Winnipeg Science Fiction Association
Annual General Meeting - Minutes
May 18th, 2025 11 a.m.
Hilton Airport

Attendance: Alex Stornel (President), Peter DeCourcey (Vice-President), Albert Sousa (Treasurer), Iain MacNair (secretary), Linda Ross-Manfield, Lyndie Bright,Carol Leblond, LéAmber Kensley, Sean Ennis, Amanda Brant, Glenn Hosea, Sheila “Willow Skyler” Breer (by teleconference), Linda Thorlakson (elect), Jared Thorlakson (elect), Jean-Paul LaPointe (elect), Jamie Koehler (elect),

Proxy: John Speelman (proxy to Iain)
Absent: Katie Helgason, Kevin “Doc” Wilson (2026 Con-Chair)

Keycon Attendees: Andrew Martinez, Dave Strang, Lisa Miller, Leslie Brant, Samantha Sousa

1. Quorum Met.
2. Call Meeting to Order - 11:15 a.m.
3. Adoption of the Agenda

   Peter moved that the Agenda be adopted. LéAmber seconded. No abstained, no opposed. CARRIED

4. Adoption of the Previous Minutes from May 19th, 2024

   LéAmber moved that the Minutes be adopted. Linda R.M. seconded. No abstained, no opposed. CARRIED

5. Introduction of Senate Executive
6. Reports

   a. President’s Report - Alex Stornel

      Outlined the committees that we have.

      We are trying to give Keycon a clear framework for each year, so that ConComm is not reinventing the wheel every year. We are taking steps to make WinSFA more effective and efficient.

   b. Treasurer’s Report- Albert Sousa - 2024 accounting

      Dues Account -

      $600 in income between memberships, insurance sponsorships, and panel rentals. Spent $167 on the potluck. Ended the year with $1,225.73

      Equity Account -

There were operational expenses of $4523.00. These are our annual expenses of the Canada Post mailbox, Mint Self-Storage storage locker, the website servers, and liability insurance.

Purchased a GIC of $25,000.00 in April, 2024 to mature April, 2025

Keycon 2024 requested $6000 due to hotel penalty for not meeting the F&B contracts. Because our equity was locked in the GIC, a loan was obtained to cover the cost. When the GIC matured in 2025, that loan was repaid with interest.

At the end of 2024, the Equity account had $2,178.53, and the GIC was $26,943.71, for a total in equity of $29,122.24, with a loan of $6000.00 plus interest to be repaid in April of 2025, when the GIC matured. For an effective balance of $23,122.24 less loan interest.

This would be Albert's last year as treasurer.

c. Secretary's Report (Attendance) - Iain MacNair

At the AGM in 2024, We had 15 Permanent members of WinSFA, with one (Cliff Stornel) on Hiatus. We also had Kevin "Doc" Wilson as Co-Chair for Keycon 2025, with Sean Ennis. At the 2024 AGM, we elected Linda Thorlakson, Jared Thorlakson, J.P. LaPointe, and Jamie Koehler as the Senate-elects for one year terms. During the year, Cliff Stornel resigned from WinSFA, leaving us with 14 permanent members, 4 Senate-elects, and 1 Con-chair member, who were all active as of this 2025 AGM.

d. Keycon 2024 Report - Alex Stornel & Carol Leblond

As reported, Keycon 2024 paid a penalty to the hotel for missing our F&B targets and our hotel commitment. The reason for that was a misunderstanding of the Hotel contract, and relying on the Hotel's verbal confirmation that we had completed the F&B targets. The penalty was $6000.

The financials were not completed, as LéAmber had taken over auditing the financials as our treasurer was not able to complete it. We believe that, except for the penalty, we had broken even.

e. Keycon 2025 Report - Amanda Brant & Willow Skyler

All of the guests seem to be having a good time. The social was full. The breakfasts were selling. Our current estimates was that we had 329 members, and over 60 Saturday passes were sold. Both the F&B and hotel block commitments were met. One masquerade competitor was a first-time attendee.

We did struggle with communication around costs for the year. We had requested that certain groups of hotel rooms be reserved for us, and they were not. The hotel did not advise us of changes in bookings or issues with the facilities (the hot tub being out of service) until the last moment.

Communication - we are archiving all the information we compiled this year to share for future years.

f. Keycon 2026 Report

Theme for 42 is “Fandom is Funny”

We will be at Pride this year, and we have a summer event scheduled for end of August. Winter event is scheduled for February. Sale of the first 100 starts at 1:30 p.m.

g. Committee Reports -

   i. Code of Conduct - we are updating the CoC to address how we handle pets and service animals at the Con. We are also working on a Volunteer CoC for staff.

   ii. Membership - We have drafted term limits for the Executive, so no one person lasts in a position for too long. We are considering whether to introduce term limits for Senators. We are discussing whether we should have a target for the best number of members for WinSFA.

   iii. Executive - we have adopted a new Constitution for WinSFA. Somewhat slimmed down, eliminated a lot of excess bureaucracy, and broken out by-laws that didn’t need to be part of the Constitution. The Constitution mostly addresses the obligations to the Companies Office to maintain our standard as a non-profit and a corporation. It will be posted on the WinSFA website shortly.

h. Reports by the Members from the Floor

   i. Linda Thorlakson

   Being involved in WinSFA made me prioritize my relationship with Keycon. My family supported me a lot.

   Marketing is very important. I was involved in the Marketing committee. But I didn’t feel included. I presented a slideshow that was used once.

   ii. Jared Thorlakson

   I didn’t feel like I had opportunities to contribute. I felt like I learned a lot from seeing behind the curtain. But I might not have been able to contribute as much as I wanted to.

   iii. J.P. LaPointe

   I wish I had more time to contribute. I feel like what I did do was appreciated. We got some work done. It was a difficult year.

   iv. Jamie Koehler

   The time I put in was not as useful as it should have been. The monthly meeting is to report what has been done, not to try to do work at the meeting. Need to put the time in separately. Also, committee heads should not have other major obligations.

7. New Business

    a. Explanation of the Senate-Elect Program

    b. Nominations & Elections for Senate-Elects

        LéAmber nominates Linda Thorlakson. She accepts.

        Peter nominates Jared Thorlakson. He accepts.

        Iain nominates J.P. LaPointe. He accepts.

        Iain nominates Jamie Koehler. He declines.

        Linda R-M moves to close nominations. No objections.

        Jamie moves that there be a vote for three Senate Elects this year. LéAmber seconds. No objections; Jared abstained; carried.

Kevin “Doc” Wilson arrived at 12:35 p.m.

        Secret ballot. Lisa Miller and Willow abstained. All three were elected as Senate-Elects.

    c. Invitation for 2027 Conchair Bids _ Bids for Keycon 43 (2027) would be open until September 1st, 2025.

8. Next Meetings

    a. Keycon Retrospective Sunday, May 25, 2025 at 1 p.m.

    b. WinSFA Regular June 18th, 2025 at 7 p.m.

    c. AGM May 17th, 2026.

9. Adjournment - 12:48 p.m.