

MINUTES
102nd Annual General Meeting
Saturday, May 31, 2025
9:00 to 10:30 AM ET
Québec City Convention Centre
Québec City, QC

1. Land Acknowledgment

Dr. Johanne Harvey started the meeting with a land acknowledgment and welcomed members to the 102nd Annual General Meeting. Dr. Harvey reviewed the points of order regarding voting during the AGM.

2. Appointment of Two Members of the Resolutions Committee

Dr. Harvey announced that the first order of business would be the appointment of two members to the Resolutions Committee.

MOTION A25-01

To appoint Dr. Denis Leduc and Dr. Catherine Farrell to form the Resolutions Committee for the 2025 Annual General Meeting.

Moved by Dr. Marc-André Dugas
Seconded by Dr. Kevin Chan
CARRIED

3. Approval of the Agenda

MOTION A25-02

That the agenda of the 102nd Annual General meeting be approved.

Moved by Dr. Catherine Farrell
Seconded by Dr. Andrew Lynk
CARRIED

4. Approval of the Minutes

MOTION A25-03

That the minutes of the 101st Annual General Meeting, held in Vancouver, British Columbia on June 7, 2024, be approved as circulated.

Moved by Dr. Jean-Yves Frappier
Seconded by Dr. Stacey Bélanger
CARRIED

5. Business Arising from the Minutes Not Otherwise Included in the Agenda

Ms. Davis noted that the issues raised at the 2024 AGM will be addressed during the meeting.

6. Recognition of Deceased Members

Members were invited to observe a moment of silence to honor those CPS members who have passed since the previous Annual General Meeting.

Maurice Bouchard, Québec QC
François Boucher, Les Éboulements QC
Claire Allard-Dansereau, Saint-Laurent QC
Peter Forbath, Toronto ON
William Hanley, Toronto ON
Pamela Frid, London ON
Mimi Belmonte, Verdun QC
Norman Goldberg, Winnipeg MB
Michael Westwood, Dorval QC
Elizabeth Ives, Victoria BC
Gabriel Léger, Moncton NB
Joseph Peer, Dundas ON

7. Update on CPS Activities

Ms. Davis provided an overview on some of the work the organization has done and highlights of current priorities.

Ms. Davis announced that the 2026 CPS Annual Conference will take place in Ottawa, Ontario, from May 21 to 23, 2026. She also shared that the next three Lifelong Learning in Paediatrics courses will be held in October 2025 in St. Andrews by-the-Sea, New Brunswick; January 2026 in Mont-Tremblant, Quebec; and October 2026 in Lake Louise, Alberta.

Ms. Davis shared several excellent education tools: a) National Grand Rounds b) EPIC – Education Program for Immunization Competencies c) Pedagogy – CPS’s online learning management system; d) Test your knowledge –multiple choice questions for each CPS statements and practice point.

Ms. Davis reported that the 9th edition of the Neonatal Resuscitation textbook will launch in November 2025, and that the new Neonatal Life Support database is tentatively scheduled for release in the summer of 2025.

Ms. Davis announced that the organization has officially launched an Instagram account, @caringforkids_, and encouraged members to follow the page as a way to stay informed and help expand the organization’s online reach. She also shared that a new podcast, hosted by Dr. Nicholas Chadi, is coming soon. Planned topics include eco-anxiety among children and youth, social media, and dieting and body image.

As mentioned at last year’s meeting, Paediatric & Child Health transitioned to an online-only format as of January 2025.

Ms. Davis highlighted key commitments from the Liberal Party platform and noted that CPS will continue to engage with the new Minister of Health and the Secretary of State for Children and Youth, as well as incoming committee members. She noted that CPS will actively engage with the Liberal government to support progress on commitments aimed at improving outcomes for children and youth.

Ms. Davis provided members with an update on CPSP. She provided details about upcoming studies: Severe hyponatremic dehydration in term and late

preterm neonates, tick-borne diseases, and probiotic sepsis.

Ms. Davis reported that membership remains stable

8. Update on CPS Strategic Directions

Ms. Davis provided updates on the three CPS strategic directions:

Child & Youth Mental Health

- The Centre for Healthy Screen Use website has launched to support paediatric health care providers, policymakers, and families.
- Position statements are in development on social media and youth mental health and on-screen use among children with neurodevelopmental disorders.

Environmental Health

- The working group is developing a position statement and tools for health care professionals and aims to help CPS committees include environmental considerations in future work.
- A new bilingual podcast hosted by Dr. Nicholas Chadi is in development, covering topics like eco-anxiety, social media, and body image.

Paediatric Workforce

- A survey is in development, with a focus on improving demographic questions. It is expected to be distributed in September in collaboration with the Pediatric Chairs of Canada and provincial paediatric associations.

Ms. Davis highlighted that several promises in the Liberal Party’s platform relate to physician resource planning. She noted that efforts are underway to ensure paediatricians are represented and that their voices are heard by federal decision-makers.

The meeting was opened to questions:

- Dr. Ming-Ka Chan, co-chair of the Antiracism in Medical Education Working Group, asked Ms. Davis whether paediatricians will be asked to self-identify during the count, so the diversity of both residents and practicing paediatricians can be accurately understood. Ms. Davis confirmed this to be correct.

- Dr. Natasha Johnson, an adolescent medicine paediatrician and incoming CPS President-Elect, suggested that in discussing the strategic priorities, it would be helpful to also highlight the guiding principles. She emphasized that anti-racism, equity, and responsiveness are overarching concepts that are integral to CPS's direction moving forward. Ms. Davis agreed, noting that these principles are embedded in the organization's work and added that they will ensure this is highlighted going forward, as it is always helpful to include that slide.

9. CPS Bylaws

Ms. Davis explained that, as part of CPS's commitment to fostering an anti-racist organization, a comprehensive review of all CPS policies is currently underway utilizing the Anti-Racism Policy Implementation Tool developed by Dr. Minoli Amit and Dr. Shazeen Suleman. The initial document examined was the bylaws, which constitute the legal foundation of the organization. The updated bylaws were published online and circulated to members. Ms. Davis emphasized key amendments, noting that a formal motion is required to approve the bylaws and submit them to Corporations Canada. Notable updates include the inclusion of a statement reaffirming CPS's dedication to anti-racism, a national Indigenous land acknowledgment, the adoption of gender-neutral pronouns, and the reclassification of membership "classes" as "categories," while retaining "class" as the legal term. The bylaws were also updated to clearly include provisions for virtual meetings, an area not previously covered.

MOTION A25-04

Be it resolved that the amendments to the CPS Bylaws, as presented to the CPS membership on Saturday, May 31, 2025, be accepted in their current form.

**Moved by Dr. Ellen Wood
Seconded by Dr. Minoli Amit
CARRIED**

10. Financials

10.1 Report on Finances

Dr. Jim Whitestone, Chair of the Finance Subcommittee, reported that as of December 31, 2024,

CPS had a net surplus of \$679,384. He noted significant changes in revenue and expenses due to the end of government-funded COVID projects including surveillance and professional education, and a change in the scope of the IMPACT contract with the federal government.

10.2 Auditors Report

Reporting briefly, Dr. Critch thanked the CPS staff and members for their excellent work organizing and preparing for the auditors. He noted that the auditors did not identify any weaknesses. During an in-camera meeting, no significant concerns were raised, though some suggestions to strengthen controls are now being implemented.

10.3 Appointment of Auditors for 2025

MOTION A25-05

That the members of the CPS appoint Welch & Co as auditors for fiscal year 2025 and their fees set at \$25,000.

**Moved by Dr. Jeff Critch
Seconded by Dr. Andrew Lynk
CARRIED**

10.4 Review of the 2025 Budget

Updating members on the 2025 budget, Mr. Whitestone noted that the Board of Directors approved a balanced budget. He emphasized that CPS staff continue to find opportunities to generate new revenue and reduce costs, all while maintaining excellent service to members and the public.

10.5 CPS Investment Policy & Fossil Fuels

Mr. Jim Whitestone noted that members had previously raised concerns about CPS investments in oil and gas. Currently, only about 10% of CPS's investments are directly tied to that sector. In response, CPS has been working closely with its investment advisors to develop an optimal divestment strategy that aligns with the organization's values and its commitment to environmental health and climate action. The plan considers market volatility and will be implemented over a three-year period, allowing advisors to manage the portfolio in a way that balances both financial goals and member priorities.

The meeting was opened to questions:

- Dr. Esther Lee, President of the Complex Care Section, asked for updates on federal funding for trauma-informed care and CPS's involvement. Ms. Davis explained that CPS was asked to conduct background work ahead of a possible future position statement. In partnership with the University of British Columbia, Dr. Matthew Carwana and Dr. Shazeen Suleman are leading youth consultations to ensure the voices of vulnerable and equity-seeking youth inform future CPS work.

11. Business Arising from the Floor

There was no business arising from the floor.

12. Celebrating our Membership

12.1 Presentation of the Danielle Grenier Member Recognition Award

Dr. Harvey presented the Danielle Grenier Member Recognition Award to Dr. Jae-Marie Ferdinand and Dr. Daphne Korczak in recognition of their exceptional leadership as co-chairs of the inaugural CPS-hosted Canadian Conference on Child and Youth Mental Health. They devoted significant time and expertise to organizing the event, which drew over 150 delegates from across Canada and received highly positive evaluations. Their efforts went above and beyond, demonstrating strong collaboration, planning, and support for CPS staff and members. Unfortunately, Dr. Korczak was unable to accept the award in person.

12.2 Presentation of Honorary Membership

Dr. Harvey spoke about awarding Honorary CPS Membership to Ms. Lisa Wolff for her decades of tireless advocacy for children and youth. Before retiring as Director of Advocacy and Education at UNICEF Canada, she advanced child rights, strengthened ties with CPS, and contributed to several CPS conferences. Ms. Wolff was unable to attend but her important work was acknowledged

12.3 Presentation of Life Memberships

Dr. Harvey explained that the Society established Life Membership to recognize members who have demonstrated tremendous dedication and made a

signification contribution to the Society. Drs. Stacey Bélanger, Mike Dickinson, Mark Feldman and Kent Saylor were awarded Life Membership.

12.4 Outgoing Board Members, Committee Chairs & Section Presidents

Dr. Harvey thanked all outgoing members of the Board, Committee Chairs and members, and Section Presidents for all their hard work.

13. Leadership Development Committee Report

Dr. Ellen Wood, Chair of the Leadership Development Committee stated that Dr. Michael Narvey's name would be put forward as CPS Vice President for 2025-2026.

The Board of Directors will welcome Dr. Vivian Chen (Vice President, Residents Section).

13.1 Election of two Members-at-Large to the Leadership Development Committee

Dr. Wood explained that the Leadership Development Committee must have two members-at-large, and that Drs. Mark Awuku and Joanne Embree are willing to stay on for another year.

MOTION A25-06

That Dr. Mark Awuku and Dr. Joanne Embree be appointed as Members-at-Large to the Leadership Development Committee for 2025-2026.

**Moved by Dr. Robin Walker
Seconded by Dr. Catherine Farrell
CARRIED**

14. Election of the 2025-2026 CPS Board of Directors

MOTION A25-07

To elect the 2025-2026 CPS Board of Directors with Dr. Laura Sauv  as President, Dr. Natasha Johnson as President Elect and Dr. Michael Narvey as Vice President.

**Moved by Dr. Michelle Barton-Forbes
Seconded by Dr. Bob Issenman**

That the CPS Board of Directors for 2025-2026 be:

Laura Sauv  (President)
Natasha Johnson (President-Elect)
Michael Narvey (Vice President)
Johanne Harvey (Past President)

Jill Borland Starkes (New Brunswick & PEI)
Jared Bullard (Manitoba)
Kelly Cox (British Columbia)
Marc-Andr  Dugas (Qu bec)
Tricia Feener (Newfoundland & Labrador)
Eugene Ng (Ontario)
Amber Miners (Northwest Territories, Nunavut, and Yukon)
Amy Ornstein (Nova Scotia)
Hema Patel (Qu bec)
Ayaz Ramji (Saskatchewan)
Anne Rowan-Legg (Ontario)
Sidd Thakore (Alberta)
Jim Whitestone (Public Member)
Jhanahan Sriranjana (President – Resident Section)
Vivian Chen (Vice President – Resident Section)

15. Remarks by CPS President 2025-2026: Dr. Laura Sauv 

Dr. Sauv  expressed deep gratitude and humility, acknowledging her positionality as a white settler with both privilege and an immigrant family background. She reflected on her diverse journey, emphasizing that health equity and anti-racism are essential to the work of the CPS. She thanked CPS staff, board members, leaders, mentors, and her family for their support.

Dr. Sauv  highlighted CPS’s ongoing strength in addressing both longstanding and emerging issues, including immunization and vaccine readiness, while emphasizing a deep commitment to addressing systemic inequities affecting children and youth. She underscored the importance of collaboration across

healthcare professions to sustain the pediatric workforce and reduce administrative burdens.

Noting urgent concerns about youth mental health across Canada, Dr. Sauv  also identified environmental health as a strategic priority in light of the climate crisis. She concluded by calling for collective courage, broad collaboration, and relentless advocacy, quoting Dr. Seuss to emphasize the need for passionate care to drive meaningful change.

16. Other Business

There was no other business.

17. Adjournment

MOTION A25-08

To adjourn the 102nd Annual General Meeting of the Canadian Paediatric Society at 10:25 am.

**Moved by Dr. Sam Wong
Seconded by Dr. Ayaz Ramji
CARRIED**

**Respectfully submitted by
Johanne Harvey
President (2024-2025)**