

**VANCOUVER SOWERS SOCIETY OF EDUCATION**  
**Minutes of Apr, 2017 Directors' Meeting**

Date: Apr 28, 2017  
 Time: 6:30 pm  
 Venue: Community Room of Vancity Branch, Richmond

Directors Present: Karl Lam, John Lee, Joyce Lei, Connie Thai  
 Regrets: Wendy Hui, Maurice Lui  
 Members Present: Ming Chan, Archie Tsang, Tommy Hui, Cynthia Ip  
 Chaired by: Karl Lam  
 Minutes taken by: Joyce Lei

1. Meeting was called to order at 6:36pm.
2. Adoption of agenda  
 It was moved by John, seconded by Karl and carried to adopt the agenda.
3. Adoption of minutes of last meetings on Mar 31  
 It was moved by Joyce, seconded by Connie and carried to adopt the minutes, with the correction for item 12b that the added wording should be 'Temporary receipts only for donation \$20 or above, Tax Receipts will be issued later.'

**4. Donation & Accounts**

- a) Bank Balances as of Apr 25 (BOC) – Admin (CAD): 5,263.98 / Donation (CAD): 56,764.01 / RMB496.33
- b) Annual Dinner Party 2016: a cheque was received from Topwin Trading Co Ltd (No.12736, \$200) and was deposited.
- c) The change of Directors' names at BOC. Karl has prepared the form, pending John to arrange with the directors to sign.
- d) BOC / Vancity / HSBC: update of mailing address from Ben to a UPS Postal Box
- e) Heart-to-Heart Program (high school students): A remittance of RMB75,000 + 6% follow-up (RMB4,500) = RMB79,500 (to be completed in early May).

**5. Tax Receipts**

- a) Donation software renewal by Tommy.

**6. Other Administration Tasks**

- a) Update BC Registry: the change of our directors and address. To be followed up.
- b) Current PO Box: keys to be kept by Joyce and Archie.
- c) The VSSE projector will be for internal use only.
- d) The making of VSSE roll-up banner. All approved. Karl would look for the file of our previous banner for use this time, and Ming would arrange for the printing.

**7. School Projects**

- a) 紅土食堂 - Re-do the tiles in summer 2015: the project has been completed and accepted by HKSA in October 2015, but Karl found that the floor was not done too nicely.
  - January, 2016: HKSA has taken note of this and **will check if the floor is too uneven**

To be Followed Up By
Tommy
Completed
John / Karl
Joyce
Ming / Archie
Completed
-
-
-
Karl / Ming
Karl

**when revisiting next time which is expected to be 2017.**

- b) 大柏樹完小: It has been completed in Nov 2012 but the official audit report still has not been done.
- **April, 2017: HKSA is preparing the receipt agreement (驗收協議書), and hope to have it done and delivered to the local party in May.**

Karl

- c) Status of schools that VSSE had sponsored (Karl enquired this in Dec, 2015).
- 白臘完小: In March, 2016, the school was found to have been closed and merged with another school. In February 16, 2017, HKSA advised that there was no student source and the school currently is not used. The county government decided the school would be kept for 5 years, and the asset would be merged with another nearby school if there's still no student source after 5 years.

Karl

**April, 2017: HKSA advised that if there is still no student source after 5 years, the school name and memorial plaque would be moved to the new school. Karl has also informed the donor regarding the closing of the school.**

- Other schools. March 2017: HKSA is sending out questionnaires again to the schools to get the updated figures this year and probably will receive in July-Aug.

- d) Bunk beds for 甲爪

- **April, 2017: the beds have been installed, and some pictures of the beds received.**

Karl

Karl

8. **Orphanage** – In February, 2017, Michael Li enquired about sponsoring the Shuifu Children's Home (水富苗圃兒童福利院) that HKSA is running. **April, 2017: Karl clarified the suggested projects provided by HKSA:**

- a) Library, study room, music room, counseling room or dormitory

Library, study room are education related, but since they will be inside a orphanage (of which the primary purpose is to help the well being of the children, instead of education) instead of inside an education facility. Karl thinks that music room, counseling room or dormitory are not education related.

In any case, Karl suggested that **we should consult CRA regarding what VSSE could sponsor, as currently we do not have a concrete guideline.**

- b) Study and living expenses of the children

According to CRA's direction, our donations cannot go to the hands of students, thus we'll need to have our donations for study and living expenses going directly to the school to cover the relevant expenses. HKSA advised that Shuifu could help collect our donation and forward to the relevant schools. It was also clarified that the children need to live at the schools, and only return to the orphanage during weekends and long holidays.

**Karl shall inform Michael the findings.**

## 9. Heart-to-Heart Program

- a) WahKwong students- No update this time.
- b) University students - No update this time.
- c) High school students
  - **March 2017:** Donation instruction has been signed and returned to HKSA. **Need to send the money to HKSA - RMB 75,000 + 6% follow-up (RMB 4,500) = RMB 7,950.**

Karl  
Karl  
Ming / Archie

Karl

## 10. Get a new project (of around CAD 30,000) from HKSA:

In March, HKSA suggested that we could consider:

- Winter jackets
- Improve teachers' office of WahKwong
- The hardware or software program of the Children's Home, such as equipment of function rooms or scholarship for the children.

### April, 2017, HKSA advised 2 potential school projects:

- One school is RMB 500,000, for 90 grade 1 to grade 5 students.
- The other one is a building (綜合樓) in a school, which is RMB 650,000, for 200 students.

We'll need to give indication which one, if any, we would be interested to pursue. More details to be explored by Karl.

## 11. Request from Horizon

- a) Sponsorship of CAD2,000 to Horizon. Follow up with Noli Cole.

John

## 12. Participation in Events by Other Organizations

- a) Vancouver Cambie Lions Club will have an Installation Party on June 2 at 6:30pm at the Richmond Branch of Kirin Restaurant. The ticket price is \$50 each. Ming, John & Cynthia and a few other members will join.
- b) E&E Global Foundation fund raising. We are invited to attend the following:
  - Fund-raising dinner on May 7 (Sunday). Karl will join.
  - Fund-raising swimming relay on May 28 (Sunday): Cynthia will coordinate.
- c) Concert by Loh on 4 Jun.
  - A table of 6 is reserved. Ming, John & Cynthia and a few other members will join.
  - VSSE volunteers help to pass donation boxes around. Loh suggested that at the concert, the audience would be asked to donate to VSSE, and VSSE volunteers to help passing donation boxes around. The board agreed to the suggestion.
  - Future concerts held by Loh can be partnered with VSSE as the beneficiary. Loh suggested that his future concerts could have VSSE as a beneficiary. The board agreed to this in principal.

Ming & John

Karl  
Cynthia

Ming/ John/Cynthia

## 13. Events & Activities

### a) Sharing Sessions

- (i) Iran by Wayne Fong: in early Jun (6:30 – 8:30)
- (ii) Acrylic Drawing Class by Wendy Lau on 18 May. Fee: \$20 / person. No. of participants: 20 pax. Call-out to be sent out on 29 Apr.
- (iii) Health & Well-being Session by Uncle Bon before 10 May

John  
John

John

Karl

- b) **Chinese-Canadian Talent Contest 2017** 楓華小狀元 – Vivian advised that she had contacted Crystal Mall and could get the venue for the event. She suggested that the

event to be held in early November. Proceeds from this event will go to the Horizon (2018).

**c) VSSE Super Singer Contest 2017**

- (i) Thank-you letters to be emailed to the donors with donation over CAD500. Draft was completed by Joyce. Wendy to follow up.
- (ii) A cheque to be issued to Tang Sir (CAD760), to reimburse the dinner fee that had been double-paid.
- (iii) VCDs of the event will be available for sale later. Price: CAD25.

Joyce / Wendy

Completed

Wendy

**d) Celebration Party (VSSE Super Singer Contest 2017 & Sun Run)**

- (i) It will be held at Pink Pearl Chinese Restaurant on 16 May.
- (ii) To be organized: Ming, KK & Chan Chi Ming

Ming

**e) Schedule of Upcoming Events**

BBQ – Jul 22 at Deas Island

C12H – Bus Tour&Leisure Group on 29 Jul; Intermediate & Challenge Group on 5 Aug  
– Chaired by Connie, co-chaired by Maurice

Soccer Cup – Sep, chaired by Connie & John

Annual Dinner 2017 – 8 Sep. Wendy has booked Pink Pearl Chinese Restaurant.

- Karl has checked with HKSA, and they could send us the design of their 25th anniversary souvenirs, but wouldn't be able to help arranging the production.

AGM – suggested to be held before Annual Dinner

Ming

Connie/Maurice

Connie / John  
Wendy/Karl

Ming

**14. Membership**

- a) 86 membership fees have been collected so far.

15. **Adjournment:** Meeting was adjourned at 8:30 pm.

The next meeting will be held at 6:30 pm on May 24 (Wed), at the VPL, Fraserview Branch, 1950 Argyle Dr, Vancouver, BC V5P 2A8.