

AGM Reports

Annual General Meeting

March 8 2025

Society of Fibre Artists of the Annapolis River

Annual General Meeting

March 8 2025 Clementsport Legion

Welcome

Introduction of Board Members

Meeting Format

AGENDA

I. Approval of the Agenda

II. Review and Approval of

- a) Minutes of March 9, 2024 AGM
- b) Minutes of March 9, 2024 Board Meeting

III. President's Report Leslie McFarlane

IV. Financial Report 2024 Rachael Cheechoo

V. Membership Report Grace Keating

VI. Annual Committee Reports

- 1. Program Committee Rachel Ryan
- 2. Exhibition Committee Rachel Ryan
- 3. Saturday Snips Committee Conni Whitaker
- 4. Communication Committee Aprille Janes
- 5. Education and Resources Committee LeslieMcFarlane
- 6. Come Play With Us Committee Rachel Ryan

7. Hospitality Committee Bernadette Miller

VII. Election of 2025-2026 Board of Directors

VIII. General Business

IX. Adjournment

Society of Fibre Artists of the Annapolis River (SOFAAR)

Annual General Meeting Minutes

Meeting held Saturday, March 9, 2024 at 1:00 pm Clementsport Legion, Clementsport

Board members present:

Leslie McFarlane Rachael Cheechoo Grace Keating Conni Whittaker Rachel Ryan
Bernadette Miller Gail Bugden

Regrets: none offered

Attendees: There were 41 members of SOFAAR at the meeting.

President Leslie McFarlane called the annual general meeting to order at 1:07 and welcomed those in attendance with a brief introductory explanation on how the meeting would proceed. She

then announced that the AGM would be followed by the stash sale.

I. Approval of Agenda

Proposed by Julia Archer and seconded by Gail Robertson. All in favour.

II. Review and Approval of the minutes of the March 11, 2023 AGM

Moved by Annette Smith and seconded by Susan Dalton. All in favour.

III. Review and Approval of the minutes of the March 11, 2023 Board Meeting

Moved by Lynn Weller, Seconded by Ellen Ruggles, All in favour.

IV. Financial Report 2023

The financial report was given by Rachael Cheechoo. It noted the 2024 budget and the 2023 actuals. All attendees were presented with a financial report with the handout package that included the 2023 Actuals and 2024 Budget.

Acceptance by all members of Financial Report as presented

V. Annual Committee Reports: See handouts for the Committee reports

- Programming Committee Reports - Rachel Ryan
- Membership Update - Leslie McFarlane
- Exhibition Committee Report - Rachel Ryan
- Saturday Snips - Conni Whitaker

- Communications Committee Report - Leslie McFarlane
- Education & Resources Committee Report - Leslie McFarlane
- Sponsorship Committee Report - Bernadette Miller
- Hospitality Committee - Bernadette Miller

VI. Election of Board Members:

Outgoing president Leslie McFarlane offered her thanks and appreciation to all outgoing board members and to those board members continuing on for another term.

She then shared that our Bylaws allow up to ten members to serve on the board. With that, the 2024 slate of board members was presented. Leslie then called for other nominations to the board, once, twice and three times. No other names were offered.

The slate of 10 nominated directors according to our bylaws were as follows:

- Leslie McFarlane
- Rachael Cheechoo
- Grace Keating
- Conni Whittaker
- Rachel Ryan
- Bernadette Miller
- Diane Ingraham
- Cindy Sherman
- Sophia Oldford
- Aprille Janes

Outgoing president Leslie McFarlane called for a motion to accept this slate of directors. Cheryl den Hartog moved to accept which was seconded by Christine Igot. All in attendance were in favour of accepting this motion.

The directors will elect officers to positions of president, vice president, secretary, and treasurer, and members will be informed at a later date.

II. General Business

Christine Igot noted that AGM materials in the past went out 10 days before the meeting. These materials would now be available on the members' resource page in the future and members will be directed there.

- Julia Archer expressed appreciation for the new morning mini-workshops before our monthly SNIPS.
- Tammy Sanford-Hutchison expressed her thanks to all the members who have contributed to the Facebook Members page while she was ill.
- Cathy Malon thanked Leslie for her amazing work this past year. This was received with a round of applause.

VIII. Adjournment:

- With no further items a motion to adjourn was called for. Sarah Overington motioned that the meeting adjourn at 2:19 and Cathy Malon seconded.

Aprille Janes, Secretary March 9, 2024

Society of Fibre Artists of the Annapolis River (SOFAAR) Board Meeting

Saturday, March 9, 2024

Clementsport Legion

Post AGM

Call to order By Leslie McFarlane

Time: 2:30 pm

In Attendance: Leslie McFarlane, Aprille Janes, Grace Keating, Rachael Cheechoo, Rachel Ryan, Conni Whittaker, Bernadette Miller, Diane Ingraham, Cindy Sherman, Sophia Oldford

1. Election of Officers

Executive:

- President: Leslie McFarlane
- Vice President: Grace Keating
- Treasurer: Rachael Cheechoo
- Secretary: Aprille Janes

All board members voted in favour.

Directors-at-Large

- Rachel Ryan
- Conni Whittaker
- Bernadette Miller
- Diane Ingraham
- Cindy Sherman
- Sophia Oldford

2. Date/Time next Meetings

Google Workspace Training

Tuesday, March 26, 2024 at 3 pm, Lawrencetown Library

Board meeting

Tuesday, April 9, 2024 at 3 pm, Lawrencetown Library

3. Adjournment

Moved by: Rachael Cheechoo Time: 3:00

President's Report

This year has been one of growth, engagement, and success for our organization.

Highlights include:

- Continued growth in membership, reflecting the strong interest in our activities.
- Ongoing updates and maintenance of our website to enhance accessibility and communication.
- Transition to MailChimp for improved email outreach and member engagement.
- Introduction of a morning program for Saturday Snips, offering more opportunities for participation.
- A successful members' exhibition at the Macdonald Museum, showcasing our talented community.
- Active participation in the Annapolis Valley Exhibition, helping us reach a wider audience.
- The much-anticipated return of Come Play with Us, fostering creativity and connection.

None of these achievements would have been possible without the dedication of our board and the many members who generously contribute their time, energy, skills, and resources. Their hard work ensures that our organization continues to thrive.

Leslie McFarlane

Financial Report

Rachael Cheechoo

SOFAAR has had a good year on the financial side.

Please look at the 2024 Budget vs Actual Income & Expenses sheet

Income was \$80.30 less than what we budgeted for.

However, on the Expense side we spent \$1,619.46 less than budgeted for.

Subtract the small shortfall on Income \$80.30 from the \$1,619.46 less spent on the Expense column. Results in \$1,539.16 less money spent than what was budgeted for 2024.

SOFAAR's bank balance December 31st, 2024 is \$8,749.54.

There is a copy of a letter from Kevin Burnell of Granville Accounting Inc., stating he has reviewed the revenue and expenses of SOFAAR as at December 31, 2024. The financial information, in all material respects are accurately represented.

Please look at the proposed budget for 2025.

Income totals = \$2,700.00

Expense totals = \$3,437.00

We have budgeted for Expenses to be \$737.00 more than income.

Thank you

Rachael Cheechoo

Treasurer of SOFAAR

SOFAAR 2024 REVISED BUDGET			
SOCIETY OF FIBRE ARTISTS OF THE ANNAPOLIS RIVER			
2024 BUDGET VS Actual \$ Income & Expenses			
			OVER BUDGET - Black
INCOME	2024 BUDGET	2024 ACTUAL	UNDER BUDGET - Red
Life Membership	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Annual Membership	\$2,000.00	\$1,874.00	-\$126.00
Grants	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Programs	\$250.00	\$215.00	-\$35.00
Snips & AGM	\$500.00	\$468.25	-\$31.75
Donations	\$300.00	\$306.55	\$6.55
Public Event	\$200.00	\$362.00	\$162.00
Fundraising	\$500.00	\$383.90	-\$116.10
Other	\$0.00	\$60.00	\$60.00
TOTAL	\$3,750.00	\$3,669.70	-\$80.30
			Income was less than budgeted
EXPENSES			
Membership	\$150.00	\$38.39	\$111.61
Communications (Incl. Website)	\$150.00	\$149.50	\$0.50
Hospitality	\$425.00	\$71.35	\$353.65
Sat. Snips & AGM	\$750.00	\$536.29	\$213.71
Programs	\$550.00	\$221.38	\$328.62
Member Resources	\$100.00	\$0.00	\$100.00
Public Event	\$520.00	\$316.87	\$203.13
Bank Fees	\$50.00	\$72.65	-\$22.65
Joint stocks	\$32.00	\$31.15	\$0.85
Office supplies	\$60.00	\$16.93	\$43.07
Members Exhibit	\$200.00	\$16.98	\$183.02
Insurance	\$280.00	\$277.00	\$3.00
Organization Memberships	\$65.00	\$65.00	\$0.00
Post Office Box annual rental	\$216.00	\$215.05	\$0.95
Miscellaneous	\$100.00	\$0.00	\$100.00
TOTAL	\$3,648.00	\$2,028.54	\$1,619.46
TOTAL BUDGETED LESS EXPENSES	\$102.00		\$1,539.16
			Expenses were less than budgeted
2024 Proposed Budget \$102.00 Less in expenses than income			
\$1,619.46 (Expenses) Plus negative (-\$80.30) (Income) = \$1,539.16 spent less than budgeted			

2025 PROPOSED BUDGET

SOCIETY OF FIBRE ARTISTS OF THE ANNAPOLIS RIVER

2025 BUDGET

Income

Life Membership	\$0.00
Annual Membership	\$2,000.00
Grants	\$0.00
Programs	\$400.00
Snips/AGM	\$0.00
Donations	\$300.00
Fundraising	\$0.00
Public Event	\$0.00
Other	\$0.00
Total	\$2,700.00

Expenses

Membership	\$20.00
Communications (incl. website)	\$360.00
Hospitality	\$400.00
Sat. Snips & AGM	\$570.00
Programs	\$1,200.00
Member Resources	\$100.00
Public Event	\$0.00
Bank Fees	\$75.00
Joint stocks	\$32.00
Office supplies	\$50.00
Members Exhibit	\$250.00
Insurance	\$280.00
Organization Memberships	\$0.00
Miscellaneous	\$100.00
Total	\$3,437.00

Expenses \$737.00 more than income.

Granville Accounting Inc.
4740, Highway 1
Granville Ferry, NS
Tel: (902) 955-0818 Cell:(902) 532-0690

To the Reader

I have reviewed the revenue and expenses of SOFAAR as at December 31, 2024. My review was made in accordance with Canadian generally accepted standards for review engagements and, accordingly, consisted primarily of enquiry, analytical procedures and discussion related to information supplied to me by the company.

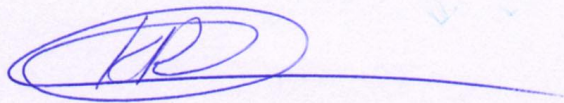
A review does not constitute an audit and consequently I do not express an audit opinion on these financial statements.

Based on my review, nothing has come to my attention that causes me to believe that the financial information is not, in all material respects, accurately represented.

SOFAAR
Annapolis Royal, NS

February 4, 2025

Signed:



Kevin Burnell

Membership Report

Grace Keating

During the past year, the membership committee successfully made the transition from a calendar renewal system (based on the members' date of joining) to the universal annual

membership date.

The current single renewal-date system has streamlined the paperwork and documenting aspect of the committee.

At the beginning of our membership year March 2024 we had 102 members, as of mid-February 2025, we have 103 members. As of the middle of February, half of our memberships are paid for the coming 2025-2026 year.

Our top areas of interest are in the categories of:

- EMBROIDERY, BEADING and CREWEL WORK
- RUG HOOKING and PUNCH NEEDLE FELTING
- QUILTS and ART QUILTS

followed by (in order of popularity):

- KNITTING
- WEARABLE FIBRE ART and SEWING
- NEEDLEPOINT, CROSS STITCH and BLACKWORK
- WEAVING
- DYEING
- CROCHET
- BASKETRY
- SPINNING
- MACRAMÉ
- OTHER

We have a very talented group with over half our membership interested in at least four different categories.

Program Committee Report

Rachel Ryan

Our pre-Snips morning program\ have been very popular and enjoyable to those who've

attended. We have been able to offer these mini workshops at no cost to members as one of the many benefits of joining our group. A small kit fee covers basic costs of supplies.

Our instructors were not compensated this year. However, going forward, the board has decided to issue an honorarium of \$100 per offering. We gratefully acknowledge our members who have stepped forward to instruct others in their craft practices

2024 Morning Program list:

- January and February: Leslie McFarlane, ribbon embroidery
- March: AGM (no program)
- April: Aprille Janes, boro embroidery
- May: Sherri Wood, needle felting
- June: Leslie McFarlane, wet felting
- July and August: summer break
- September: Rachel Ryan, fabric collage
- October: Karen Thomas, needle felting
- November: Janet Graham-Smith, embroidery on wool felt
- December: festive potluck (no program)

Going forward, we will continue to encourage one another's creativity with 8 workshops per year.

Exhibition Committee Report

Rachel Ryan

Our annual Art of Fibre took place at the Macdonald Museum in Middleton for the entire month of August, 2024. It's a beautiful historic building with a spacious gallery area.

This space was shared by 18 SOFAAR members, who contributed 38 fibre art pieces.

We paid nothing to use the gallery and enjoyed this unique opportunity to share our work with visitors from near and far.

Participants List:

1. Diana Ackroyd, crochet and wet felting
2. Gail Bugden, cross stitch
3. Grace Butland, fabric collage
4. Rachael Cheechoo, petit point and blackwork
5. Anne Crocker, rug hooking and weaving
6. Diane Ingraham, weaving
7. Aprille Janes, fabric collage
8. Grace Keating, machine embroidery and fabric collage
9. Cathy Lowe, 3D embroidery
10. Elizabeth MacGregor, rug hooking
11. Leslie McFarlane, wet felting 1
12. Rachel Ryan, fabric collage and free motion embroidery
13. Tammy Sanford, cross stitch and blackwork
14. Christine Skaling, woven raw wool
15. Karen Thomas, needle felting
16. Pam Watson, fabric collage
17. Conni Whittaker, quilting, embroidery and garment construction
18. Amanda York, applique and hand embroidery

Museum staff were delighted with the interest the show received from gallery patrons, and we look forward to returning there for Art of Fibre 2025.

Upcoming, the board is also making plans for a show at the Flora Hall Gallery this coming spring. There are a dozen members confirmed with an exciting range of fibre art.

Saturday Snips Committee Report

Conni Whittaker

We now have access to the lighter plastic meeting tables at the Paradise Hall making set up considerably easier. Thank you to the quilt group at the Paradise Hall for allowing us to borrow these tables.

2025 Snips Gatherings

The venue halls have been reserved as follows:

- January 11, Granville Ferry Community Hall
- February 8, Paradise Community Hall
- March 8, Clementsport Legion Hall, Annual General Meeting (AGM) and Stash Sale
- April 12, Paradise Community Hall
- May 10, Granville Ferry Community Hall
- June 14, Paradise Community Hall
- September 13, Granville Ferry Hall
- October 18, Paradise Community Hall
- November 8, Granville Ferry Hall
- December 18, Paradise Community Hall, Potluck

Communications Committee Report

Aprille Janes / Cindy Sherman

SOFAAR communications has expanded this year with the addition of an Instagram account.

We continue to post regularly on Facebook and Instagram. We have also updated the website to reflect current events, meetings, and shows in a clear concise format. It is updated regularly. The newsletter is back on track under the more-than-capable hands of Diane Ingraham, and we now include various shows and events other than, and as well as SOFAAR in the interest of our members.

We have switched from Cyberimpact to Mailchimp as it is a more user-friendly platform. We have also cancelled the P.O. Box as the expense did not justify. Mail is now sent to 137 Trout Lake Road Lawrencetown Nova Scotia B0S 1M0.

Education and Resources Committee Report

Leslie McFarlane

Our library underwent a major purge this year. Barbara Nutley-Hunter has volunteered to continue housing the library at her home. We are continuing to update the book selection information in the members' resource section of the website. Our "Try Before You Buy" kits have been a great success with many of our new members taking advantage of the resource. These will need to be replenished in the coming months.

Come Play With Us Committee Report

Rachel Ryan

Event Overview:

Come Play with Us was a public event designed to engage the community in a fun and educational day of fibre arts. Our talented members provided demonstrations and hands-on experiences, allowing visitors to explore a variety of fibre arts techniques.

Event Success:

The event received overwhelmingly positive feedback from attendees. Many expressed their appreciation for the opportunity to learn new skills and engage with experienced fibre artists. The interactive nature of the event helped foster a welcoming and inclusive atmosphere, encouraging participation from individuals of all skill levels.

Fundraising Efforts:

- Raffle: The raffle was well-received, generating strong participation and contributing positively to fundraising goals with raising \$362.00.
- Stash Sale: The stash sale was a success, allowing attendees to purchase unique materials and supplies while raising additional funds for future events. The amount raised was \$306.55.
- Donation Jar: Raised \$362.00.

Future Plans:

We have decided that Come Play with Us will become a biennial event. Future iterations will build upon this year's success by incorporating additional demonstrations to continue fostering community engagement in fibre arts.

Acknowledgements:

A heartfelt thank you to all committee members, volunteers, and participants for making this event such a resounding success. Your dedication and enthusiasm were instrumental in creating a meaningful and inspiring experience for all who attended.

Hospitality Committee Report

Bernadette Miller

Our Hospitality Gems are the incredible volunteers who provide the delicious treats and refreshments for our monthly gatherings—thank you for your kindness and generosity!

A special shoutout to Diana, Martha, Janet, Cathy, Elizabeth, Christine, Karen, Lynn, Amanda, and Myleta for their wonderful contributions. Your efforts truly make our gatherings extra special!

We also enjoyed a fantastic Christmas Potluck Lunch, filled with great food and even better company. A heartfelt thank you to everyone who helped make it such a memorable event!

We are always looking for more Hospitality Gems to join us. If you love bringing people together through food and fellowship, we'd love to have you on board—come join us!

