

Draft Minutes of CEPC Annual General Meeting February 20, 2020

attendance: Dolores in Winnipeg; Glenn, Peter in Ottawa, George Piskor in Niagara Falls, Gene Coleman (Toronto), Paulette Macdonald in Minden Hills, ON, Krisann in GTA, Benoit in Montreal, Sylvester Witter in Toronto.

Meeting via Zoom: <https://zoom.us/j/8201972256>

By phone 1 647 558 0588, code 820-197-2256

7 pm Manitoba, 6 pm Saskatchewan, 5 pm BC 6pm NT 8 pm to 9:00 pm EST

Thursday February 20, 2020

1. Meeting called to order at 8:05 PM by Glenn as acting chair, Peter taking minutes
2. Introduction of Guests: guests George Piskor, Gene Coleman, Sylvester Witter were present
3. Approval of Agenda Dolores moved; George seconded; carried
4. Approval of Minutes of AGM of Feb, 2019 moved by Peter; seconded by Gene; carried.
5. President's Report and Members Comments
  - a. CEPC has been advocating successfully for terminology of "equal shared parenting" and this phrasing seems to help in advocating for reforms as a more saleable term.
  - b. Intervention by CEPC in House of Commons and Senate asking for ESP amendments to Bill C-78
  - c. Shared and equal parenting was main discussion topic by Bar Associations, Justice lawyers and feminist groups who oppose us, the first time our position so dominated the other side.
  - d. More media support for ESP (Barbara Kay, Christie Blatchford, etc) and fewer coherent arguments from the other side.
  - e. CEPC sent 1,136 letters/emails to politicians, mostly federal and Ontario provincial.
  - f. CEPC used signs and candidate discussions to raise the issues of ESP reforms during the federal election (Oct19).
  - g. Met with 3 candidates for Conservative Party leadership, advocating for ESP.

- h. CEPC has lobbied the Ontario government, the Quebec government and the Manitoba government for ESP reforms.
  - i. CEPC has sent submissions to the Ontario AG regarding the need for parents to be recognized as stakeholders, as collaborative partners for reforms. Also communicated to the Ontario AG about the need to mandate that CAS have a duty of care to parents.
  - j. Strengths: Building good coalitions with organizations, Social Science support, ESP arguments are much stronger than before.
  - k. Weaknesses: Some parent advocates are at a low energy ebb, Fundraising, Training in political skills is weak. The recruitment of key politicians as champions of ESP is ongoing.
  - l. Opportunities: Provincial and Territorial Jurisdictions, Link with Indigenous Issues,
  - m. Threats: Distractions of events, other issues, extremists and loose cannons within the family rights movement.
  - n. Gene Colman and George Piskor authored a paper on proper rebuttals against those who oppose ESP. The paper is in the Dropbox.
  - o. CPC leader candidates will be less concerned with what the media says and more concerned with what CPC party members support. This is especially true since 99.9% of Canadian media are beholden to Trudeau's cash "bail out" (bribe). The CPC policy supports ESP. The Green Party policy also supports ESP, but some Green Party MP's weakly support ESP (Elizabeth May strongly supports ESP).
  - p. Glenn did put some security features onto the websites according to his technical ability.
  - q. No need to store our info in a secure location such as Protonmail, nor to communicate via Protonmail.
  - r. Gene moved; Benoit seconded acceptance of President's and Financial Report. Carried.
6. Financial and Fundraising
- a. CEPC brought in \$250 in memberships and \$750 in donations. We had a net \$300 deficit for 2019. Current bank balance is \$1,400.
  - b. We need to do more this coming year to fundraise. But the [www.canadianepc.org](http://www.canadianepc.org) website has a "Donate" button
  - c. Peter must do more to help fundraise.

- d. TO DO: Glenn must remove the financial report from the [canadianepc.org](http://canadianepc.org) website. No need to tell our opponents our financial position.
7. Election of CEPC Board for 2020.
    - a. Slate of Board members: Tracy, Dolores, Paulette, KrisAnn, Sylvester, Benoit, Glenn, Peter. Gene is the Legal Advisor to the Board. Glenn was re-elected President. Motion: slate moved by Peter, seconded by Dolores, carried.
    - b. The issue of training a new CEPC President was raised, and will be addressed at the March Board meeting, along with a work plan for 2020.
  8. Communications
    - a. KrisAnn was very involved with Kevin Yarde, Ontario NDP MPP, about their involvement with CAS Review Board. KrisAnn and Sylvester filed for non-compliance, that the CAS lied in their answers to the Review Board. The judge said its OK for the CAS to lie because they have no "duty of care" to parents. Yarde's effort on a legislature motion on racism in Brampton will finish soon. Then he, KrisAnnn and Sylvester will go to the Ontario Minister of Justice. Gene proposed that KrisAnn had been through a mediation process, which is informal and can gloss over the rules. More on this below.
    - b. The Review Board has analogs in other provinces.
      - i. The ability (apparently) to lie or break the law with impunity.
      - ii. Justice Canada similarly Changing Bill C-78 after it had been passed by Parliament.
      - iii. The Review Board said, "As long as the CAS answers the questions, its immaterial if the answers are honest. Some people lie for a living. If government staff or agencies cannot be held liable for their actions and promises, then we don't have responsible government or a free country.
      - iv. KrisAnn showed Kevin Yarde that the CAS records showed that the answers were bafflegab, avoiding any sort of truth. Yarde has been very active on this case.
      - v. Gene said: When you complain to the Review Board, the CAS is required to reply. The Review Board takes a complaint very

seriously. Unless you are satisfied with the "mediation" that you already had, then complain.

9. Other business: none
10. Next Meeting (Elected Board): Thursday, March 19, 2020
11. Motion to adjourn: moved by George; carried.