



## 2024 Annual General Meeting Minutes

### Administrative Items:

The Annual General Meeting was held on February 7<sup>th</sup>, 2024 at the Northwood Community Center. The meeting was well attended with over 18 members present. President **Zoltan Pittner** called the meeting to order at 7:45pm. Tom Gottlieb announced that the current 2024 paid member count was 69 and that there were 26 members represented either in person at the meeting or by proxy. Therefore, we had 38% of the membership represented. According to our constitution, a quorum of 25% of the current paid up 2023 membership is required for the AGM. Therefore, the AGM was declared valid and could proceed.

**Tom Gottlieb** read the proposed agenda for the meeting. **Carlo Mandatori** moved to approve the agenda as presented and this was seconded by **Ian Deakin** and carried. Secretary **Gaetano Nicolo** read the minutes of the 2023 AGM which were published in the March 2022 Flyer. **Bruce Gillespie** moved to approve the minutes which was seconded by **Adam Maas** and carried.

### Executive Reports:

President **Zoltan Pittner** provided an extensive review of the 2023 highlighting the challenging times faced by the club and the temporary closure of the field due to the loss of the exemption to CARS Part IX RPAS rules which all RC clubs in Canada have enjoyed since 2019. He explained in detail the frustration we have felt with how MAAC has handled the situation with Transport Canada stating that MAAC spent most of its time representing the interests of Transport Canada to Canadian RC Clubs rather than promote the interests of RC Clubs to Transport Canada. This has led us to a situation where the current rules are so onerous that clubs in controlled airspace will be struggling for survival in 2024. He outlined the options being considered by the executive which include ending our affiliation with MAAC. A change to the constitution will be tabled to allow us to leave MAAC if the membership so chooses in the future.

Treasurer **Bruce Gillespie** presented the financial statements for the fiscal year ending October 31, 2023 and budget for the following fiscal year November 01, 2023 through October 31, 2024. Revenues were \$4,949.30 while expenses were only \$4,303.32 resulting in a modest surplus of \$645.98. The budget proposed for this year was presented and included normal expenses plus an extra \$1,000 for the planned purchase of 3 additional deep cycle batteries for our solar charging station. The station needs 6 batteries to run at full capacity and 3 of the 6 were old and had failed. Bruce reminded the membership that the Constitution allows the executive to spend budgeted items plus up to 10%. **Mark Willer** moved to approve the Financial Statements and Budget which was seconded by **Tony Acri** and carried.

Field Officer **Walter Lam** did not attend but due to Transport Canada restrictions there were limited activities and the grass was cut as needed.

Program Director **John Kita** summarized the year's activities of BBQs, indoor flying events and swap meet.

# AGM

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

Chief Flight Instructor **Randall Thomas** reported that instruction was not possible last season but is set to resume this coming spring given a statement by Transport Canada confirming that an Advanced RPAS certificate holder using a buddy box to train a student in controlled airspace did not contravene CARS Part IX rules.

### Elections:

- **Zoltan Pittner** stood for re-election as President.
- **Tom Gottlieb** would therefore continue as Past President.
- **Paul McMillan** stood for re-election as Vice President.
- **Walter Lam** stepped down as Field Officer.
- **Paul Mazzotta** accepted a nomination to stand as Field Officer.
- **Bruce Gillespie** stood for re-election as Treasurer.
- **Gaetano Nicolo** stood for re-election as Secretary.
- **John Kita** stepped down from the position of Program Director.

There were no other nominations for Program Director so that position is currently vacant. As there were no other members running for executive positions, **Tom Gottlieb** moved to acclaim the above candidates. **Mark Willer** seconded the motion to acclaim which was then carried unanimously.

The executive reappointed **Randall Thomas** as Chief Flight Instructor and Safety Officer. Randall accepted the appointment.

### Closing:

As there was no other business, **Tom Gottlieb** moved to close the AGM at 9:15pm which was seconded by **Randall Thomas** and carried.

## Student Instruction Starting This Spring

We are pleased to report that student instruction using a buddy box will be able to resume this spring. Based on recent discussions with Transport Canada, we received a written opinion stating that providing:

- The Instructor has his Advanced RPAS Certification
  - The Instruction is provided through a buddy box,
  - The Instructor can take control at any moment,
  - And all other CARS Part IX rules are followed,
- ... then instruction may proceed in controlled airspace.

Note: This means that students must still:

- Obtain an account with Transport Canada and register their airplane as a MAAC Model Airplane.

### Note to Students:

Currently **Randall Thomas** is an RPAS Advanced Certified Pilot and so will be conducting instruction for students with Spektrum radios (or with your own buddy box). Make sure you connect with Randall on the Student WhatsApp group to confirm arrangements. Hopefully other instructors will be getting their Advanced RPAS certifications in the spring as well to allow for more flexibility.

### Note to Current Pilots:

Please go back and read the notice in the February Flyer about getting your Advanced RPAS Certificate.



## Motions for Changes to our Constitution



The Annual General Meeting (AGM) was held on Feb 7th, 2024, at the Northwood Community Center. Immediately following the official AGM, the newly elected executive presented two motions to change the constitution.

The **first motion** deals with the fact that our current constitution requires the club to be affiliated with MAAC and carry MAAC insurance. Considerable discussion followed about the desire to remove these requirements. It was clarified that the proposed change does not mean that the club is leaving MAAC

at this time. It only makes it possible to change our affiliation at a later date if the membership chooses to do so without violating our constitution. This motion consists of 3 parts since MAAC is mentioned in 3 different sections.

The **second motion** deals with what would happen to the club's assets if the club was dissolved. Currently the constitution dictates that all monies be given to MAAC to be held in trust for 5 years. This is not very practical and does not serve the interests of the membership. Instead the change proposed would allow the executive and the membership to decide on how all assets of the club would be dealt with upon dissolution.

NOTE: Just to refresh your memory, the procedure to change the constitution is outlined in Article 5 as follows:

### Article 5. Manner of Revising Constitution

*This Constitution and Bylaws may be amended by approval of a motion proposed by any Open Member. The proposed amendment requires notification by email or Canada Post to all Open Members in good standing at least 30 days prior to a Regular Meeting. Amendments shall be put to a vote at that meeting, and require a two thirds majority vote. Proxies received either by original signed letter or printed email are considered valid for voting purposes. The quorum for this vote shall be one third of the Open Membership.*

This Flyer constitutes notification according to Article 5 and we will reach out to you for a vote on the motions around the end of March or the first week of April. The invitation to vote will be sent to you by email using an online voting method. Below is the proposed Motion #1. Motion #2 is on Page 3.

### Motion #1 – Remove Mandatory Affiliation and Dependence on MAAC

#### Motion #1 Part 1: Change Affiliation

##### Article 2. Affiliation

This Club is affiliated with the Model Aeronautics Association of Canada (M.A.A.C.) and is a Charter Club member of M.A.A.C.

#### **Be changed to:**

##### Article 2. Affiliation

This Club will affiliate with any organization that it deems will serve the best interests of the club. Any change in affiliation is

subject to the approval of the general membership by vote in a special general meeting with at least 30 days prior notice given

#### Motion #1 Part 2: Change Membership Bylaws

##### BYLAWS

##### Article 1. Membership

##### 1.2 Requirements of Membership

- a) Payment of current published club membership fee or exemption from payment of such fees by the Executive Committee.
- b) Signed membership application/renewal form.
- c) Approval of membership application/renewal form by the Executive Committee.
- d) M.A.A.C. membership (if member wishes to fly at club fields and events).

#### **That part d) be re-written as:**

- d) Membership will be required with any affiliated organization if necessary for flying purposes.

#### Motion #1 Part 3: Change Insurance

##### Article 5. Insurance

The flying field used by the Club shall be approved by M.A.A.C. and shall be covered for public Liability Insurance in the amount currently carried by M.A.A.C. in their blanket overall insurance policy. The owner of the field and related facilities shall be named as co-insured. In the event of a model aircraft accident involving personal injury and/or property damage, a report of the accident shall be submitted in writing to M.A.A.C. and the Zone Director immediately after the accident. A copy of the report should be made for the Club and another for insurance purposes. Deductible amounts shall be paid by the member(s) involved in the accident, unless acting as instructor(s), in which case the Executive Committee may decide that the cost be borne by the Club.

#### **Be changed to:**

##### Article 5. Insurance

The flying field(s) used by the Club shall be covered for public Liability Insurance by a carrier and in an amount as approved by the executive committee. The owner of the field and related facilities shall be named as co-insured. In the event of a model aircraft accident involving personal injury and/or property damage, a report of the accident shall be submitted in writing to the insuring carrier and any other affiliated organization as necessary immediately after the accident. A copy of the report should be made for the Club and another for insurance purposes. Deductible amounts shall be paid by the member(s) involved in the accident, unless acting as instructor(s), in which case the Executive Committee may decide that the cost be borne by the Club.

---- End of Motion #1 ----

**Note: Motion #2 is Continued on Page 3.**

## Your **\*\* NEW \*\*** 2024 Club Executive

President, Zoltan Pittner .....	(416) 823-0796
Past President and Editor, Tom Gottlieb.....	(647) 642-8100
Vice President, Paul McMillan .....	(647) 618-8291
Treasurer & Membership, Bruce Gillespie .....	(416) 741-4385
Secretary, Gaetano Nicolo.....	(647) 987-0619
Program Director, Vacant .....	
Field Officer, Paul Mazzotta.....	(416) 578-4492
Chief Flight Instructor, Randall Thomas.....	(647) 545-5494
Chief Safety Officer, Randall Thomas.....	(647) 545-5494



### **Motion #2: Change Article 7 Dissolution of Club**

#### Article 7. Dissolution of Club

Should it be necessary to disband the Club, a special general meeting shall be held and all Club assets shall be given to M.A.A.C. in trust for a period of 5 years. If the Club is not restarted to the satisfaction of the M.A.A.C. board of directors, within this 5 year period, the assets shall become the property of M.A.A.C.

#### **Be replaced with:**

#### Article 7. Dissolution of Club

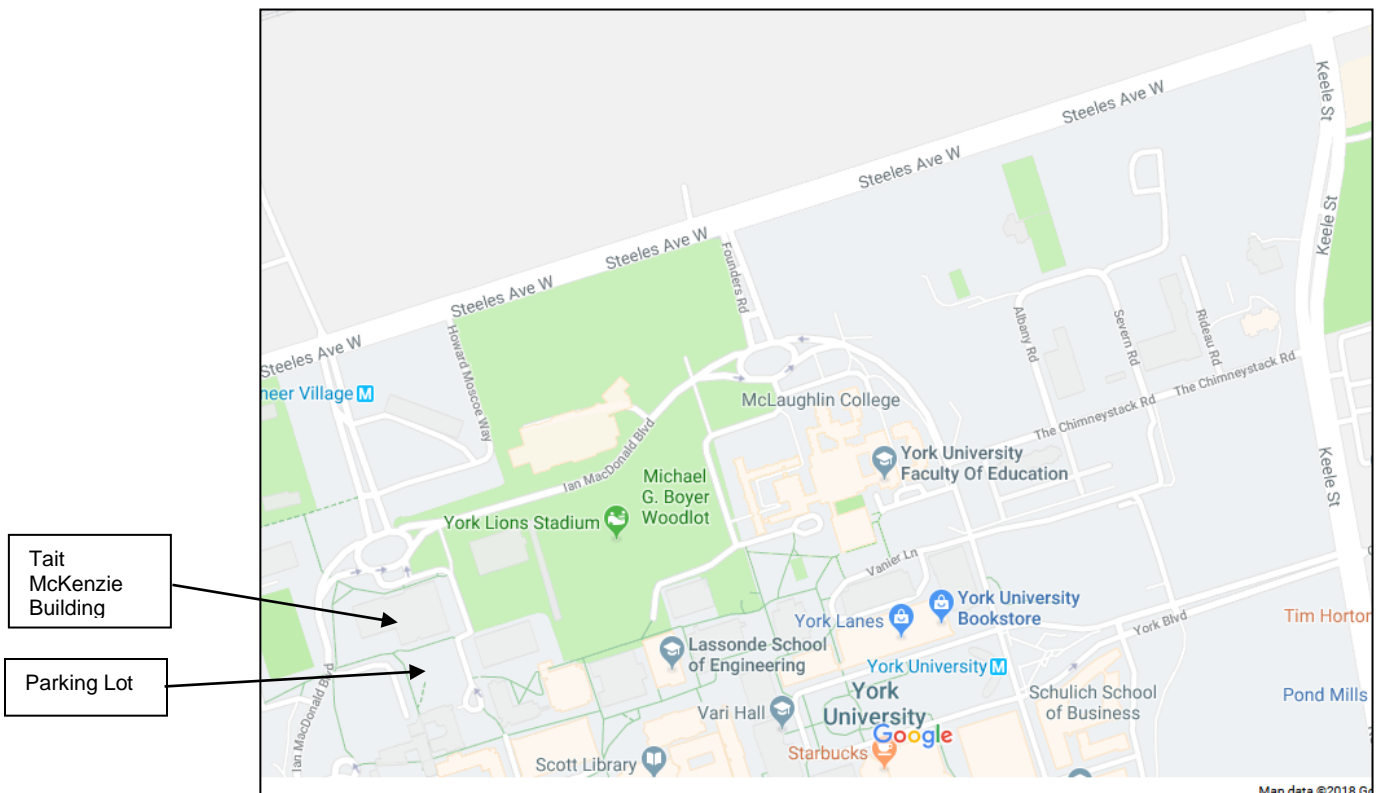
Should it be deemed necessary by the Executive Committee to disband the Club, the Executive Committee shall develop a plan within 90 days to liquidate all club assets. The plan may include any or all of the following:

- Offer for sale to any current club member any physical assets.
- Give to any current club member any club owned aircraft or aircraft parts.
- Offer to any other RC flying club any physical assets.
- Distribute remaining cash by dividing equally to all current members.
- Donate remaining assets (including cash) in whole or in part to one or more RC flying club or charitable organization.

Members will be notified of the plan according to Article 4 at least 30 days in advance of a special general meeting (Article 3.3 – Special Meetings) during which the plan may be debated, amended, and approved by a vote according to Articles 3.4 – Voting, and 3.5 - Quorum.

---- End of Motion #2 ----

### **Here is the map on how to get there:**



### **Indoor Flying – 2 More Days Coming Up!**

We still have 2 more indoor flying days left at York University.



We are flying in the double gym in the “Field House” in the Tait McKenzie Building at 1 Thompson Road within the York University grounds. It is at the north end of campus with access from Steeles Avenue West of Keele Street. The main entrance to the building is on the south side of the building and parking is available opposite the main entrance.

Your GPS should find it at 1 Thompson Road or If you haven't been there before, just follow the map below. Let's have a great turnout. Hope to see you there.

Day	Date	Time
Saturday	Mar 02, 2024	3:00 PM – 5:00 PM
Saturday	Mar 23, 2024	3:00 PM – 5:00 PM

### **Where can I park?**

Park in the South lot right opposite the main entrance doors. Parking is only \$7.00. This parking lot is checked regularly by campus security and if you think you can take a chance and not pay, you will get a ticket.