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Rowing Canada Aviron Committee on Dues and Fees

Report to the Membership At the Semi-Annual Meeting, January 29, 2017

Committee Members:

David Calder	British Columbia	Gorge Narrows RC and SMUS Rowing Centre
Laurel Glanfield	British Columbia	Fort Langley Community Rowing Club
Stephen Murray	Atlantic	PEI Rowing Club
Daniel Aucoin	Quebec	Terrebonne Rowing Club
Michelle Kerr	Ontario	St. Catharine's Rowing Club
Karen Glazebrook	Prairie Provinces	Saskatoon Rowing Club
George Barkwell	Ontario	Notre Dame Rowing Club

RCA:

Brian Lamb, Director	(Ex Officio – Non Voting)
Tom Hawker, Treasurer	(Ex Officio – Non Voting)
Donna Atkinson	CEO – RCA

Meeting Dates – by conference call on October 16th and October 24th, 2016

Introduction and Background:

Brian Lamb introduced himself, the Committee Members, gave an overview of the meeting agenda. Each Member introduced themselves and provided a bit of personal background

Brian gave background on the Committee and the prior year's meeting. Noted that last year's meeting had referenced the Membership Category Review proposal being implemented in 2017 and, this is deferred to 2018 as requested by the Provinces to ensure a smoother transition. The Membership report is not on the agenda but, the Committee is free to discuss.

Brian provided an overview of the role of the Committee in recommending to the Membership any fee changes and noted that this recommendation is sent directly from the Committee to the membership.

Chair – Michelle Kerr was elected Chair with George Barkwell as Acting Chair in her absence

321 - 4371 Interurban Rd. • Victoria BC • V9E 2C5 • Canada

Tel: 1-877-722-4769 / (250) 220-2577 ~ Fax: (250) 220-2503 ~ E-mail: rca@rowingcanada.org
Member of: F.I.S.A./Membre de F.I.S.A., Canadian Olympic Committee/Comité Olympique Canadien
Canadian Paralympic Committee/ Comité paralympique canadien

Review and Discussion:

Tom Hawker reviewed the RCA registration data for the past three years and the projected revenue and expenditures for the 2016-2017 year and the forecasted budget for 2017-2018 and provided explanation for variances. The Committee engaged in a discussion on various

revenue and expenditures including but not limited to the NRC Travel subsidy, future funding from Sport Canada and Own the Podium, the year over year change in participant fees for Sport and Competitive and the equity between the various fees charged – Sport, Competitive, Club/Association and Provincial Rowing Association. Revenue remains fairly static but expenditures continue to increase annually. Expenditures in 2017-2018 are forecasted to be \$48,910 greater than revenues received from membership fees and other sources. This is after implementing cost cutting measures that would not impair the organization's ability to provide quality programs and services to the membership.

The Committee discussed the pending new Membership Fee Structure and the transition from the current fee structure to the proposed new system. The history of fee increases was examined and the fact that the Competitive fee had increased by \$8 over the past 8 years while the Sport fee had only increased \$3 in the same time period was noted. It was discussed and agreed that inflationary increases needed to be covered by the members.

PARTICIPANT & MEMBER DUES & FEES (2009 - 2017)								
	2009-2010	2010-2011	2011-2012	2012-2013	2013-2014	2014-2015	2015-2016	2016-2017
Non-Rowers	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Competitive	\$42	\$44	\$44	\$44	\$47	\$47	\$50	\$50
Sport	\$7	\$9	\$9	\$9	\$10	\$10	\$10	\$10
Clubs	\$300	\$350	\$350	\$350	\$350	\$350	\$400	\$400
Special Assoc	\$450	\$500	\$500	\$500	\$500	\$500	\$500	\$500
Provincial Assoc	\$600	\$650	\$650	\$650	\$650	\$650	\$700	\$700

The Committee felt strongly about not increasing the Competitive Fee any higher than the current \$50 as this could be a financial barrier for those that only participate in 1-2 regattas annually. Based on current participation numbers Competitive Rowers pay in total \$207,100 (4,142 x \$50) and the Sport Rowers pay in total \$85,550 (8,550 x \$10) meaning competitive rowers contribute 70.77% of the total participation fees collected. The Committee discussed if this was an equitable split. The Committee also reached out to the Provincial Advisory Council for their thoughts on participation and club fees in general.

The Committee wanted it noted in this report their recommendation to RCA administration that there is a definite need to do longer range financial planning as it is difficult for Clubs to alter their fee structures each year. The Committee suggests that fees be set by considering a dynamic rolling forward financial plan that extends for four years.

The Committee after two lengthy conference calls and soliciting input from PAC was unanimous in its recommendation to the membership that the Sport Rower fee be increased to \$15 and, all other fees to remain as is for 2017-2018. This fee increase if participation levels remain the same will raise \$42,750 of additional revenue and effectively cover the forecasted expenditures.

MOTION:

Moved by: L. Glanfield, Fort Langley Community Rowing Club

Seconded, D. Calder, Gorge Narrows RC and SMUS Rowing Centre

That the RCA Sport Rower fee be increased to \$15 effective April 1st, 2017

CARRIED.

Respectfully submitted,

George Barkwell, Acting Chair
Michelle Kerr, Chair