

NSIS COUNCIL REPORTS
Reports from the Annual General Meeting
May 6, 2024 - 6:30 pm

AGENDA

163rd ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

*Meeting held in Room S310 Science Bldg.,
Saint Mary's University, Halifax, NS
and at RBC Theatre, Student Culture & Heritage Ctr.,
Cape Breton University, Sydney, NS via Zoom.com*

1. Welcome (Stephanie MacQuarrie)
2. **Minutes of Previous AGM:** (S. MacQuarrie)
Minutes of the 162nd AGM on 29 May 2023
Motion and Vote to accept the Minutes of the 162nd AGM.
3. **Annual Reports:**
President (S. MacQuarrie)
Treasurer (Angelica Silva)
PNSIS Editor (David Richardson for Peter Wells)
Membership (Jinshan Xu)
Library (S. MacQuarrie for Carol Richardson)
Publicity (Brent Robicheau)
Website (Romman Muntzar)
Lecture Programme for 2024-2025 (Alana Pindar)
Student Science & Technology Communication Competition
for 2024 (Jillian Phillips & Jinshan Xu)
Excursions (Hank Bird)
Motion and Vote to accept the 10 reports.
4. **Awards:**
Recognition of new Honorary Member (S. MacQuarrie)
New Awards & Presentations (Judy MacInnis)
5. **By-Laws & Fees:** (S. MacQuarrie)
Revisions to the By-laws (Library, Hon. Membership,
Terms of Office)
Motion and Vote to accept amended by-laws.
Increase in Regular Membership fees.
Motion and Vote to accept the new Regular Membership fees.

cont'd

6. **Council for 2024-2025:** (S. MacQuarrie)
Nomination of 2024-2025 Council.
Motion and Vote to approve the new Council.
7. **Other Business:** (S. MacQuarrie)
Any Other Business.
8. **Adjournment:** (S. MacQuarrie)

May Public Lecture: Following the AGM, at 7:30pm ADT Dr. Jason Loxton (CBU) will present “The Geology of the Cabot Trail: The Surprising 1.5-Billion Year Story”. The lecture will be presented in-person in Room 203, Shannon Bldg., Cape Breton University. It will also be available via a separate Zoom call.

Council Members & Observers Present: Stephanie MacQuarrie (President), Jillian Phillips (Vice-President and SSTCC), Angelica Silva (Treasurer), Brent Robicheau (Publicity Officer), Alana Pindar (Observer), Hank Bird (Secretary and Excursions), Shannon Ezzat (Councillor), Bruce Hatcher (Councillor), Judy MacInnis (Councillor), Audrey Salinger (Student Rep., SMU), David Richardson (Associate Editor).

Members Present: Patrick Ryall, Carol Morrison, Courtney Strugnell, Don Forbes, Barbara Zielinski.

Regrets & Absent (Council Members & Observers): Peter Wells (Editor), Tamara Franz-Odendaal (Past President, Jinshan Xu (Membership and SSTCC), Romman Muntzar (Webmanager), Tim Fedak (Nova Scotia Museum Observer), Anne Dalziel (Councillor), Adam Brown (Observer, CBU), Jen Sawlor (Observer, Schools), Ale Torres (Student Rep., MSVU).

1. Welcome

(Stephanie MacQuarrie) The President welcomed participants and called the 163rd Annual General Meeting (AGM) to order at 6:30pm. The President noted that presentations would be kept short and informal and that the reports, excluding the minutes from last year’s AGM, would be approved as a unit at the end of the presentations. The minutes will include the contents of the slides and additional material from the written Annual Reports.

2. Approval of the Minutes of the 161st Annual General Meeting of 2 May 2022: (S. MacQuarrie)

A draft of the 2023 AGM minutes was e-mailed on 19 April 2024 for perusal by all NSIS Members.

There were no revisions to those Minutes.

3. Motion to accept the minutes of the 161st AGM:

Moved: by S. MacQuarrie

Seconded: by B. Hatcher

All in favour: Approved unanimously.

4. President's Annual Report (S. MacQuarrie):

S. MacQuarrie noted that this was a great year with many changes and accomplishments. She also remarked that it is good that the NSIS is involving other, non-HRM, locations in meetings and lectures. Her remarks focused on Committees and the NSIS-Dal Library relationship.

For the benefit of members, the President provided a current list of the NSIS standing committees and their composition, as follows:

Strategic Planning Committee

Stephanie MacQuarrie - CHAIR

Brent Robicheau (note taker, etc.)

Tamara Franz-Odendaal (past - president)

Hank Bird

Bruce Hatcher

Committee for student symposium and career Q&A session

Jillian Phillips - Chair

Judy MacInnis

Shannon Ezzat

Brent Robicheau

Audrey Salinger

Anne Dalziel

Alana Pindar

Recruitment Committee (make a poster!)

Jillian Phillips

Judy MacInnis

Awards Committee

Judy MacInnis

Brent Robicheau

Peter Wells

Tamara Franz-Odendaal

Editorial Board Committee

Peter Wells

Bruce Hatcher

David Richardson

Student Science Communication Committee

Jillian Phillips

Jinshan Xu

The President also described the changing working relationship between the NSIS and Dalhousie's Killam Library arising from staffing issues and the evolving role of libraries in the digital world. She, with P. Wells, D. Richardson, M. Paon, J. Phillips and H. Bird, worked in collaboration with the staff at the Dalhousie Library, and a number of changes have been made:

- **Librarian Position on Council:** Replace the function with a Councillor to act as "Library Liaison". (Note: requires a change in the By-laws.)
- **Access to the Online PNSIS:** Continues to be available via the Killam Library's website. The 6-month quarantine on new editions for non-members is removed, thus making the PNSIS completely "open access". A banner appears asking that the reader consider joining the NSIS.
- **PNSIS Archives:** We continue to use the Killam Library for archiving and storage of the paper copies of issues of the PNSIS.
- **Mailing of Print Copies of the PNSIS:** NSIS will take over this function as part of the Secretary's role.
- **Exchange Partners:** Continue with the current process. We do not send printed copies of PNSIS to exchange partners, while the Killam Library receives, catalogues, and shelves the few paper copies of journals that are sent to the NSIS.
- **Access Copyright:** We do not receive royalties for the PNSIS or any other publications, and so the Library should not be involved with Access Copyright on our behalf. The NSIS is a

member of A.C. and receives a small distribution of funds to as a result of that membership, so a NSIS Councillor should be responsible for our yearly application.

- **NSIS Mailing Address:** The amount of postal mail to the NSIS is small but important (e.g.: it includes journals from exchange partners) so the Killam Library should continue to be the NSIS mailing address. This involves a few minutes' work per month.
- **Physical Archives of NSIS Records:** The NSIS is transferring them to the Nova Scotia Archives. The NS Archives also has the expertise to assess the desirability, feasibility, and cost of having them digitized.

The President called on other members of Council to present their reports.

5. **Treasurer's Annual Report (Angelica Silva):**

As of March 31st, 2023, the net worth of the NSIS was \$32,902.38, held in our BMO bank account. Of this, \$17,902.38 was in cash, and \$15,000.00 is in an 18-month GIC paying 4.15% per year, maturing in October 2024.

As of March 31st, 2024, the net worth of the NSIS was \$29,348.69, held in our BMO bank account. Of this, \$14,348.69 is in cash, and \$15,000.00 is the 18-month GIC above.

Revenue from all sources were \$6,073.77. \$3,168.85 was individual memberships and \$150.00 in Institutional Memberships. Payments for the AGM Dinner were \$1,065.00. There were \$1,302.00 in donations to the NSIS, and there was \$387.92 in Income/Access Copyright Royalties.

Expenditures amounted to \$9,627.46. This includes \$3,386.26 of for production of the ProcNSIS and \$1,007.88 for a 170-copy print run of The Birds of Brier Island for the NS Bird Society. Other expenditures included \$1,700.00 in Prizes for the SSTCC, \$1,253.57 for the venue for the AGM and dinner, \$663.00 to support the Sable Island conference and the Fishermen & Scientists Research conference, \$1,150.70 for website hosting for 3 years, \$100 to support a school Regional Science Fair, and \$366.35 for Brochures & Bookmarks and for Publicity & Advertising.

The Treasurer noted that, as of May 2nd, 2022, the NSIS currently has a total of 120 active members and 5 institutional members. (See item #7.)

She thanked Carol Richardson (Dalhousie Killam Library) for her continuing contribution with NSIS mail at Dalhousie University, and for library services. Many thanks to all NSIS Council Members for reviewing monthly reports and suggestions as well as our new Membership Officer J. Xu and to Romman Muntzar that contributed to compiling and transference of membership payments in this past year. Many thanks to NSIS Secretary Hank Bird for multiple roles and contributions with mail and banking.

6. Editor's Annual Report (Peter Wells & David Richardson):

PNSIS Vol. 53, Part 1, (2023) is on the website, open access. Hard copies from a limited printing await distribution by Carol Richardson of the Killam Library. Some have been distributed by hand or mail locally. As with previous recent Issues, comments on its contents are always welcomed.

Work continues on PNSIS Vol. 53, Part 2, (2024). The draft Table of Contents was updated to guide us. We met on March 27th to discuss our progress. As of late March, two commentaries are complete, with three others invited. Four research articles are completed or being revised. Considerable time has been devoted to the task of finding reviewers and tracking each paper through the review process. Two book reviews are completed and two others are promised. No student papers have yet been received although a summary of the student presentations given at the April lecture is complete. it would be nice to receive some more papers in this category.

The 53-2 Issue underway awaits the inclusion of the completed papers, the May 2024 AGM report, the Editorial, and some more book reviews before it is assembled. We are working with a deadline for submissions for Vol. 53(2) of June 30th, 2024. We welcome more contributions and hope that the Editorial Board and the Council Members will help us in this task. Publication is anticipated for late summer, early Fall, hopefully in time for the first Fall NSIS meeting. A very limited printing is anticipated, to augment the on-line version.

To date, no more papers have been submitted from the Sable Island events of Fall, 2023. There are no plans to chase the organizers or the potential authors. We will consider papers as they are independently submitted. It is the same with the papers being prepared by Dr. Haughian of the NS Natural History Museum; one paper on a moss is completed for the current issue and others may be submitted at a later date.

We did a press run of 170 copies of “The Birds of Brier Island” for the Nova Scotia Bird Society.

We wish to thank the Editorial Board members for their continued service to the NSIS, as well as to Gail LeBlanc for her continued expert copyediting and layout for each Issue. We have a good team working on behalf of the NSIS.

7. Membership Annual Report (H. Bird for Jinshan Xu):

Membership Overview:

To date, there are currently 127 active members of the NSIS, plus 10 institutional members. This is slightly higher than a year ago.

Type of Membership	AGM 2023	AGM 2024
Honorary	2	3
Life	26	29
Regular	76	60
Student	6	6
Complimentary (Lecturers, SSTCC)	<u>17</u>	<u>22</u>
	127	120
Institutional	<u>10</u>	<u>3</u>
	137	123

In discussion, Councillors and members were asked to submit ideas for increasing membership.

8. Librarian’s Annual Report (Carol Richardson):

- **Proc. N.S.I.S.:** There were no sales of the *Proceedings* from June 2023 to April 2024. Print copies of the most recent issue were mailed to 7 members, others were hand-delivered.
- **Indexing & Abstract Services:** Complimentary copies of the most recent issue of the *Proceedings* were sent to the National Library of Canada (2 copies) & the US Library of Congress.

- **Access Copyright:** Payments received from Access Copyright were sent directly to the NSIS Treasurer.
- **Institutional Members:** Renewal invoices have been sent to 14 institutional Members of which 3 have renewed their subscriptions. An invoice for \$12.52 was received in March 2024 for charges incurred by the Dalhousie Libraries for the mailing of invoices to Institutional members in October 2023.
- **NSIS Exchange Journal Collection:** NSIS receives journal issues from 81 Exchange Partners around the world. From June 2023 to April 2024, we received 21 journal issues and society publications. These items were processed by the Dalhousie Killam Memorial Library and added to the NSIS collection in the Library.

In discussion it was pointed out that eliminating the 6-month quarantine removed an incentive for non-Members to become Members. So to offset this, we have added a “banner” that appears when a person accesses an issue of PNSIS online. It points out the costs of producing the PNSIS, a refereed scientific journal, and encourages the reader to support it by becoming a Member.

It was also recommended that we post a list of our exchange partners and the names of the journals that they share on our website, along with how they may be accessed at the Killam Library.

9. **Publicity Annual Report (Brent Robichaud):**

Highlights:

- The Publicity Officer generated annual promotional material for the lecture series including monthly printable posters, monthly social media banners, and our annual NSIS brochure (contains full list of seminars for the year and other NSIS information (e.g., how to become a member).
- He generated monthly Facebook events for each lecture. Also advertised monthly about the lecture series on Facebook, Twitter, and Instagram (~1–2 weeks before each lecture). Other content was posted to Facebook, Twitter, and Instagram as requested (e.g., posts about the writing competition).
- He e-mailed university science administrators about upcoming lectures each month.
- He set up a new Instagram account for the NSIS.

- The Publicity Officer worked with Past-President T. Franz-Odendaal and Councilor J. MacInnis to draft terms of reference for new suite of NSIS Awards. He also designed certificates for these new NSIS awards.
- He assisted in judging this year’s Student Science and Technology Communication Competition and judging abstracts for the 2024 Student Research Symposium.
- He has been working alongside the website manager during the year to update website as requests come in.

Facebook: (past year: 1-May-2023 to 30-April-2024)

Assessment: In 2022/23 we had 491 page visits, in 2023/24 we had 840 page visits so about double from the previous year. We also gained 58 followers on FB this past year bringing our current total followers to 841.



Twitter: (Note that Twitter has removed free analytics)

Assessment: Based on the number of followers, we had 187 followers in May 2023 and in May 2024 we have 229 followers. Hence, a net gain of 42 Twitter followers this past year.

Instagram: (Note that this is our first year having Instagram)

Assessment: Since activating our Instagram account earlier this year we are at 104 followers.

10. Webmanager’s Annual Report

(S. MacQuarrie for Romman Muntzar):

PayPal: We stopped using PayPal to receive payments and switched over to direct bank deposit.

Quarantine on Viewing New Issues of PNSIS: We removed the 6-month non-member quarantine to view online copies of new issues of PNSIS.

Interface with the Web Hosting Service: We transferred our account with our web hosting service to the Secretary, and we renewed our contract for 3 years.

Domain Name: We acquired an additional domain name, nsis.ca

Updates and Upgrades: We put considerable effort into making numerous updates and additions as circumstances required.

S. MacQuarrie thanked R. Muntzar and B. Robicheau for their efforts through the year to keep the website populated and up-to-date. She also reminded us that we need someone to fill the Webmanager position.

11. Lecture Series Annual Report (Alana Pindar):

This year was a very successful seminar year with a seminar in September! She noted that the YouTube channel with our past Lectures has a lot of traffic -- between 70 and 110 viewers per lecture. We also saw CBU hosting two seminars outside of HRM. This will continue into the 2024-2025 year and we encourage all other Institutes to host an NSIS seminar in the future.

This year we hosted our first student career event which saw over 50 participants from across Nova Scotia and experts from different career paths. Our panel included experts in conservation biology (Hannah de Loe - ACAP Cape Breton); Chemistry (Taylor Lynk - Solid State Pharma); Engineering (Sarah Evely - Project Manager at Pomerleau); and Healthcare (Dr. Isabel Smith - Dal Faculty of Medicine and Garry Dart - NS Health Authority).

We are excited to be wrapping up this year's seminar series with Dr. Jason Loxton Geologist at CBU.

Planning for the student events will begin in September 2024, we encourage Councilors to consider joining the student career, and/or student symposium organizing committees to help organize both events that will be held in 2025.

We wish to thank all of the 2023-2024 Seminar Speakers, student career event guests, students who participated in the students symposium, and of course all of our viewers!

2024-2025 Confirmed Seminar Series:

Month 2024/2025	Speaker	Location of Talk	Speaker confirmed
October	Dr. Shelley Denny from UINR	CBU	Yes
November	Dr. David Awde from MSVU	SMU	Yes
December	Dr. Erin Mazerolle from St. F.X	St. F.X.	Yes
January	Student Q & A on careers	Online	
February	Mr. Fred Beachler - Senior Hydrologist at ADI	CBU	Yes
March	Student Symposium	SMU	
April	Dr. Art MacDonald	SMU	Yes
May	Dr. Lori Borgal from MSVU	SMU	Yes

A. Pindar requested that suggestions for the 2024-2025 Series be sent to her as soon as possible.

12. Student Science & Technology Communication Competition Annual Report (Jillian Phillips and Jinshan Xu):

This year's competition remained similar to last year in format with an open call for essays focussed on a science, technology, math, or social science topic, however, new this year was the addition of a high school category to extend our outreach to NS students.

The overall goals of the competition were as follows:

- Promote communication of science and technology in NS
- Encourage students to engage with the NSIS and become new members.
- Provide an opportunity to practice STEM communication skills and receive meaningful feedback on their writing
- Generate interest and submission for publication within the Proceedings of the NSIS

Student Stats:

- 29 students registered for the competition
- 14 papers were submitted at the close of the competition
- 5 high school essays were submitted from four NS schools:
Cobequid Education Centre
Halifax Grammar School
Horton High School
- 9 Post-secondary Essays were submitted across 6 Universities:
Dalhousie University (2)
Cape Breton University (2)
Mount Allison University (1)

Mount St. Vincent University (2)

St. Francis Xavier University (1)

St. Mary's University (1)

- Two winners and three honorable mentions were selected based on scoring and judges' feedback:

The winners of the 2024 SSTCC are:

Christelinda Laureij is a Nova Scotia Student completing their 4th year in the BSc program at Mount Allison University with a focus on Biology and Biochemistry.

Paper title: The effect of insulin on neuronal activity in the rat dorsomedial hypothalamus

Kara Lee is a grade 10 student attending Halifax Grammar School and our competition has piqued her interest in science.

Paper title: Reinforcing the Dam: What Valve-Development in Cattle Can Tell Us About the Failing Human Heart

The following students deserve an honorable mention for their submissions:

Madison Power (2nd place runner up) is a 1st year BSc. (Chemistry) student at Cape Breton University.

Paper title: An Investigation into the Effectiveness of Maskwi'omin (Betula papyrifera oil) on Bacterial Growth Inhibition Compared to Vancomycin

Salvatore Avvampato is a 3rd year BSc. (Kinesiology) student at Dalhousie University

Paper title: Adapting baseball pitchers' behaviours to reduce injury while maintaining accuracy

Owen Jones is a grade 12 student at Horton High School.

Essay Title: Electric planes; Why the Future of Aviation is Inevitably Electric

It was suggested that these students be featured on the NSIS website, possibly with a copy (or the abstract) of their papers.

Feedback and Considerations for next year:

- The competition's coordinators recognize that although the competition called for an essay format, the writing guidelines and rubric guided students toward a research paper/ journal article style submission. The coordinators and judges agree

that the rubric should be further revised to better align with an essay category and there was interest to keep the current rubric for future use and bring back a research-focussed category.

- The judges suggested allowing students to pick which category they want to partake in (essay or research article) and the coordinators would provide the guidelines and rubric to reflect their choice.
- To further refine the competition guidelines and provide more consistency between paper formats, it is suggested that next year, only one reference style is accepted. The suggestion is to use the style reflected in the PNSIS as our example.
 - The preference is for work cited to be from primary literature, however, it is recognized that high school students may not have access or know where to find reliable sources. Brent suggested adding a section on the website with resources on where to find open access primary literature (e.g. Google Scholar, PNSIS, and other open access links)

Other suggestions:

- Flesh out the bonus point section for NS relevance a bit more (e.g. specific research taking place within NS, a public health issue in NS, impact on NS or NS-centered issue being addressed).
- Semantics change: change the name of the competition back to the “Student Science and Technology Writing Competition” since the additional communication pieces such as the video and media summary have been dropped from the requirements.

The coordinators would like to thank all the students who participated and all those who made the competition possible. A special thank you goes to our generous donors: Cape Breton University, Engineers Nova Scotia, and Saint Mary’s University. Many thanks to Jinshan Xu for his support during the early phase of setting up the competition to and Hank Bird, for creating comprehensive score sheets to capture judges’ feedback and guide our decision making. Thank you to our judges Audrey Salinger, Aveena Herold, Barbara Zielinski, Brent Robicheau, Hank Bird, Jinshan Xu, and Reid Sutherland. And thank you to Anne Dalziel and Hank for presenting the awards in our absence during the April public lecture.

J. Phillips expressed her pleasure leading the competition the past two years and she looks forward to how it blossoms under a new coordinator next year. She respectfully passes the torch to Shannon Ezzat to lead next year and is happy to offer her support.

13. Excursions Annual Report (Hank Bird):

We did 16 excursions between 2016 and 2023, with a break from 2020-2022 due to Covid-19.

In April 2023 we had a pop-up joint excursion sponsored by the NS Museum of Natural History, which was an urban geology walk on the Halifax Citadel drumlin.

In July 2023 about 10 people went to Kejimikujik National Park for a guided outing to include the petroglyphs and a nature hike.

We, with the assistance of Bruce Hatcher, have scheduled an excursion to Scatarie Island for July 13th. We are expecting a full complement of about 20 members and guests.

We are working with Dr. Linda Campbell of SMU to do an outing to a historical gold mine in the Halifax region later in July. The objective is to learn about historical gold mining in NS and the resulting remediation efforts required.

We are considering arranging a joint event or two with the Halifax Field Naturalists organization, which has field trips and lectures.

Other possibilities include:

- Waterfalls of Nova Scotia (various sites)
- Shubenacadie Wildlife Park (Shubenacadie)
- Cape Split Nature Hike (Scots Bay)
- NS Museum of Industry (New Glasgow)
- Canadian Geological Association (joint excursion) (TBD)

We welcome additional suggestions.

For the record, these are the 16 excursions we had in 2016, 2017, 2018, 2019, 2022, and early 2023:

- Annapolis Royal Historic Gardens (twice)
- Bedford Institute of Oceanography
- Burke-Gaffney Observatory
- Dalhousie Planetarium
- Discovery Centre (including “behind the scenes”)
- Fundy Geological Museum, Ottawa House, and the Tidal Power Exhibit.

- Habits and Habitats of NS Birds
(in association with the NS Birding Society)
- Halifax Citadel Drumlin Geological Walk
- Joggins Fossil Cliffs
- Kejimikujik Petroglyphs and Nature Walk
- Natural History of McNab's Island
- Otter Ponds Demonstration Forest
- Purcell's Cove Backlands
(in association with Halifax Field Naturalists)
- Shubenacadie Canal
- The Science and Art of Making Beer, at the
2 Crows Brewing Company
- The Science and Art of Making Beer
(one at the Garrison Brewery, another at
2 Crows Brewing Company)

14. Motion to Accept the Annual Reports:

Moved: by H. Bird

Seconded: by M. Paon

All in favour: Approved unanimously.

**15. Awards – Recognition of New Honorary Member:
(S. MacQuarrie)**

Per the by-laws, a Nova Scotian person distinguished in some branch of science or who has rendered conspicuous service to the advancement of science can be elected an Honorary Member.

Dr. Jeff Dahn of Dalhousie University is one of the pioneer developers of the lithium-ion battery and has had a worldwide impact. He established a world-leading centre of battery science at Dalhousie, and has trained a generation of students, more than 140. He had a partnership with 3M Corporation, and is currently partnering with Tesla Inc. Jeff has received numerous and significant Canadian and international awards. He has also given at least one of our public lectures. In January 2024 the Council unanimously elected him an Honorary Member of the NSIS.

Congratulations Dr. Dahn, recognizing your exemplary academic research in lithium-ion battery technology, the relevance of your research to anthropogenic climate change adaptation, and the very positive impact you have had on many young scientists – we welcome you as an Honorary member of the NSIS!

16. Awards – New NSIS Awards & Presentations:

(Judy MacInnis)

A committee considered and recommended a slate of new NSIS awards, and the Council has adopted them. They comprise:

- Service Awards: Dedicated Service (regular + trainee), Exceptional Service
- Travel Award
- Early Career Award
- Editor’s Choice Award
- Best Talk Award
- STEAM Award (junior and senior)

At this time, the committee and council make the following Service Awards:

Dedicated Service (regular): 5 yrs+

Hank Bird

Tamara Franz-Odendaal

Angelica Silva

Peter Wells

Dedicated Service (trainee): 2 yrs+

Romman Muntzar

Brent Robicheau

Exceptional Service (non-Councillor):

Gail LeBlanc

Carol Richardson

David Richardson

17. By-Laws: (S. MacQuarrie)

A draft of the amended By-laws was e-mailed on 19 April 2024 for perusal by all NSIS Members.

The revised bylaws are as follows:

- Revisions arising from changes in the relationship between the NSIS and the Dalhousie Killam Library.
- A small change in criteria for Honourable Membership arising from the establishment of new NSIS Awards.
- A slight relaxation in the limits to terms of office for Council Offices.

The text of the changes are as follows, with deletions in red (strikethrough) and additions are in green. (Note that the changes result in re-numbering of some articles.)

Library-Related:

2. The objectives of the Society are to represent and promote science. This is done by holding regular public meetings, by publication of work in its Proceedings, by retaining a library of journals housed at the Dalhousie Killam Library, and by maintaining databases, and a website which includes a Hall of Fame.
16. The officers of the Institute shall consist of a President, a Vice-President, a Past-President, a Secretary, a Treasurer, a Publicity Officer, a Membership Officer, an Editor, a Library Liaison Officer, a Webmanager and a Speaker Series Chair. In some cases, one individual may hold two offices.
17. The officers, shall be elected each year at the Annual General Meeting of the Institute and shall hold office until the next Annual General Meeting or until their successors are elected. The tenure of officers, except the Editor, should not normally exceed five (5) years.
19. The Nominating Committee shall present in writing at the Annual General Meeting nominations for:
 - a. officers-
 - b. other members of Council;
 - c. auditor(s) or appropriate person(s) to review the accounts of the Institute; should no nominations be made, Council may appoint such person(s);
 - d. and nominees to government commissions.

No member shall be nominated unless their consent has been received by the Nominating Committee.

Notwithstanding that the Editor may serve for more than 5 years, the Nominating Committee shall, as a courtesy, consult annually with the Editor.

Library Liaison Officer

29. The Library Liaison Officer shall:
- a. ensure that paper copies of the latest issue of Proceedings have been delivered to the Killam Library for filing and storage, and for availability on the Library's website;
 - b. ensure that requests from individuals to purchase issues of the Proceedings or acquire articles have been satisfied;
 - c. ensure that correspondence to the Institute arising from the mailing of the Proceedings to Institutional Members and Exchange Partners is distributed to the appropriate Officer;
 - d. verify that journals received from Exchange Partners have been received, catalogued and shelved by the Killam Library;
 - e. verify that annual invoices to Institutional Members have been sent by the Membership Officer;
 - f. verify that the current mailing list, maintained by the Membership Officer, of Institutional Members and Exchange Partners for distributing the Proceedings is up-to-date;
 - g. submit a Repertoire Payment Form to Access Copyright annually;
 - h. prepare an Annual Report for presentation at the Annual General Meeting.
35. The Council shall consider and decide on nominations for admission to the web-based Hall of Fame based on recommendations from a Committee that includes that includes two members of Council and at least one other member with expertise in the scientific area of the nominee. Nominees shall be deceased scientists of distinction, who had a tangible connection to Nova Scotia.

Awards-Related:

7. Any member distinguished in some branch of science or who has rendered conspicuous service to the advancement of science in Nova Scotia; is eligible for nomination and election as an honorary member. Nominations must be submitted to the Council in writing, be signed by three (3) members in good standing and be accompanied by a document presenting the

reasons for awarding the honour. Election of candidates shall require the support of a majority of Council members.

Term-of-Office-Related:

17. The officers shall be elected each year at the Annual General Meeting of the Institute and shall hold office until the next Annual General Meeting or until their successors are elected. The tenure of officers, except the Editor, should not normally exceed five (5) years.

18. Motion to Approve the New By-laws:

Moved: by S. MacQuarrie

Seconded: by B. Hatcher

All in favour: By-laws approved unanimously.

19. Increase in Regular Membership Fees (S. MacQuarrie)

A letter concerning a proposed increase in fees was e-mailed on 19 April 2024 for consideration by all NSIS Members.

Due to declining financial assets and increased inflationary pressures, the NSIS Council recommends that the annual fees for Regular Members be raised by \$10 per year.

Thus, the new rates would be:

Student Member	\$10 per year
Regular Member	\$40 per year
Life member	\$300 one-time

20. Motion to Approve the New Membership Fees:

Moved: by D. Richardson

Seconded: by M. Paon

All in favour: Fees Approved unanimously.

21. Report of the Nominating Committee for the 2024-2025 Council: (S. MacQuarrie)

The President thanked the outgoing Council. The AGM was asked to elect the following to NSIS Council for 2024-2025:

Officers:

President	Jillian Phillips
Vice-President	Stephanie MacQuarrie (acting)
Past President	Stephanie MacQuarrie

Treasurer	Angelica Silva
Editor	Peter Wells
Librarian Liaison	----- C. Richardson will support)
Membership	Jinshan Xu
Webmaster	----- (open)
Publicity Officer	Brent Robicheau
Secretary	Hank Bird
Speaker Series Chair	Alana Pindar

Councillors:

Councillor	Barbara Zielinski
Councillor	Bruce Hatcher
Councillor	Judy MacInnis
Councillor	Shannon Ezzat
Councillor	----- (St.F.X. open)

Observers:

Nova Scotia Museum	Tim Fedak
Discovery Centre	----- (open)
Schools	----- (open)
Acadia	Courtney Strugnell
CBU	Adam Brown
Student Rep.	Audrey Salinger (SMU)

Associate Editor: David Richardson

22. Motion to Approve the Nominations:

Moved: by B. Hatcher

Seconded: by H. Bird

All in favour: Nominations approved unanimously.

23. Any Other Business:

There was no other business to conduct.

24. Adjournment:

Moved by S. MacQuarrie to adjourn the 163rd Annual General Meeting of the NSIS at 7:35 pm.

*Respectfully submitted,
Hank Bird, Secretary*