



Box 546, 336 'B' Avenue, Kaslo, BC V0G 1M0
Tel. (250)353-7691 • Fax (250)353-7694
Email office@nklcss.org • Website www.nklcss.org

Serving the communities of North and Central Kootenay Lake and the Lardeau Valley

**Annual General Meeting
September 29, 2025
In-person and online via Teams**

Attendance:

25 people attended in total (including 3 on-line)

16 Members of whom were eligible to vote, including 6 board members.

9 Members ineligible to vote, including 5 staff.

Welcome and call to order:

The meeting was called to order by Chair, Janet Mayfield at 7:07 pm. Comments included a welcome, thank you to all who have supported KCSS, and introduction of KCSS board members present.

Aboriginal Land Acknowledgement: Co-Executive Director, Jana Gmur.

Jana provided the land acknowledgement, asking the question, "Why do we do a land acknowledgement?" Members answered, "To show respect, support, commitment, to remember, for awareness, to reconnect with the land, to learn and grow."

Special Announcement: Co-Executive Director, Jane Ballantyne, announced a key development in the KCSS Capital Campaign.

Columbia Basin Trust supports 'The House Next Door' project in Kaslo:

We are very excited to announce a key development in this capital campaign. Columbia Basin Trust (CBT) will contribute \$510,000 towards the project!

KCS has been in communication with the Trust over the years as we explored various options to meet our increasingly urgent need for more space for our community programs. We are thrilled that they have come forward in such a substantial way to ensure the success of 'The House Next Door' project.

Together with other grants, fundraising events and generous individual donations, this funding secures the purchase price of the building, as well as a portion of the renovations needed. We still have more fundraising to go, to meet our goal of \$1,000,000 that will enable full renovations of 'The House Next Door' and create accessible and welcoming offices and group spaces for community programs and services.

We have one final legal piece to get in place with Village of Kaslo. That's a zoning change and OCP amendment for the new use of the property, which is currently zoned residential.

Thanks to the staff and board of KCS for your support. Thanks to our early funders, CFNKLS, VHKAS and Foord Family Foundation of Vernon. Thanks to our generous individual donors and to everyone who has participated in or helped organise a fundraising event, and tonight, a very special thank you to Columbia Basin Trust.

Response from CBT: Susan Hewatt, Kaslo Mayor and Board Member of CBT, thanked KCSS for all their wonderful work in Kaslo and area.

Introduction of Staff and Guest Speaker: Jana Gmur introduced KCSS staff who were present and introduced our guest speaker, Phoebe Stutton, Capital Campaign Manager.

Phoebe presented an in-depth report highlighting her background, what has been achieved so far and where we are heading with the campaign. She reviewed the history of KCS, which has been part of the community for over 50 years, and our need for more space to meet the growing needs of the community.

When the owner of the building right next to our office very generously offered his property, we saw the perfect opportunity and 'The House Next Door' campaign was born! The plan is to purchase and renovate that building, turning it into a purpose-built space for counselling, groups and community programs. This will be close enough to connect seamlessly with our current office, but large enough to finally give us room to breathe, expand and better serve our community. What is needed to do this—only \$1,000,000!

In 3 months, incredible progress has been made, with CBT investing \$510,000 towards our goal bringing us to \$750,000! We have had tremendous community engagement and support showing Kaslo believes in this project. More fundraisers are being planned to bring people together and build momentum. The campaign is about much more than bricks and mortar. It's about creating a safe, welcoming, accessible space where anyone—whether they need counselling, a parenting program, or a bag of groceries—can find the support they need. Together, we are building more than a building. We are building hope, belonging, and resilience for our community.

Confirm Quorum of 10 Voting Members (14 preferred): Janet Mayfield. 16 Voting members present and confirmed.

Motion to Approve the Agenda: by Lynn VanDeursen, second by Joanna Temple, MSC.

Motion to Approve the minutes from the 2024 AGM: by Harel Challmie, second by Rodney Arnold, MSC.

REPORTS:

Board Chair Report: Janet Mayfield.

This year has been one of meaningful progress, thoughtful reflection, and renewed commitment to our mission.

We began by reviewing and revising our Board Governance policies, ensuring they remain aligned with best practices and responsive to the evolving needs of our organization and community.

A major highlight was our Strategic Planning process, which brought together board members and staff for a two-day facilitated retreat. Together, we revisited and refreshed our vision, mission and values, and identified five key priority actions that will guide our work through to 2027. This collaborative effort reaffirmed our shared purpose and set a clear path forward.

Our building Committee made significant strides in securing additional space to expand Kaslo Community Services programming and services. This achievement was made possible through strong leadership, effective partnerships, and deep community engagement.

Leadership Team Report: Patrick Steiner.

As we reflect on this year's achievements, we remain deeply committed to advancing our mission of supporting the community through inclusive and accessible programs and services. Every step we take is guided by our vision of thriving communities where all individuals feel connected, supported, and empowered. We are grateful for the partnerships, dedication, and trust that make this work possible, and we look forward to continuing this journey together.

Annual Highlights include:

- Working to Secure Appropriate Space
- Access to More Funding
- Expanded Senior's Programming
- Enhanced Food Hub Outreach Support
- New Sexual Assault Services
- Program and Service Delivery
- Highly Effective Partnerships
- Staffing Solutions
- Infrastructure and Comfort Enhancements
- Emergency Preparedness

The reports are summarised here. The full reports are included in the KCSS 2024-25 Annual Report which is available on the KCSS website at www.kaslo.services

Motion to accept the leadership Team and Board Chair Reports: by Susan Hewatt, second by Lynn Gouldsbrough, MSC.

Finance Report: Co-Executive Director for Finance and Administration, Jane Ballantyne.

- Income \$1,502,163,
 - Plus, gain on sale of Capital Assets – Van - \$4,481
- Expenses \$1,409,755
 - Surplus \$96,889
 - Added to Reserves \$36,648
 - Invested in Capital Assets \$8,212
 - Carried forward for use in 2025-26 \$52,030

Thank you to all our funders. A special thank you to each of our individual donors, who continue to provide generous support for Kaslo Community Services programs, especially the Food Cupboard, which has no core funding, your generosity is heartwarming!

Motion to accept the March 31, 2025, Financial Statements as prepared by accountants Grant Thornton LLP and to appoint Grant Thornton LLP to perform the Financial Review for 2025-26: by Mandy Bath, second by Rodney Arnold, MSC.

Election of Board of Directors: Patrick Steiner.

- Janet Mayfield, Harel Challmie and Rodney Arnold are remaining on the board for the second year of a 2-year term.
- 4 positions are available on the Board.
- 4 Nominees: Lynn Gouldsbrough, Kimberley Lafortune, David McCormick and Jabeen Quadir are standing for election.

We are not taking nominations from the floor as KCSS By-laws state that nominations must be received 7 days in advance of the AGM. However, if you might be interested in serving on our board, please speak with a board member.

Motion to elect by acclamation, Lynn Gouldsbrough, Kimberley Lafortune, David McCormick and Jabeen Quadir: by Lynn VanDeursen, second by Harel Challmie, MSC.

Move to Adjourn: by Janet Mayfield, second by Lynn VanDeursen, MSC. The meeting was adjourned at 7:44 pm.

Respectfully Submitted,
Kimberley Lafortune
Secretary