



Minutes of the Annual General Meeting
of the Ontario Band Association

Friday, November 7, 2014

11:45pm at the OMEA Soundscapes

Present

Andria Kilbride
Donna Dupuy
Steffan Brunette

President
Treasurer
Secretary

Sarah Arcand
Chris Reesor
Bryan Brewda

Simcoe Band Symposium, Donations
Industry Representative
Membership Co-ordinator

Lani Sommers
Colleen Richardson

Newsletter Editor
University Liaison,

Regrets

Scott Harrison

President-Elect, OPHB

Tony Gomes
Mark Caswell

Past-President, York-OBA WCS
Concert Band Festival

Farishteh Eriksen
Lynn Tucker
Chris Dickson

Beginning Band Symposium
Chamber Music Festival
Wind Band Composition

Pratik Gandhi

Webmaster

1. Call to Order

Kilbride called the meeting to order at 11:56am.

There are 19 members present and quorum is established.

Other members present:

Laura Lee Matthie, Barrie Hodgins, David Lum, Dennis Beck, Jeff
Wrigglesworth, John Phillips, Matt Peter, Lisa Barth, Lauren Simmons, Dave
Gueulette, Graz Brescacin.

2. Adoption of the Agenda

Motion to adopt the agenda.

Moved by Reesor. Seconded by Lum. Motion carried.

The Minutes from the previous AGM were not made available by the previous Secretary, and could not be ratified at this AGM.

3. Announcements

Kilbride was encouraged by the activities of the Board of Directors during the OMEA conference as presenters and performers. Both Scott Harrison and Chris Dickson were busy with other duties at the time of the AGM, and other members of the Board were attending the conference as clinicians.

4. Reports from the Executive

(a) President

see attached report

(b) President-Elect

see attached report

(c) Treasurer

see attached report

Question from the floor: is there a plan to have a nest egg to offset future complications?

Dupuy: we haven't been in the financial state to do this, but we hope to. As a non-profit organization, we can't keep too much money in the account. Our HST rebate came in and will help us pay for an audit.

Motion

Whereas Article V "Meeting of Members", Section 9(i) "Annual General Meeting" states that financial statements will be presented to the general membership, be it resolved that the financial statements as presented be accepted.

Moved by Dupuy. Seconded by Reesor

None opposed.

Motion carried.

(d) Secretary

see attached report

(e) Past-President

No report submitted.

5. Reports from Directors and Positions of Responsibility

(a) York University Wind Conductors' Symposium (Gomes)

See attached report.

(b) Beginning Band (Kilbride)

See attached report.

(c) Simcoe Band Symposium (Arcand)

See attached report.

Arcand thanked Laura Lee Matthie for hosting the event at OD/Park Secondary School.

(d) Chamber Music Festival (Tucker)

No report submitted.

Kilbride announced the dates of the festival will be April 7, 8, and 9, 2015.

(e) Concert Band Festival (Caswell)

See attached report.

Brewda highlighted the change in the number of awards to be distributed in the coming festival year.

(f) Ontario Wind Band Composition (Dickson)

See attached report.

Kilbride described the process from the previous year's event, as outlined in the report.

(g) Donations (Arcand)

See attached report.

Arcand introduced Lisa *Di Veto* and thanked her for her work in guiding the OBA in getting connected with foundations and companies.

Arcand indicated that Yamaha has committed \$10,000 per year for 5 years. This replaces previous assistance that Yamaha did through other industry supporters.

Kilbride thanked *Dupuy*, *Arcand* and *De Vito* for their work on managing the financial situation of the OBA.

(h) Industry (Reesor)

See attached report.

(i) Membership (Brewda)

See attached report.

Brewda will be building more of a social media presence of the OBA through Facebook and Twitter.

(j) Newsletter (Sommers)

See attached report.

Sommers is looking for articles, so please contact her. They could be previously published articles, or new items that you'd like to have published.

(k) Ontario Provincial Honour Band (Harrison)

See attached report.

Dave Gueulette spoke about the EOEHB. The audition process did not yield enough members, so a new format has been designed that will help the ensemble be a success.

(l) University Liaison (Richardson)

See attached report.

There can be a challenge to get in contact with the presidents of the university music students groups, but our goal is to get students involved with the OBA early so they will continue to be involved with the organization.

(m) Webmaestro (Gandhi)

See attached report.

Kilbride thanked *Gandhi* for bringing the on-line payment system to the OBA. Thanks to *Dupuy* for getting the "square" to allow for credit card and debit card payments.

Arjun *Birdie* will likely be taking over the role of Webmaestro in the future.

6. Presentation and Ratification Vote for the Human Rights Policy

Brunette presented the revised Human Rights Policy.

Motion

Whereas the OBA has a responsibility to ensure the safety and well-being of all of its members and the public who attend its events, be it resolved that the OBA adopt the proposed Human Rights Policy effective immediately; be it further resolved that the Human Rights Policy will expire in three years' time at the AGM of 2017, at which point this Policy will be reviewed, and offered for reinstatement or replaced with an updated Policy.

Moved by *Brunette*. Seconded by *Jeff Wrigglesworth*.

None opposed.

Motion carried.

7. Presentation and Ratification Vote for the Volunteer Personnel Policy

Brunette presented the revised Volunteer Personnel Policy.

Motion

Whereas the OBA has a responsibility to equitable and fair treatment of volunteers carrying out duties on its behalf, be it resolved that the OBA adopt the proposed Volunteer Personnel Policy effective immediately; be it further resolved that the Volunteer Personnel Policy will expire in three years' time at the AGM of 2017, at which point this Policy will be reviewed, and offered for reinstatement or replaced with an updated Policy.

Moved by *Brunette*. Seconded by *Matt Peter*.

None opposed.

Motion carried.

8. Presentation and Ratification Vote for a Constitutional Amendment

Kilbride presented the amendment and explained its rationale.

Motion

Whereas the OBA has adopted the Human Rights Policy and Volunteer Personnel Policy, be it resolved that Article XIII ("Removal from Office"), Section 3(i) "Impeachment" be amended to include:

(e) failure to abide by existing OBA policies

Moved by *Kilbride*. Seconded by *David Lum*.

None opposed.

Motion carried.

9. New Business

On behalf of the board and membership, *Dupuy* thanked *Kilbride* for her leadership.

10. Adjournment

Motion to adjourn the meeting.

Moved by *Laura Lee Matthie*. Seconded by *Dennis Beck*. Motion carried.

The meeting adjourned at 12:36pm.

SUMMARY OF ATTACHMENTS

1. Agenda

2. Summary of Reports
 - 2.1 President
 - 2.2 President-Elect
 - 2.3 Treasurer
 - 2.4 Secretary
 - 2.5 York-OBA Wind Conducting Symposium
 - 2.6 GTA Beginning Band Symposium
 - 2.7 Simcoe Band Symposium
 - 2.8 Concert Band Festival
 - 2.9 Donations
 - 2.10 Industry
 - 2.11 Membership
 - 2.12 Newsletter
 - 2.13 Ontario Provincial Honour Band
 - 2.14 University Liaison
 - 2.15 Webmaestro



Executive Report

President

Andria Kilbride

Annual General Meeting

Friday, November 7, 2014 at OMEA Soundscapes, London

After my first year as President of the Ontario Band Association, I can say I have never been more delighted to be a part of such an amazing organization. We have countless volunteers and dedicated executive/board members that work tirelessly to plan and promote our events. This past year we have introduced two brand new initiatives, run two successful symposiums, two festivals, and an honour band.

The most recent event, the Simcoe Band Symposium, was organized by Sarah Arcand with the assistance of a few teachers from the Orillia area. The symposium was generously funded by the Ontario Trillium Foundation and was an excellent opportunity for teachers north of the GTA to experience a band-specific PD session. The clinic was provided by the OBA's own Colleen Richardson who challenged the delegates to tackle unfamiliar instruments. Colleen's vision of the day proved to be a great success and I hope our organization can continue to run the symposium in the future. Thank you Sarah and Colleen for helping the OBA reach out to new members and branch out to new areas of the province.

Chris Dickson and Matthew Fava from the Canadian Music Centre were able to provide local and national composers with an opportunity for their works to be shared at the Wind Band Composition Project. There were two stages to the event: one was a reading session with feedback from Michael Colgrass, other composers and performing musicians; and the second stage was a performance of the works prepared by the Cardinal Carter Academy for the Arts conducted by Mary Evered. This project is in its second year and already has more than 15 scores submitted for an exciting new partnership with MusicFest Canada. Thank you Chris for your passion for wind band compositions and your drive to promote creativity.

Lynn Tucker from the University of Toronto Scarborough Campus was able to run a fabulous Chamber Music Festival while on sabbatical. This event provides an opportunity for traditional and non-traditional chamber groups to perform and receive feedback from skilled musicians. Small ensemble playing builds teamwork, independence, and musicality. These, in turn, result in building better bands. Lynn, I cannot thank you enough for your effort and commitment to this festival.

The 2013 Honour Band was a huge success thanks to Scott Harrison's seamless organization and initiative. The ensemble which featured 66 high school musicians, from over 30 schools from throughout the province, was conducted by Robert Sheldon. The ensemble's concert series included a performance by euphonium player, Cameron Rawlins. Scott has arranged an exciting partnership with Yamaha Music Canada to feature a Yamaha artist with every OPHB for the next few years. Scott, your work ethic and leadership have proven to be outstanding.

The 12th annual Concert Band Festival run by Mark Caswell was a great success. I am so proud of the OBA's commitment to running this event year after year. I feel that we can provide ensembles and directors with a rich experience both musically and professionally. Having the opportunity to hear other ensembles perform is of great benefit to our bands. A unique feature of our festival is the opportunity for a band director to receive feedback on their conducting technique. Although this feature is difficult to fund, our board of directors knows the value of the expenditure. We will continue to seek new funds to maintain the structure and location of the festival. Mark, thank you for every ounce of energy that you spend on our largest project. The success of the festival is a direct result of your drive, devotion, and dedication.

This year's Beginning Band Symposium was organized by Farishteh Eriksen and me. The symposium has an excellent tradition and runs very smoothly under the format that was introduced a few years ago. This symposium is one of the longest running events with the organization and is very well attended each year. This year's symposium was run by Sheryl Bowhay, OBA's founding President. Our delegate band from Alexander's Public School was conducted by Ryan Meeboer (HDSB). Special thanks to Jenna Howells for her assistance with the symposium. Farishteh, your organization, planning and support throughout the process and on the day of the event were essential for the success of the symposium.

Tony Gomes has continued to run the York University/OBA Wind Conductor's Symposium for many years now. With the assistance of Bill Thomas and York University students, this symposium is one of our most popular professional development opportunities. Glenn Price, the 2014 clinician, provided a wonderful morning session for band directors and used the afternoon session to give feedback to the volunteer conductors. As a student, I performed as a member of the demo band at the first annual Wind Conductor's Symposium at Unionville High School. And I am proud to say that I am now helping to lead the organization that runs this amazing event. Tony: thank you for continuing the rich tradition of this symposium and for finding the outstanding clinicians to help our members grow as educators. I am looking forward to 2015 with great anticipation.

Pratik Gandhi, our Webmaestro, has done a tremendous job getting our organization caught up with the digital age. Pratik got our PayPal feature up and running and is also assisting in the launch of our new website being designed by Arjun Birdi. Pratik, you are our resident techy and band repertoire expert. We cannot thank you enough for your time dedicated to our website, e-newsletter, and attendance at countless OBA events this past year.

The OBA is entering its third year of the Ontario Trillium Foundation Grant. Sarah Arcand's successful application to the Trillium Foundation two years ago gave us the means to hire a Regional Coordinator by the name of Lisa Di Veto. Over the last two years, Lisa has developed a deep understanding of our organization and has been successful in finding grants for many of our events. She also spearheaded our annual giving campaign which was so successful in its first year that we have brought it back again this year. Our Treasurer, Donna Dupuy has embraced her position with professionalism. Donna is a lifelong learner and she is always willing to keep us up to date with CRA. This trio of ladies truly knows what teamwork is.

The OBA has been able to maintain the generous support of our Industry members this year. Special thanks to Chris Reesor for his sound advice and gentle reminders of how our activities and events will affect our sponsors. Our partnership with Yamaha Music Canada changed slightly this year and Chris assisted with the transition to our new funding agreement.

It has been a year since returning board member Steffan Brunette came on board. Steffan has jumped into his role as Secretary with very few resources available to him. He has done a fantastic job keeping us on track, and on time. Learning and updating our Policies, Procedures and Constitution in such a short time is truly remarkable. Thank you Steffan for joining our team.

One of our most recent additions to our group is Lani Sommers who has taken over as editor of *In Harmony*. Lani has worked closely with former editor Heather Aitken to ensure that our newsletter is skillfully prepared. Lani's brilliant writing, technology skills and people skills make her a perfect fit to replace Heather in the role of editor.

Heather has also worked very closely with Bryan Brewda, our new Membership Co-Ordinator, to help him learn the ropes. Bryan has continued Heather's excellent communication with our membership and is brainstorming new ideas on how to keep our members up to date and promote our events. Welcome to the team Bryan.

We were saddened to say goodbye to Heather Aitken this year as she pursues a full time job in a new occupation. We are extremely grateful of the countless hours you gave to our organization. We miss your smile, personality and advice at the meetings and at our registration tables. Your former portfolios are in good hands, and yes, it has taken two people to replace you! I wish you all the best for your next chapter - I cannot thank you enough.

My goal for this past year has been to communicate well with our board and maintain our rapport with our industry members and affiliates: the Ontario Music Educators' Association and the Canadian Band Association. I look forward to setting more goals with the board of directors during the second half of my term as President.

It has been a privilege to lead and assist such a fabulous team for the last year. The board of directors strives to uphold our mission statement...

The Ontario Band Association (OBA) is a network of music leaders dedicated to inspiring, enriching and connecting students and educators to share, explore, and enhance the experience of music through bands.

This core group of individuals has spent countless hours planning and preparing events for our members to develop their skills. Each and every board member brings a unique experience to the table, and our differences help us to grow as an organization and revamp our events and our expectations. Even in our busiest times, we manage to prepare reports, meet, and collaborate for the benefit of our number one audience....students.



Executive Report

President Elect

Scott Harrison

Annual General Meeting

Friday, November 7, 2014 at OMEA Soundscapes, London

Over the past year, I have attended the majority of OMEA meetings to present OBA Reports.

In addition, I attended the Simcoe Band Symposium, the Beginning Band Symposium, the York/OBA Conducting Symposium, Phase 2 of the initial Wind Composition Project held at Cardinal Carter Catholic Academy, the Concert Band Festival and continued in my role in organizing and promoting the Honour Band.

Over the next year, I will continue to observe Andria in her Presidential role in order to move into that position next year.

I wish to encourage all of our Board members to keep up their great work.



Executive Report

Treasurer

Donna Dupuy

Annual General Meeting

Friday, November 7, 2014 at OMEA Soundscapes, London

The summary financial information presented here is derived from the Ontario Band Association consolidated statements for the year ended December 31, 2013, which include the revenue and expenses from both the General and the Concert Band Festival accounts. Detailed consolidated financial statements of the Ontario Band Association are available upon request. Financial snapshots that breakdown the expense and revenue categories by symposium are also available upon request.

Up-to-date financial information is available in the minutes from each Board meeting during the year.

In 2013, the Association's revenues exceeded expenses from operations in 2013 by \$68,853 compared to a deficit of \$28,970 in the prior year. We experienced significant increase of 99% in overall net revenues this year from the prior year, while expenditures decreased by 15%. This is attributable to three factors: the Ontario Trillium Grant, the amalgamation of the 'general' and 'festival' accounts near fiscal year end, and an increased revenue from symposia attendance.

Total expenditures decreased 15% to \$93,772 from \$110,541 in the prior year. The decrease in expenses as seen on the year-end report is largely due to the amalgamation of the two bank accounts into one; occupancy costs for the 2013 Concert Band Festival were paid from 2012 funds in the 'festival' account and are included in deferred revenue for the 2013 fiscal year. Expenses in Professional Fees (adjudicators and administrative) saw a significant increase due to the new Regional Coordinator position honoraria. A significant reduction in expenses for membership is due to the labor unrest in 2012 and resulted in lower fees to our national organization. This is in line with our expectations, considering the lack of a large fundraising event.

It was again recognized early in the 2013 fiscal year by the Board of Directors, that an increase in regular and sustaining sponsorships and donations would be necessary to maintain the Association in a tenable financial situation. The Ontario Band Association was fortunate to be awarded an Ontario Trillium Foundation grant in the amount of \$160,000 over three years (FY2013-2015). This year's financial report shows the benefit of those funds to our membership.

At the end of FY2013, the Budget Committee was established. The Committee consists of the Executive, and our Donations Director, Sarah Arcand. The committee established an organizational budgeting procedure, which allows monies within the organization to be allocated where they are needed, rather than attached to a specific symposium. Budgeting for the 2015 fiscal year is currently in progress and will be presented at the Board meeting in January 2015, after approval by the Budget Committee. The Treasurer would like to offer thanks to all members of the committee for their assistance in the development of this new organizational procedure.

One major obstacle that we face is yet another proposed increase in occupancy costs for our Concert Band Festival. The venue we have used for many years is ideal for our needs in terms of space, location, and accessibility. However, the lack of a fixed cost upon which to base our budgeting from year to year, is something that causes instability.

We have significant challenges, but believe that they are manageable with continued prudent cost control, the support of the Ontario Trillium Foundation and our corporate sponsors, and our continued dedication to develop new programs and improve our existing ones. As a result, I believe that overall, the Ontario Band Association is financially well positioned to continue its mission of supporting band education in Ontario.

Over the next year, I will continue to maintain financial records and develop the budget for FY2015. To this end, the Board must establish a date for the budget committee meeting for FY2015.

Donna Dupuy, Treasurer (B.Mus., M.Mus.)

Consolidated Financials for FY2013:**Operations****Net Revenue**

	2013		2012	
			\$	%
Private Donations and Sponsorship	9,350.00	6%	21,929.17	27%
Membership, Dues and Association Fees	82,562.74	51%	54,315.00	67%
Fundraising	0.00	0%	1,033.38	1%
Sales of Goods and Services	1,179.00	1%	4,292.90	5%
Bank Charges and Interest	0.00	0%	0.00	0%
Other Revenue	69,533.78	43%	0.00	0%
TOTAL REVENUE	162,625.52	100%	81,570.45	100%

Expenditures

Advertising and Promotion	3,901.32	4%	4,144.16	4%
Travel Expenses	8,432.70	9%	8,421.76	8%
Bank Charges and Interest	902.49	1%	634.31	1%
Licences, memberships and dues	5,487.82	6%	13,370.10	12%
Office Supplies and Expenses	3,585.19	4%	1,505.77	1%
Occupancy Costs	16,333.24	17%	49,214.35	45%
Professional Services	46,231.44	49%	23,194.69	21%
Donated and purchased supplies and assets	5,797.88	6%	3,234.66	3%
Other Expenditures	3,099.97	3%	6,821.14	6%
TOTAL EXPENDITURES	93,772.05	100%	110,540.94	100%

NET SURPLUS**68,853.47****(28,970.49)****Balance Sheet****Net Assets**

General Account - Cash in Bank at FYE	79,451.57	11,561.10
Concert Band Festival Account - Cash in Bank at FYE	0.00	24,817.44
Total	79,451.57	36,378.54

Liabilities

Accounts Payable	0.00	0.00
Deferred Revenue (Festival Seed Monies)	78,287.82	36,243.54
Total	78,287.82	36,243.54

TOTAL SURPLUS**1,163.75****135.00**



ONTARIO
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Executive Report

Secretary

Steffan Brunette

Annual General Meeting

Friday, November 7, 2014 at OMEA Soundscapes, London

This AGM marks my first year serving as Secretary for the OBA, and I am happy to be involved with the Board in an official capacity again.

Over the past year, I have:

- attended Budget and Board meetings,
- prepared agendas and minutes, and consolidated all reports for the purposes of said meetings,
- re-worked the report templates to allow for smoother formatting,
- met with the President to edit the existing drafts of the Human Rights Policy and Volunteer Personnel Policy, informed by research into similar policies from other organizations,
- prepared the Human Rights Policy and Volunteer Personnel Policy for a ratification vote at the AGM,
- attended the York/OBA Wind Conductors' Symposium in March, and the GTA Beginning Band Symposium in September to assist with registration



Director's Report

York-OBA Wind Conducting Symposium Tony Gomes

Annual General Meeting

Friday, November 7, 2014 at OMEA Soundscapes, London

The 2014 York/OBA Wind Conducting Symposium featured Dr. Glenn Price from the Cincinnati College –Conservatory of Music. His global vision of the Wind Band genre and music education provided a very unique perspective for all participants. As a featured “local boy” from East York region, Glenn had a familial rapport with many individuals. He was thorough in his presentation on gesture and sound, which was highlighted throughout the day as various conductors presented their prepared works.

We once again had conductors from all walks of the music profession. This year a large number of undergraduate students found an opportunity to extend the classroom experience.

We look forward to 2015 when we welcome Dr. Peter Boonshaft from Hofstra University. Many of us know Dr. Boonshaft from his many publications including his *Teaching Music with Passion*. Dr. Boonshaft will bring his many years of conducting at all levels of music education to inspire and motivate participants. This year we are expanding the one-day symposium by offering a “Day with Dr. Boonshaft” for students from various high schools. On Friday, February 27, Dr. Boonshaft’s will run two sessions that will energize students and reimagine their role in music. Join us on February 27/28, 2015 for a very unique Wind Conducting Symposium.

The continued success of the York/OBA Symposium has been largely due to the support given by York University and William Thomas. The staff and facilities provide an ideal setting for learning to occur. Every year they accommodate the particular nuances of each guest clinician who are always impressed with the level of professionalism.



Director's Report

GTA Beginning Band Symposium

***Andria Kilbride &
Farishteh Eriksen***

Annual General Meeting

Friday, November 7, 2014 at OMEA Soundscapes, London

The 2014 Beginning Band Symposium took place at Agincourt Collegiate Institute on September 27, 2014.

Clinician: Sheryl Bowhay

Masterclass Ensemble: Alexander's Public School
Halton District School Board,
Ryan Meeboer - Director

Number of delegates: 64

Industry Supporters: Harknett Music, St. John's Music, Yamaha Music Canada

This year's symposium was a great success. The featured masterclass ensemble was comprised of students in grades 6-8. The reading session conducted by Ms. Bowhay ran very smoothly.

After the lunch break, Ms. Bowhay focused on her best practices in the band classroom including assessment and evaluation ideas. After a quick round of "speed networking", the afternoon concluded with a question and answer period.

An overwhelming amount of positive responses were noted by the delegates in their symposium evaluations.

Going forward, I will continue to communicate with Jodie Blackshaw for the 2014 Beginning Band Symposium. Our delegate band for next year's symposium will be from Coppard Glen Public School (YRDSB), conducted by Matthew Peter.



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POR Report

Simcoe Band Symposium

Sarah Arcand

Annual General Meeting

Friday, November 7, 2014 at OMEA Soundscapes, London

The first Simcoe Band Symposium successfully ran on Saturday, October 4th, 2014 with clinician Dr. Colleen Richardson. Our host was Laura Lee Matthie at O/D Park Secondary School in Orillia. The focus of the symposium was the Grade 9 and 10 Beginning Band Player.

Our goal was to have 15 attendees, and we had 17. It was an excellent day, thank you to Dr. Richardson for a hands on meaningful filled with tips and tricks which aimed at the beginning musician.



Director's Report

Concert Band Festival

Mark Caswell

Annual General Meeting

Friday, November 7, 2014 at OMEA Soundscapes, London

Summary of 2014 festival

Background to the festival

- The Ontario Band Association is now entering its thirteenth year with this popular festival (2015 festival)
- The festival experienced considerable growth in the first five years, but has now stabilized at approximately 160 bands each year
- In June 2002, the OBA Board of directors agreed to take on this project with Mark Caswell as the festival coordinator – he continues in this position today

2014 Annual Festival – some highlights from this past February 2014

- Fee \$285
- Entries – 160 ensembles over four days
- This was the second year of our new festival format – two performance halls running at the same time. This format worked extremely well however we did have recording issues which need to be resolved for this coming year.
- Facility – Le Parc Conference & Banquet Hall
- Sponsorships still including over 15 businesses and organizations (please see website)
- Almost one hundred prizes & scholarships were awarded to students, directors and schools. Some feedback was provided suggesting that we need streamline the presentation of these awards at the director's social.

Final Results Distribution & Final Awards

- For a full listing of final results, please view our website Festival 2014 section
- For a full listing of awards, prizes and scholarships, please view our website Festival 2014 section

Features for the upcoming 2015 OAB Concert Band Festival (February 9th – 12th)

- Directors will have to choose from two options:
 - Two adjudicator feedback for their ensemble OR
 - One adjudicator feedback for ensemble and one adjudicator feedback on DVD (conductor cam)
- Four Day Festival Format
 - Monday February 9th through Thursday February 12th, 2015
 - Two halls – more efficient with less movement
 - Financially more realistic
- There will be two Performance Halls operating simultaneously
 - Le Parc 1 performance hall for senior and/or larger ensembles
 - Le Parc 4 performance hall for younger and/or smaller ensembles
- Adjudication clinic will take place in the performance hall immediately following your performance
- Longer warm-up time
 - The former clinic rooms will be used for warm-up this year
 - Each ensemble will have a longer time to warm-up this year
- Revised OBA Syllabus
 - Please read carefully. There will be a few new selections at each grade level this year. Otherwise, no major modifications.
 - Please do not use the Musicfest Canada syllabus for our festival
- We will continue the newer, larger award structure including: "Overall Outstanding Performance", "Woodwind Excellence", "Brass Excellence", "Percussion Excellence", "Rising Star Award", "Music Spirit of the Festival Award", "Conducting Excellence Award", "Excellence in Band Development", and "Conducting Symposium Awards". However, fewer of these awards will be presented this year.

Festival Highlights – Great things unchanged from past years

- Superb adjudicators and professional clinics
- Dual recordings with feedback on your performance
- Professional photograph of your ensemble
- The OBA is a regional qualifying festival for Musicfest Nationals
- Festival entry fee remains the same
- The 12th Annual Directors Social is still at Le Parc on Friday February 13th



Director's Report

Donations

Sarah Arcand

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Foundation and Corporate Donors

GMRC

Simcoe County

Socan Foundation

Cadillac Fairview Corporation

Lloyd Carr Foundation

Staples (business status approved)

Pizza Pizza

Cotton Candy

Annual givings campaigns

Membership has recently been contacted about our annual givings campaign. Last year we received \$1000 in givings. To date this year we have received \$675.00.

Unsuccessful Applications

Vital York

Ontario Arts Council

Tippet Foundation

Mary – Margaret Webb Foundation

Tim Hortons

Purdy's Chocolate

Celebrate Markham (resubmitted in Fall 2014)

Tiger Direct

Harris Taylor Foundation

Telus

FK Morrow Foundation

Rubicon

Redpoll Foundation

McFarlane Foundation

TD

Nestle Corporation

Jackman Foundation

OTF 2014 Scholarship Winners – 2014

St. Elizabeth

Peter Han

De La Salle College

Craig Thompson

Cardinal Carter Academy for the Arts

Anita Anton

Riverdale C.I.

Camilla Rayman

Richmond Green S. S.

Tanya Sudy



Director's Report

Industry

Chris Reesor

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The music industry is working hard to support educational activities and will continue to do so in these recovering economic times. The Dealers are looking closely at every dollar spent and the return on that investment. Events which have a wider appeal will be more easily supported than a local program-focused event. Almost all of the events run by the OBA are supported by your local School Music dealers and their staff. I encourage all members to visit your local music dealers and show them your support. This support will encourage these dealers to continue their involvement with these events. This is a major factor in keeping the costs of running OBA events reasonable for participants.

The CMIEC is also very active in music advocacy on your behalf and they continue to find ways to encourage young musicians to pursue their studies. While the majority of their work goes unnoticed, it is necessary for the future of music education in Canada.

Festival season is fast approaching – please contact your local music retailer to order your extra scores as soon as possible to ensure you get them in time. As always, there will be percussion available after festival at great pricing.

I hope you all have a good OMEA and that the sessions are topical and assist you in your personal and program development.



POR Report

Membership

Bryan Brewda

Annual General Meeting

Friday, November 7, 2014 at OMEA Soundscapes, London

After taking over the membership duties from Heather Aiken in January 2014, my first year as the OBA Membership Co-ordinator has been great. My focus for this year and the years to come will be the following:

- Communication between the OBA Members through mass e-mailing about various events such as symposia, festivals, and auditions, renewal and expiry notices, welcome e-mails, as well as e-newsletter links
- Ensuring our current membership list is up to date on a regular basis, which includes e-mail address updates, address updates, etc
- Ensuring our expired membership list is also up to date on a regular basis
- Providing membership mailing lists to the CBA for their magazine subscription of *Canadian Winds*, which happens twice a year
- Providing the OMEA's, *The Recorder*, with a list of OBA events for the year
- I attended the OBA Directors' Social, Wind Conductors Symposium, OPHB Audition Listening Committee, and the GTA Beginning Band Symposium. I assisted with the registration desk and any other tasks to ensure events were successful

Our current membership is at 296, as of October 31st, which based on last year's Annual Report, is quite the increase. With the OBA branching out with new events such as the Simcoe Beginning Band Symposium and the upcoming Eastern Elementary Honour Band out in the Ottawa area, we are seeing more members coming from all over Ontario. With the Concert Band Festival coming up in the next few months, I expect our membership to rise even further, which is great news for the OBA.

As of November 2014 and with discussion between the Executive, I have changed the way we e-mail our membership. In the past, we have sent multiple membership e-mail promotions for our events. However, in an attempt to keep members' inboxes low, we are reducing the amount of correspondence we send out. Therefore, members will now receive a monthly "e-update" from us as well as our bi-monthly e-newsletter, *In Harmony*. When our "e-update" falls on a month that we are sending out our newsletter link, we will combine the two messages. Members may still receive other e-mails from us prior to/in addition to our regular monthly update. I am proud to see this initiative in place as it should be well received amongst our membership.

I look forward to continuing my work with the Ontario Band Association and can't wait to see what 2015 has to offer!

Respectfully submitted,
Bryan Brewda



ONTARIO
BAND
ASSOCIATION

POR Report

Newsletter

Lani Sommers

Annual General Meeting

Friday, November 7, 2014 at OMEA Soundscapes, London

In Harmony (E-newsletter): 2014/15 marks the 8th season of the newsletter's electronic format. The newsletter is accessible to current members only by an address link that is e-mailed to our members at the beginning of each month. This link address is changed each month. The newsletter is sent out in 5 bimonthly issues per year – Sept/Oct, Nov/Dec, Jan/Feb, Mar/Apr, and May/June. Heather Aitken retired as newsletter editor and I took over the job as of August 2014.



ONTARIO
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Director's Report

Provincial Honour Band

Scott Harrison

Annual General Meeting

Friday, November 7, 2014 at OMEA Soundscapes, London

The 2014 OPHB is currently happening with Dr. Carolyn Barber and True North Brass, with 64 musicians from 24 different schools. This ensemble is not as provincial as it should be despite outreach to the eastern parts of the province.

The 2014 ensemble took two rounds of auditions to fill. We are looking for strategies on how to only ever have one round without lowering the quality of the ensemble.

Thank you to the listening committee, Pratik Gandhi, Michele Jacot, Andrian Kilbride, Bryan Brewda, Abner Liu, Lisa Barth, Julia Chang, Katherine VanVoorst, Nathan Haynes, Steffan Brunette, Jenna Howells and Dave Ross for their help in selecting the ensemble! Anybody interested in this can email Scott Harrison for next year.

Online Registrations were a success, and will run again in 2015

Looking forward to 2015:

Donald McKinney and **TorQ** to perform with the 2015 OPHB Commission from **Kevin Lau** in the works for the 2015 event.

New Ensemble to begin:

Eastern Ontario Elementary Honour Band

Thank you to Dave Gueulette, Grace Vigneron and Jennifer Martinez for heading up local operations

Dates for EOEHB are March 28th/29th, 2015

Students will be accepted through teacher recommendations, not audition.



Director's Report

University Liaison

Colleen Richardson

Annual General Meeting

Friday, November 7, 2014 at OMEA Soundscapes, London

- Information was gathered on each music education student association.
- They were contacted and made aware of upcoming OBA events.
- In the past, each association has been offered a free workshop by one of the OBA board. However, it is usually very difficult to arrange a time that works for both parties. We were not able to make this happen last year.



POR Report

Webmaestro

Pratik Gandhi

Annual General Meeting

Friday, November 7, 2014 at OMEA Soundscapes, London

Over the past year, I have been fulfilling the following duties:

- ongoing maintenance of website and other online accounts, in consultation with Board
- continued to publish e-newsletter, as directed by *In Harmony* editor
- implemented JotForm form handler to facilitate online registration for OBA events
- researched options for new web host
- assisted in training new designer
- found and started to train a replacement web maestro
- consulted with new web maestro regarding overhauling the web site

Going forward, I will continue to train replacement web maestro and hand over responsibilities by December 31.