elected, and will be comprised of seven (7) members as follows;

(a) Four directors shall be Mount Allison University full-time students who are full members of Attic Broadcasting Co., Ltd.;

(b) One director shall be an employee of Mount Allison University (a faculty member, administrator, staff member, and so on);

(c) Two directors shall be members of the community (Sackville and the surrounding region.).

(d) At least two of the Directors (from any of the above categories) shall be members of equity-seeking and equity-deserving groups.

(Approved by the Board on September 14, 2021)

**Rationale:** First, since most of Attic's funding currently comes from student fees, students should form the majority of the Board. Second, historically, Attic has had difficulty filling all the positions on the Board, especially the "non-active students" and, to a lesser degree, the non-Mount-A affiliated community members. The proposed by-laws do away with these categories. Third, the faculty position has not been difficult to fill, but CRTC regulations and guidelines do not specify that a faculty member must be on the Board of campus/community stations. The proposed by-law specifies only a Mount Allison employee and allows other employees to fill the position. Fourth, the final clause serves Attic's goal of increasing its diversity.

#### Appendix B

Attic Broadcasting Corporation, Ltd. Annual General Meeting September 22, 2020 (via Zoom)

Present: Ian Addis, James Anderson (Station Manager), Obadiah Anderson, Lauren Beck, Sabine Beisser (Board member), Kevin Brassier (Interim Programming Manager), Craig Brett (Board member), Peter Brown (Secretary), Erica Butler (News Director), Jesse Corrigan, Meg Cunningham (reporter), Linda Dornan (Treasurer), Gordon Eisner, Dashiell Edson, Kirk Ferguson, Aura-Lynn Groomes, Keagan Hawthorne, Laura Landon, Rob LeBlanc, Justin Liefer, Chloe Lundrigan, Alex Robben, Kevinique Stubbs (Board member), Aidan Tomalty, Bruce Wark (President)

#### 1. Call to order:

Bruce called the meeting to order at 7:17. He introduced the current Board and employees. He also briefly outlined the structure of the AGM.

## 2. Approval of the agenda.

Keagan moved that the agenda be approved. Sabine seconded. Motion passed.

## 3. Approval of the minutes from the last AGM:

Bruce explained that he did not presently have minutes from the 2019 AGM to present to members. He explained the reason for this. Typically, the AGM occurs in April, at which time the President would usually contact the previous year's Secretary in order to obtain the minutes from the last AGM. This year, because of the pandemic and the chaos that followed the abrupt end of class in March, the Board decided to postpone the AGM until September. Simply put, the Board lost track of last year's Secretary. We believe that we have identified the person, who has graduated and is no longer at Mount Allison. Bruce has contacted her, but has not yet heard back from her. He hopes that she will be able to supply the minutes to the Board in the near future. But this is uncertain.

# 4. Financial Report:

Linda presented her report to Attic members (see the package of materials distributed prior to the AGM). James explained some of the expenditures in the previous year, and he and Bruce noted that funding for the local journalist is not assured and that, perhaps, a committee should be formed to address this.

Kirk noted that the Station had received \$2000 in donations, and he asked how much came from the donation button on the website. James explained that the Station had received \$550 through the website.

Finally, James noted that the budget in the package was approved by the Board prior to the pandemic.

James, Bruce, and other members of the Board thanked Linda for her years of service to Attic as both a programmer and Board member.

## 5. President's Report:

Bruce explained that for much of the last year, Leah Garnett had served as President of Attic and that he had taken over only recently. He then presented his report to the membership. (See package of materials.)

# 6. Motion to confirm all Board resolutions:

Linda made a motion to confirm all the Board's resolutions since the last AGM. Keagan seconded. Motion passed.

# 7. Station Manager's Report:

James directed members to his report in the AGM package. He thanked employees and Board members, extending particular thanks to Vanessa Blackier and her work during the early days of the pandemic.

# 8. Staff Reports:

Interim Programming Manager's Report: Like James, Kevin directed members to their report in the AGM package. They explained that were twenty-three programs, not twenty-two; they had forgotten their own show.

News Director/Local Journalist's Report: Erica too directed members to her report in the package. She stressed her goal of getting more people involved in the winter.

Bruce asked James if he had any numbers for CHMA's website. James says that traffic on the site varies but that there were approximately 4500 visits to the site in July and August.

# 9. Other business:

Craig explained to members that this was a strange AGM in a strange year, since so much has happened since April 2019. He expressed thanks to Leah Garnett and Bruce Wark for their work and for assuring as smooth a transition as possible between Station Managers He also thanked James and commended his work as Interim Station Manager and then as Permanent Station Manager.

10. Election of the 2020-2021 Board of Directors: Bruce called for nominations from the (virtual) floor, and after several minutes, the following slate took shape:

Rob LeBlanc (community member with no Mount Allison affiliation) Craig Brett (community member with Mount Allison affiliation) Sabine Beisser (community member with Mount Allison affiliation) Peter Brown (faculty member) Chloe Lundrigan (student, active with CHMA) Kevinique Stubbs (student, active with CHMA)

There being no competition for Board members in particular categories, there was no need for an election. The above slate was acclaimed by the members.

(Please note: First, Bruce will continue to serve, as he was appointed to a two-year position on the Board. Second, Sabine is willing to serve only temporarily, hoping to be replaced soon. Third, the Board should attempt to find two more student directors.)

11. There being no further business, Bruce called for a motion to adjourn. Craig made the motion.

Bruce adjourned the meeting at 8:15.



Attic Broadcasting Co. Ltd.'s BIPOC Policy

Policy No.: Approved by: Attic Broadcasting Co. Ltd. BOARD OF DIRECTORS Approval date: Effective date: Revised: ----Administered by:

DISCUSSION

Appendix C

To adopt the following amended recommendations from the NCRA produced report "They don't come to us" Recommendations of Action/Recommendations for Stations.

1. Incorporate the Truth and Reconciliation Commission's Calls to Action for Media into regular operations:

"86. We call upon Canadian journalism programs and media schools to require education for all students on the history of Aboriginal peoples, including the history and legacy of residential schools, the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples, Treaties and Aboriginal rights, Indigenous law, and Aboriginal–Crown relations"

- 2. Regularly engage in Equity focused reviews of their programming, operations and activities.
- 3. Stations promote dedicated spaces which reflect diverse communities, such as through meet-up groups, or social media groups.
- 4. Use photos and videos (visual representations) which represent a diversity of their volunteers. Ensuring that the visual representation of the station is a reflection of the diversity of their membership and community.
- 5. Stations engage with refugee and diaspora groups, this can be done through outreach to immigration services and support groups.
- 6. Stations create a plan for how to make space to share dialogue of protests.
- 7. Have a policy of defined volunteer roles, and offer reference letters.
- 8. Require staff at stations to provide mentorship and prioritize educating volunteers.
- 9. Actively engage in recruitment and creation of content through various platforms such as podcasts, articles, music production, programming, etc.







Punk Rock Radio Hour

CHMA TALKS

CONVERSATIONS NEAR AND FAR ABOUT STUFF THAT MATTERS

Mar on Music Banzai!

TTIC AFTER DAR

Allegro

808

BHARTIBEA



CHMA Talks

Attic After Dark





Blue Moon



Stereophonic Radio

Everything's Fine: A Field

High Colour

BhaktiBeats

Moonlight Mix



Sunshine After Dark

The Morning Show

Craig Dunsmuir's Grotheries Cantaloupe Island



Soul Sonic

Four Strong Winds

The Bluegrass Jam







The Night Shift

No Label

Full Disclosure

Ad-Hocalypse Now



Daydreaming in the Midst of the Night



Tantramar Report CHMA 106.9FM

1pm

th sr

Hot Dog

Tantramar Report

WHOLE NOTE





SYNDROM MYSTERIOUS SONIC WEAPONS FROM CUBA TIMBA, RUMBA, REGGAETON BOLERO, SON AND MORE

Laura Turns it Up to E11even Whole Note

Blind Date

Nana's Thoughts

Havana Syndrome



BLIND DATE CHRISTINA AND HANNAH

Killer Haze

R

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KulPop

Listening Club

Dollar Bin All Stars

Sad Song Radio





# Thanks for the great year!