

2026 AGM Meeting

As soon as the minutes are approved at the NEXT agm, this whole page gets replaced with this link:
https://gay.hfxns.org/pics/ElderBerries/2026_AGM_Meeting.pdf

Elderberries 2026 Annual General Meeting

Held March 22, 2026 in the Adult Day Space, Northwood

Board Present: Nathan, Barend, Dan (notes), Lynn

Regrets: Allison, Renée, Kaitlin, Pauline

Members: Paul ???, Kirby, Deb Jesseau, David LeBlanc, Peter Lund, Janet Murray, Paul Pitre, Wesley Riley, Simon Snyder, Greg Sweetman

Barend Kamperman, Chair, gave the Mi'kmag land acknowledgement and opening remarks.

[Approval of the minutes of the last AGM, here.](#)

Motion by Dan to approve last year's minutes, seconded by Deb and Symon, passed unanimously.

Chair's Report

Barend mentioned: the two new boardmembers, Renée Clark & Nathan Elling and how welcome they are • Halifax Pride being very generous in supporting the Elders Hangout with Dr Jaqueline Gahagan presenting about the history & archives conference in May • we hosted 17 salons • We were at the NS Legislature for Trans Remembrance Day with Lt Gov Mike Savage, Stephanie & Mica • the short doc about Anita • two authors • a study on human interactions.

Motion by Dan to accept the Chair's report with amendments. Seconded by Deb & Symon. Unanimous.

Treasurer's Report

Kaitlin Drury's 2026 Treasurer's Report was given by Dan.

This report is 95.23 out; that is, we have that much more money than is accounted for in our the journal. Kaitlin and I will work on finding that.

Our income in 2024 was 1424.25. \$289.25 was donations during our Salons, and \$1115 was from the extremely effective fall fundraiser, which we should probably do again.

Our top five expenses were speakers gifts / honoraria / gas reimbursement at 637.87, Sunday Salon food at 204.46, and \$142 for food at our quite unsuccessful Speaker's Bureau Training session and gas to go to the Ross Creek Centrel (essentially) GSA event.

We started the year with assets of 809.48 and ended with 1,144.57 so We ended up the year with 335.09 more.

For assets we have the bank balance plus ten mugs, each worth \$15.

For liabilities we had 989.43 of money that we had collected for Anita but not spent yet, plus 377.71 of money that Dan had spent on the Anita archiving project but not been reimbursed for (he's since been reimbursed.)

If there are any questions, we can provide details now or any time.

Income Statement

Income		
Collection	289.25	
Mug Sales	20.00	
Special Event Funding	none	
Special Event Donation (our fall fundraiser)	1,115.00	
Total Income		1424.25
Expenses		
Admin Expenses	51.15	
Misc Expenses	61.38	
SSS Food	204.86	
Special Event Expense	142.02	
Mugs & Brochure Printing Cost	40.36	
Other Promotions	0.00	
Donations to other orgs	0.00	
Speakers Gifts / Honouraria	637.87	
Bank Charges	47.15	
Total Expenses		1,184.39
Made (lost) money		239.86

Balance Sheet

Assets		
Bank Balance	2,361.71	
Mugs 10 @ \$15 each	150.00	
Total Assets		2,511.71

Liabilities		
Anita Archiving Campaign	989.43	
		989.43

Changes In Financial Position

Starting assets - liabilities	809.48	
Ending assets - liabilities	1,144.57	
Increase (decrease)		355.09

Motion by Dan to accept the Treasurer's report. Seconded by Deb & Symon.

Discussion:

- Should / could we get Stephanie to "audit" the financial report? yes.
- Can we buy mugs? Yes. Two people asked to buy mugs.

Vote to accept the Treasurer's Report. Unanimous.

Membership Report

By Dan

Again the last year we've had several references of members from social workers and therapists which is extremely gratifying - it means that a) we're known to them and b) they consider us a healthy place for their members to be referred to.

We added 43 members in 2025, five more than in the previous year. about the same as in 2024 where we had 45 new members; during covid we had 25 new members per year. 2018: 55 new; 2017: 23.

As of end of year we had 407 emails on our list and 9 people who we call every month, thank you Kaitlin.

We don't know how much overlap there is between the Facebook membership and the email membership. I know that we get very VERY little engagement from our Facebook members, I don't know why. We have 762 people, 30 more than last year. Last year Facebook showed me demographics for these, breakdown by gender, geography etc but this year will not.

Out of these almost TWELVE HUNDRED people, we get fifteen, the same fifteen, coming to most of our meetings. Still it would be good to work on expanding that range. We have asked a couple of times why people don't come to meetings and get a smattering of replies

In November we did a survey and out of those twelve hundred possibly people, we got four responses about why they didn't attend:

- I live in NB and just follow for news/information
- Hard to get to.
- I'm doing other stuff & sometimes I hear about an Elderberries activity too late for me to plan to attend.
- If I got a hip replacement
- Maybe if I knew a few friends who were going.

It would be very nice to have a team trying not to get more members, but to get more of our members to our events.

Motion by Dan to accept the Membership report. Seconded by Deb & Symon.

Several people had suggestions for events which is the topic for the SECOND half of the afternoon.

Vote to accept the Membership Report. Unanimous.

Speakers Bureau Report

We did not have a Speakers Bureau Report.

Elections

Of the 2025 Board, the following have offered or reoffered to be on the Board:

- Allison Brewer
- Rev. Renee Clark
- Kaitlin Drury TREASURER
- Nathan Elling CHAIR
- Pauline Fedrick
- Barend Kamperman EX OFFICIO
- Peter Lund VICE CHAIR
- Dan MacKay SECRETARY

Motion by Dan to accept the Membership report. Seconded by Deb & Symon.

Slate was amended to include Peter Lund as VICE CHAIR.

Vote. Unanimous.

Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at about 2:00pm.

Round Table: Ideas for future meetings

- Go to a Neptune Theatre play on cheap night / senior night. Maybe redistribute donated unused tickets.
- Go to a movie
- Go check out the new bar, Back Lot
- More politicians

Cecil's funeral, St John's United Church

- Peter: Games nights
- Peter: Bowling
- Peter: Historical tour of Halifax on Ambassatours

- Deb: Darts
- Billiards at Rumours
- Computers - learning
- At the Parades there's Elderberries seating. Would other organizations host Elderberries seating?
Hockey?
- Roller Derby
- Contacting other organizations and inviting ourselves to them.
- the gay hockey league
- Get someone to speak about international issues and form a committee of people interested in international issues

Meeting was adjourned at about 3:15pm