OAME Board of Directors' Meeting Minutes

June 5-6, 2015

Minutes of a regular meeting of the board of directors of OAME held in the Roof Garden Room of the Holiday Inn Hotel, 970 Dixon Road, Toronto, June 5-6, 2015.
Attendance: Paul Alves, Claudio Attanasio, Tom Boland, Byung Chun (ISOMA), Pamela Chun, Greg Clarke (Saturday only), Sonia Ellision, Vincent Glavine, Chi Hang, Dan Jarvis, Kyla Kadlec, Pat Kehoe, Jill Lazarus, Bill Lundy, Judy Mendaglio, Bill Otto, Kathy Pilon, Sandra Jean Price, Todd Romiens, Christine Sasso, Tim Sibbald, Bart Vanslack, Paulene Washington, Anne Yeager (Saturday only), Lori Yee.
Regrets: Melissa Black, Jung Choi-Perkins, Denis Filipovic, Mary Lou Kestell, Kathy Kubota-Zarivnij, Freda Liu, Jane Silva, Ann Michelle Stenning.

The Chapter Representative met prior to the meeting. They talked about their OMO efforts and discussed sharing problems.

President's Welcome and Housekeeping items

President's Remarks

President Paul Alves' swan song was delivered. Like I care! But, he said…
I'd like to take a few minutes before starting the meeting to welcome all of you and reflect back on this year in OAME especially since I was at the helm as your president. Think of this as the state of the OAME union.
The organization has reached unprecedented levels of growth with membership at an all-time high. It wasn't too long ago that the fiscal picture for OAME looked untenable but thanks to the work of the board and our executive directors we have ushered in a new era of fiscal stability for the organization. Although fiscal prudence isn't the end goal for our work, it provides the foundation from which our mission and vision can proceed. And I think we have done an amazing job this year supporting the mission and vision of OAME.
The Leadership conference was attended by close to 250 educators. We were challenged by Amy Lin to rethink how the high school math classroom could look like. Our keynote session delivered by Dr. Jo Boaler provided opportunities for the attendees to dig deep into challenging tasks and consider how they promote student thinking. The closing session was delivered by Dr. Cathy Bruce and Shelley Yearley and it provided the Ontario context for the entire conference.
We also provided the logistical and leadership work for the Grade 9 Applied project which continued throughout the school year and culminated in presentations from the participating schools at the provincial conference. And of course the conference. My hope is that for those of you involved in the planning that you have refueled the tank after pushing it to empty for those three days. It is hard to not look at the OAME provincial conference as one of the most significant PD opportunities for teachers on the school calendar. There is no better evidence of this than the fact that we have had to close registration now two years in a row. Although there were challenges, I had to even don the dreaded colours of the Montreal Canadiens to make an appearance, the conference provided a significant learning opportunity for educators in math education. I am proud that the board took it on

in such a short period of time and still pushed the envelope in thinking about how to deliver learning in an innovative way whether it was through the threads, math trails or the eConference.
There was of course the events many if not all of was were involved in with our local chapters. They may not be on the scale of the provincial conference but they are just as important in serving our membership and I would argue perhaps even more important. They are a vital link for members to get PD locally and feel connected to the wider math community. I want to thank you all of you for your efforts in supporting learning at this grass roots level. My candidates message when I ran stressed that some of the best learning that takes places happens at this grassroots level and I continue to believe that this is still one of the most significant roles that our organization fills and should continue to fill.
My goal as president was to consider how we could serve our membership beyond what have been our traditional vehicles. These traditional vehicles still provide a quality benefit to members. The Gazette and Abacus are exceptional publications and I want to thank our past editors as well as our current editor, Dan Jarvis, and all those involved in producing an exceptional resource for teachers. We have reached beyond and looked at providing virtual PD experiences whether it was through the eConference or some experimental virtual PD sessions. The strength of our organization continues to be our desire to examine what we do and how we can do it better and that includes all facets of our mission.
Beyond these external links to our membership there is invaluable work we do in these meetings. We are tasked with the job of making sure that OAME serves it membership through its most important link, its chapters. We have done a remarkable job this year keeping that as our top priority. But also in our committees. The work we do has an indirect impact that may not have immediate repercussions but let's not think that it won't. Whether you are on SPARC, Outreach, Publications or curriculum your work at these meetings has a significant impact on every member…in this room and beyond. I will use the gavel this one last meeting and then pass it on to president elect Tim Sibbald knowing that our organization is in more capable hands. Tim (and president – elect) Judy Mendaglio have already started working to strengthen the relationships we have with other organizations. I have no doubt that his term will be a successful one.
In closing of course there are thanks. Thank you to the executive, Bill Otto, Sonia Ellison, Judy Mendaglio and Tim Sibbald. Your support and guidance while I muddled through this term was invaluable. We had a great many laughs around the exec table and that made it a whole lot easier! Thank you of course to our executive directors, Lynda and Fred. You continue to steer this organization through smooth waters no matter how many times I wanted to steer into the rocks. And of course, all of you who have served on the board this year. You have spent time away from your families to volunteer to your time and work. On behalf of all the members of OAME thank you for that. Our organization owes you a debt of gratitude.
And now…lets get on with the business at hand.

Housekeeping Lynda discussed financial issues pertaining to rooms, parking and shuttles.

Reports
NCTM – Todd Romiens' report was included in the agenda sent out to members prior to the meeting. Todd talked a bit about the Common Core in the United States. He noted that we are moving towards KEAs – Kindergarten Education Assessments.
OAME 2015 – Lynda Ferneyhough indicated that a report is attached, including an interim final report. There are outstanding bills and monies to be collected.
Leadership 2015 – Tim Sibbald reports that the event has four speakers from around Ontario.
Grade 9 Applied Math Project – Lynda Ferneyhough updated the board on the project. Lynda will include a mini-report in the minutes.

PD Activity: Chapter Representatives were asked to give a short report on how their Chapter handles OMO (Do you use a bank of questions? Do you have Playoffs in one area or spread out? Are Playoffs run at the same time or spread out? Financial support for provincial OMO?)
Paul Alves and Judy Mendaglio will facilitate a Directors' taste of OMO.

Saturday June 6th, 2015

GENERAL MEETING of the BOARD OF DIRECTORS:

• **Approval of the Agenda** Moved by Bill Otto, second by Bill Lundy, that the agenda be approved. Carried.

• **Approval of Minutes February 7 – 8th, 2015** Moved by Bill Otto, second by Sonia Ellison, that the minutes of February 7-8, 2015 be approved. Carried.

- **Financial Report as of April 23, 2014** Lynda Ferneyhough presented the financial status as of April 23, 2014. Moved by Tom Boland, seconded by Anne Yeager, that the Financial Report be accepted. Carried.
- **Notices of Motion:** There were no motions to consider.

COMMITTEES The four committees met to consider their business.

Questions to authors of written reports.

CHAPTER REPORTS

This year at **CHAMP** marked an exciting time in our region. In April, CHAMP ran a greatly successful OMO Trials using a newly designed OMO model. The trials saw a new online registration process, new structure based on geographic location rather than board affiliation and some cool iPad multimedia team questions. We are currently planning next year's trials by analyzing teachers' feedback to meet the needs of our members.
It was a busy time for many CHAMP members as they planned, setup and hosted the Board-sponsored OAME conference that was held at Humber College. We felt right at home having the conference hosted at Humber for the second year in a row.
Finally, CHAMP has had an injection of new members on their executive board. We will meet in June to nominate and vote for several vacant positions.

COMO ran successfully with two new co-chairs, Linda LoFaro and Matt Brash. As OMO is in Ottawa this year, COMO proposed to send the top three teams to OMO. COMA is very pleased to support 3 teams for this event this year. OMO Co-chairs Melissa Black and Linda LoFaro have been preparing for this event, which will be held June 5th and 6th at Carleton University. 26 teams from across Ontario plan on attending. Another successful OAME conference was held at Humber College and we were able to "Pay it Forward" once again and send COMA members to the conference. They asked; we listened! We surveyed the membership this year, to get feedback on the events that we have been holding over the past few years. This will be reviewed at the next general meeting to discuss future events. We held our AGM May 25th and voted on a new exec.

GVMA: This year our fall conference will take place November 5, 2015 at the Math and Computing (MC) building, University of Waterloo. The conference will feature a variety of professional development sessions that attendees can choose from. After the sessions conclude, a dinner will be held and a keynote address will be given. (Keynote speaker to be announced shortly). Please visit our newly updated website at www.gvma.ca., for information about our fall conference, to purchase any of our GVMA merchandise, or any other information pertaining to the Grand Valley Math

Association.

ISOMA: Congratulations to UTS for winning the ISOMA Math Olympics on April 11! We wish them the best of luck at OMO in June. A big thank you to Alex Shum and his colleagues at Havergal College for hosting this great event.
While the students were competing, the teachers got together to have a round table discussion about teaching mathematics in middle school. It was a vibrant and rich conversation where peers shared excellent ideas and resources. This inspired the ISOMA executive to create a Google Drive folder and invite all ISOMA teachers to share resources to support greater collaboration. Best wishes for a wonderful end to the year and a relaxing summer!

MAC2 held its annual Spring miniconference in April which included speakers who spoke via live stream from three different locations. *Making our Math Thinking Visible GAFE, Collaboration and Feedback* by Marci Duncan and *Desmos* by J Baumgard and Ryan Smith. This miniconference allowed us to test out our ability to use technology to stream our miniconference at three different locations. The live feed was held in Barrie, Orillia and Bracebridge. Our keynote speaker was Christopher Danielson who spoke on *Capturing Student Thinking with Technology*. These speakers provided the delegates with a great deal of information of how to present mathematics to the 21st century learner. Committees are still actively solidifying plans for OAME 2016. We had a promotions table at OAME 2015. This colourful promotions booth created a great deal of interest among delegates for our upcoming conference.

NWOAME has had a busy few months. In May we had a successful Regional Math Olympics with 120 grade 7&8 students from 2 local boards taking part, as well as representation from the outlying region. We look forward to sending winners on to the provincial competition in Ottawa in June. In mid-March students at many of our schools enjoyed taking part in our annual Pi-Day celebrations. Pi-related activities are typically set up as stations around the schools - organized and run by grade 7 and/or 8 students - while junior students take part in activities. In February we hosted a very successful 'Math Night Social' for members and guests. The event began with a short OAME / NWOAME presentation, followed by a one hour presentation by John Galbraith from the University of Waterloo entitled, "Do You Have Problems in Your Math Class? We Hope So".
NWOAME's AGM is scheduled for June 22, 2015.
It is also noteworthy that NWOAME has made significant progress with respect to
Our Chapter website. Thanks to Jennifer Holm for taking on this job and doing an excellent job.

PRMA: Our chapter has had some challenges recently. Unexpectedly our president resigned and without an existing vice-president the chapter was in a precarious position. Thankfully, two members stepped up to be interim president and vice president until our AGM in June. We planned to have a book club for the book "***Connecting Mathematical Ideas*** by Jo Boaler and Cathy Humphries. Members were going to discuss questions and comments about the book via email but then a large majority of active members were on strike for over five weeks. We hope to get back on track in the 2015-2016 school year!

QSLMA continues to vary the date for our annual mini-conference. For the upcoming year, we have chosen to have our mini-conference in the evening on either November 17th or 18th; we need to confirm the final date through Queen's University. We have booked Dr. Marian Small to be the keynote speaker for the conference. We continue to discuss plans and ideas for the OAME Annual Conference in 2017; we continue with the theme – "and now for something completely different". We have developed a QSLMA Teacher Professional Development Committee to support the growth of its members in mathematics knowledge and practice. The Committee has allocated $5000 per

annum for mathematics professional development and will increase the awareness of P.D. opportunities. The fund will provide financial support of up to $100 for QSLMA members in good standing for conferences, workshops and courses. Applications will be available on our website with applications being considered on a first come, first serve basis.
Our AGM was held on March 25th , 2015 in Kingston where the Professional Development Plan was finalized and accepted by the members.
There were a number of different Math Events held in the Kingston area during the month of April.
a) Math Mash – Jamie Pyper
A grade 9 applied afternoon challenge that had the theme maze runner. This pilot project took place on April 9 with three schools LCVI, KCVI, QECVI. The day was funded by MSTE and was run by an alternative practicum group facilitated by Jamie Pyper. The morning consisted of the alternate practicum group training math mentors/mathletes to be group leaders for the day as well as setting up all the stations. The activities were developed by the alternate practicum group one activity that consisted of an actual math maze where they had to use the CBR's to navigate their way through. Lunch was provided to the students as well as gifts to all the teams for participation
b) Euclid Problem Day – Grade 12 at LCVI, organized by a QSLMA teacher at the school. Each school can send up to 5 students. It will be a full day workshop in preparation for the Euclid Math Contest. The workshop is led by University of Waterloo; no final information available at this time.
c) QSLMA Math Challenge – April 16th – This math challenge is organized by the math heads within Limestone District School Board as well as a few members of the Algonquin Lakeshore Board. Each school in the QSLMA district is allowed to bring a grade 9 and a grade 10 team. It is held at LCVI each year. The Challenge is for teams of 3 students at both the grade 9 and 10 level to solve up to twenty problems in forty-five minutes. The problems encourage the participants to think "outside the quadrilateral" and apply their mathematics skills and problem solving ability as they cooperatively work through the problem set. Parents, families and friends have always been part of the Challenge as they cheer on the participants.
d) MSTE Olympics for Grade 7/8. – April 24th.
The MSTE Olympics is the precursor for those that go to OMO. Last year we decided to send two teams. This year we will only be sending one team. This year it ran on Friday April 24th at Queens Faculty of Education. Our local OMO is facilitated by Jamie Pyper at Queen's every year. He has a new alternative practicum team of students that develop the tasks and organize the event every year. This year our number of teams were down however other years we have had to turn schools away. I believe we had 22 teams attend this year. MSTE funds the entire event at Queen's I could get more information about it and send if your way if you like? We normally just have a representative myself and usually Catarina that attend the event to give opening remarks as well as to give out the awards. I organize for the team to attend and make sure that payments get processed. We pay for the initial fees for the team to attend OMO. All that the school has to pay for is transportation and for the supply coverage costs if applicable. We pay for the initial fees for the team to attend OMO. All that the school has to pay for is transportation and for the supply coverage costs if applicable.

SWOAME: Our chapter has held several math nights but have found that participation has diminished. We will be holding a special meeting of the executive members to discuss how to increase membership and more specifically, membership participation. Plans are on hold at the moment for any summer workshops due to the labour issues.

TEAMS held their Annual Mini Conference in October 2014. The conference was once again a great success, with over 150 delegates attending. This year's delegates enjoyed the keynote speaker: Dr. Ruth Beatty and her talk on *What We Mean by Algebraic Reasoning*. The second session delegates were able to choose from over 10 other break - out sessions.
In April 2015, TEAMS held another successful TMO (Toronto Math Olympics). Over 70 students

participated in the TMO and TEAMS will be send 3 all-star teams to the OMO in Ottawa.
TEAMS Directors continue to have monthly meetings and are busy planning the next Annual Mini-Conference for the end of October 2015. The mini-conference will be held at John Polanyi HS in late October, early November. TEAMS is again planning to have a featured keynote speaker with break-out sessions to follow. More details to come and registration will again be on MCIS.
TEAMS held their Executive elections at the end of April and we have a new incoming President – Margaret Quinn and a new OMO Co-ordinator – Stefana Penelea – we look forward to working with these new TEAMS executives. TEAMS wants to thank our out-going executives – Marc Husband, Sooky Crijen and Amy Grace for their great leadership and hard work to make TEAMS the amazing chapter that it is.

Y4MA: On Thursday, April 16th, Y4MA hosted its annual Intermediate Math Olympics. We had a great turnout with 33 schools from the York Region, York Region Catholic and Toronto District School Boards competing. All teams participated in individual, paired, and team events, and had a great time figuring out all the math problems. We also had many parents present to support their children. After a very close competition, Highland Junior High School (TDSB) placed first; Cummer Valley MS (TDSB) placed second; and Julliard (YRDSB) was third. All three teams will be representing Y4MA at the upcoming Ontario Math Olympics in Ottawa.
As we wrap up this school year and look forward to the next, we have already started planning our professional development to support teachers. In the Fall of 2015, we are planning on providing a session to support teachers of K-2 Math. Further information will be provided as it becomes available.

OTHER REPORTS
NCTM
An interesting article came out of National Public Radio a few months ago, looking at the effect of emphasizing teaching to young preschoolers and whether or not this has any effect on improving later academic performance. Researcher Pamela Morris said "we think math might be sort of a lever to improve outcomes longer term". She also said there is plenty of evidence on the long term importance of preschool and she cites a 2013 study by Greg Duncan at the University of California, Irvine's School of Education, that showed math knowledge at the beginning of elementary school was the single most powerful predictor determining whether a student would graduate from high school or attend college.

One of the problems however is the lack of teachers that feel comfortable spending time teaching mathematics to preschoolers. In one study, only 58 seconds out of a 5 hour preschool day was spent on mathematics' activities. University of Denver professor, Doug Clements says "most teachers, of course, have been through our (USA) mathematics education so they tend to think of mathematics as just skills. They tend to think of it as a quiet activity". This seems to be a rather harsh commentary on mathematics' teachers as well as the programs with which they have been involved. I don't believe this is the case with Ontario teachers.

Clements is the creator of "Building Blocks", which is designed to be engaging, exciting, and loud, for preschoolers. Google "Building Blocks " for more information.

On a related note, did you know Kindergarten Entry Assessments (KEAs) are on the horizon for schools in the United States? Apparently there has been a lot of discussion over the role of KEAs. "This year (2015), education systems will invest in the needed resources to develop an administer developmentally appropriate KEAs and thus improve instruction for young children", said Rhian Evans Allvin, the Executive Director, National Association for the Education of Young Children. Does this mean a child can fail pre kindergarten? Can we ever have enough testing?

President Obama's announcement a while ago, saying that all states should embrace the "Common Core Curriculum", for mathematics is creating quite a stir in the U.S. The Common Core

concentrates on a clear set of math skills and concepts. Students will learn concepts in a more organized way both during the school year and across grades. The standards encourage students to solve real-world problems. They define what students should understand and be able to do in their study of mathematics from kindergarten to grade 12.

One of the hopes for the Common Core was that states would leave behind their patchwork of 50 different sets of standards measured by 50 different tests. It would then be easy for parents and policy makers to directly compare student performance in one state to the rest of the nation, and it would be much more difficult for lagging states to game the system in order to hide weak performance.

That goal seemed easily within reach in 2011, as 45 states and the District of Columbia adopted the new standards. The Obama administration spent hundreds of millions of dollars to help states develop two new online tests, known as PARCC ,(Partnership for Assessment of Readiness for College and Careers), and Smarter Balanced, that would measure student progress on the Common Core. Most states signed on to administer these tests this spring.

But there was a great deal of criticism of the Core Curriculum from conservatives who look at it as an attempt to nationalize education. As a result there are now only a few states that have signed on to administer either of the two tests mentioned earlier. The ones that will, measure only about 40% of students nationwide. Many have decided to administer their own tests, which makes comparison from state to state very difficult.

Opposition to this whole idea seems to stem from the age old arguments about standardized testing. Advocates claim that the benefits of implementing the Core Curriculum and their standards far outweigh the value of the tests because the standards push teachers to better prepare students for life after high school.

If interested you can get sample questions from both of these tests by googleing PARCC or Smarter Balanced.

ENJOY YOUR SUMMER. By Todd Romiens

e-Conference Feedback

Responses	20	Additional Feedback
Attendees	277	Largest group 40, 6 groups over 30
Sessions	• 16 of 20 responders attended all three sessions. • All responders attended Dan Meyer's keynote	
Communication	11 excellent, 6 good	
Streaming	8 excellent, 8 good	additional feedback was around local internet issues
Video	8 excellent, 9 good	Difficulty seeing video that was played in the second presentation (Joan Moss)
Audio	8 excellent, 9 good	Joan Moss's voice and video audio were very difficult to hear.
Adobe Connect	6 groups did their own facilitation, 10 other groups said it was too late in the day (2:45 start)	

Overall	7 excellent, 10 good	
Attend again?	19 yes, 1 unsure	Provided that my school board could guarantee quality internet access so as to be able to enjoy an uninterrupted conference from work.
Suggestions / Recommendations	Enjoyed being able to take part from afar. I'm wondering if next year you could make the Thursday keynote an option. i.e. record the keynote and make it available as a link to those who purchased the e-Conference registration. I heard that Marian was amazing and would have enjoyed listening to her presentation (maybe over another one of the ones that we had). Is there a way of offering choice in the presentation selections? You could have a combination of live feeds and archived sessions from the previous day. More options would have been a nice feature. We really like the possibilities here. Thanks so much for offering the e-conference! As a group, we felt Dan Meyer hit the ground running (superb video, audio quality - use of slides etc.) and we felt the following presenters did not have the same momentum. Would it be possible to save the larger keynote to later on in the day? Compared to last year's eConference (Meyer, Boaler and Couros) this year's eConference felt different - perhaps it was the overall various energy of the three featured speakers. Some questions from our group included: Is it possible to sign up for the eConference and then pick different speakers from a selected list? Can the speakers be selected so it's not a "show and tell" about their own research - that could be a jumping off part - but not base the presentation solely on the personal research component? Continue providing this opportunity as educators felt it was a great way to participate in OAME in a cost and time efficent way, while learning together as a collective group K-12. Continue to schedule the keynote speakers for the Friday by keeping the balance of "Inspirational/Motivational" speakers like Dan Meyer mixed with project/researchers like Ruth Beatty and Joan Moss. Important not to just hear presentations exclusively about projects or research. The only feedback that we had was that during the second session the sound was not as clear as in the other two. I really enjoyed the presentations and it was unfortunate that we could not arrange for all staff to attend. If at all possible it would be great if the presentations could be posted somewhere for future viewing. The second speaker was not as dynamic and harder to follow. The production quality of the first speaker was excellent and the flow between him and his slides was effective. My suggestion would be starting earlier, but I realize that the timing is connected to the live conference. For example, start at 9 or 9:30, and perhaps have 45 minutes for the lunch break.	

	I am currently on leave in Brazil and it was wonderful to continue my learning with OAME and share it with my colleagues here. Dan Meyer was fantastic, Joan Moss was a little dry. Ruth Beatty is great, but I find that the topic wasn't as general enough to translate into most classrooms.

OAME2015

INTERIM FINAL REPORT ON OAME 2015

The 2015 annual conference was an outstanding success in many ways. We had large numbers of delegates and some innovative programming.

Our keynote speakers were very well received. Marian Small and Dan Meyer are stalwarts of the annual conference and we decided to invite them as keynote speakers. We had extremely positive reviews of their sessions. Nora Newcombe was invited based on her work on Spatial Reasoning. Her address was a description of the results her research and was more in keeping with an academic conference. Saturday addresses are normally lighter fare and are more inspirational talks, so feedback on Nora's session was less enthusiastic.

The featured speakers were all well received, although some did not have large numbers, perhaps due to their topics. Dedicated Threads were introduced for the first time, where delegates remained with the same presenters for 3 single and 2 double sessions. These received positive feedback, but some delegates would have preferred to have a variety of presenters within the thread. Ignite was again a success, with over 200 delegates attending this inspiring session. Perhaps, in the future, this can replace two of the featured sessions, as it seemed to have "stolen" delegates from the featured sessions scheduled in that time slot.

We used MCIS for pre-registration and it was a huge success, garnering over 200 delegates before the January 20 deadline. The keynote pass and eConference also used MCIS for registration for the first time. We had to close registration 1 month before the conference because almost all sessions were full. Although we returned to the same venue, Humber College, the facilities were more efficiently used, with all exhibitors in one area, and registration more centrally located. Most people got through registration within 5 minutes due to excellent planning on the committee's part. We managed to push 1600 people through the lunch lines each day by adding a half hour break following the keynote address. This provided 3 lunch times and resulted in very fast service. Although we received lukewarm responses to the menu selection, it is very difficult to come up with alternatives when feeding 1600 people per day.

The labour situation took its toll to the tune of $25 000, as most of the OSSTF delegates from Rainbow, Peel and Durham cancelled their registrations. Unfortunately, many members of the planning committee spent an inordinate amount of time developing a cancellation policy, responding to emails, processing refunds and rescheduling cancelled sessions, at a time when we should have been finishing the finer details of the conference. Unfortunately, as well, there was some significant tension between OSSTF and OAME.

Financially, the conference was not a success. Due to a variety of factors, the conference sustained a loss. We will not know how much this loss is until all the bills have come in. Contributing factors:

- On the revenue side:
    - The fee structure did not take into account that the change, from a full conference fee over 3 days, to one that permitted 2-day fees, would result in significantly lower revenues.
    - More than half of the delegates took advantage of the $30 earlybird rate, which was applied across the board for 1, 2 or 3-day registrations. Single-day registration fees ended up being below cost recovery.
    - Cancellations due to the strikes resulted in a $25 000 write-off.
    - Because of so many full sessions, we decided not to announce that we would accept walk-in registrations. As a result, there were only 25, instead of the usual 100.
- On the expense side:
    - Humber College increased its fee for the classrooms by a significant amount.

- By moving all exhibitors into one space, there was a greater electrician's fee for electrical power.
- Since the conference was organized by the provincial board instead of a local chapter, there were significant expenses related to travel and accommodations.

By the Numbers

- There were 1307 paid attendees – Thurs. 1041, Fri. 1196, Sat. 533
- The eConference had 35 URLs, an increase from 30 in 2014.
- We had 239 presenters, including 3 keynote, 7 featured and 6 thread speakers.
- The team consisted of 10 committees, with 63 committee members and an additional 100 student volunteers.
- There were 46 exhibitors booking 63 tables.
- We had sponsorship for 6 important items – delegate bags, lanyards, coffee service, Smartboards, bag stuffing and entertainment at the Thursday reception.

A final report will be available in the fall for the October OAME Directors Meeting.

On a personal note, I am honoured that I was asked to chair the planning committee. Through the short timeline and all the trials and tribulations, I enjoyed working with such a dedicated and energetic group. Although face time was severely limited, the committees were able to find the time to meet in person or electronically to get things done. I commend the board and the committee members for putting together such a successful event.

Wayne Erdman
Chair, OAME 2015: Building Mathematical Mindsets

Report from Science and Innovation Meeting, May 26, 2015, St Michael's College, U of T

Organizations represented (referred to as 'stakeholders"):

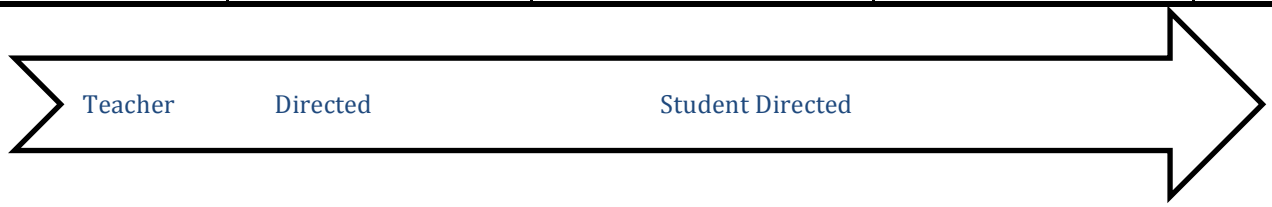
- AFEMO (Association Francophpne pour l'Enseignement des Mathematiques en Ontario)
- CFORP (Le Centre Franco-Ontarien de Resources Pedagogiques)
- Forests Ontario
- Let's Talk Science/Parlons Scences
- McMaster University (Engineering Outreach)
- OAME
- OCTE (Ontario Council for Technology Education)
- Ontario Science Centre/Centre des Sciences de l'Ontario
- Perimeter Institute for Theoretical Physics/Institute Perimetre de Physique Theorique
- SCCAO (Science Co-Ordnators and Consultants Association of Ontario
- Science North/ Science Nord
- STAO/APSO (Science Teachers Association of Ontario/l'Association des Professeurs des Science de l'Ontario)
- TFO (Television Francaise de l'Ontario)
- TVO (TVOntario, Independent Learning Centre)
- Youth Science Canada/Sciences Jeunesse Canada

My notes:

1. My first note is that OAME was not listed as a bilingual organization, so I checked our website set up and, frankly, it is hard to see, and our logo is not bilingual. Food for thought, as other organizations do represent themselves as bilingual in a more pronounced way. In fact, the people I spoke with were not aware that we offered sessions in French at our annual conference.
2. The Ministry defines "skills" very differently than math teachers do. When the MoE refers to "skills", they are referring to habits of mind etc as in "21st century skills". Math teachers would call multiplying fractions a skill, the way you might be skilled at using a tool. I believe that continuously clarifying this distinction is valuable and necessary.

3. Science has a very nice "Inquiry Continuum" that has been misinterpreted by science teachers:

Type	**Structured or Directed**	**Guided**	**Coupled**	**Open or Full**
Participant	Teacher Initiated and Performed	Teacher Initiated, Students Performed	Teacher Initiated	Student Initiated



Teachers are encouraged to develop skills of inquiry in students such that, **at each grade**, they are able to independently initiate and conduct inquiry around ideas and questions that are personally interesting and relevant. This has been misinterpreted as **by the end of grade 12,** students will be able to independently initiate and conduct inquiry.
This graphic is instructive.

4. The deliberate choice of hierarchy in the numbering of and the statements of the Big Ideas in the Science curricula are meant to make it clear that students are learning science in service of something (as opposed to learning science for the sake of knowing science.)

"The goals of the science program reflect this philosophy, and are prioritized accordingly. The first, and most important goal, that students are able to relate the science they are learning about to technology, society, and the environment. In other words, they should be able to see authentic connections between science and the world around them [I will refer to this STSE component as Big Idea 1 or BI1]. The second goal is the students develop the skills, strategies and habits of mind required for scientific investigation.[BI2] The third and final goal is that students are able to understand the basic concepts of science.[BI3]"
This is the same struggle we face with math teachers. The physical structure of the science curriculum documents tries to address the need to change teacher practice in science education. I relate this to our Processes and how we have not yet successfully widely implemented the Processes as curriculum expectations.

5. There was certainly an agreement among the stakeholders assembled at the meeting that the focus of science instruction should be on what students would remember years after they leave the classroom, not on specific facts or procedures that they would forget within 5 years or less. It was expressed and widely accepted that there is a lot of information to know and it is so readily available on devices that the delivery of information should not be the focus.
6. It was discussed that, if a teacher follows the inquiry model, then class time will be spent following student questions which might lead to non-curriculum content being covered. The Ministry response was "Great. Not a problem Do not assess the content. Assess the STSE part (BI1) and/or the skills aspects (BI2) rather than the content (BI3).
7. Growing Success was front and centre in most of the points they made about design of materials to support science and innovation.

Each stakeholder was asked to report on the Ministry-funded projects they were engaged with. I have notes but they are quite lengthy. Then time was allocated for organizations to network and connect

with each other. I had a very good conversation with AFEMO, TVO, and Forests Ontario.

PRESIDENT-ELECT REPORT

Based on various recent meetings.

1. May 12/13

"Ministry of Education / Faculties of Education Liaison Committee"

May 12, 2015 Role – To present about OAME to give some sense of its role in the mathematics community. (Tim)

Also May 13, 2015 – **Learning Out Loud conference for Faculties of Education** (Tim and Judy)

Curriculum Update – There is a meeting June 18 that is the first consultation regarding renewing/refreshing the curriculum. The meeting is with faculties of Education. The process was described as routine and an effort to keep things up to date. The consultation process will continue into the fall.

Various discussions indicate that OAME will be consulted in the process. That most changes are likely to bring the documents in line with other recent changes – this implies FNMI will be updated in the document, and likely mental health will be included in some manner. There appears to be little intention for any substantial changes in the secondary curriculum at this point.

A Ministry person indicated that the process is lengthy and that, if there are to be changes, that the process is likely to be role out in 2017.

Math Action Plan

This apparently was released in January.

The plan was provided and this piece will simply note some of the elements of presentations that arose from it. A survey of math people received 44 responses and this pointed to gaps in 4 areas with respect to teachers – content depth, pedagogical knowledge, "precision of assessment", depth of knowledge of the math curriculum. Judy asked what "precision" means and the response seemed to indicate how well the policies around assessment have been implemented.

There is a summer mathematics and tutoring program. This apparently had 2600 students. Homework Help was also mentioned and the figure was given that 29309 students G7-10 (5% of all English language students) logged in. In one session, it was described as similar to Khan Academy but based in Ontario.

There is a plan for one PA day and the ministry is promoting the focus being on numeracy.

Renewed interest in math leadership. I offered to supply the leadership flyer and received different responses from different people. Student Achievement Division thought that receiving this would be really useful and that they could use it. The Student Success Implementation Branch responded that they are well aware of it and it is actively in their thinking.

It is notable that the ministry is going to "explore the feasibility of establishing a goal of having more teachers with advanced mathematics qualifications (to be defined) in elementary schools." (Last bullet section 4 of Math Action Plan). There was an indication that the Faculties of Education Liaison Committee is tasked with sharing resources to appropriate people in Faculties of Ed. Several indicated we should be using them as a conduit for the access to Gazette and Abacus for pre-service teachers.

DSB focus was specified to be 1. Leadership commitment to math with principals and SOs. 2. Wide support for a math plan (appeared to be having School Improvement Plan with broad focus rather than just math class). 3. Monitoring implementation. 4. Communication with parents and guardians.

Notable statistics 65% of OFIP and SSSSI schools focus on math. 70% of Board Improvement Plans included math. A figure of 65 schools out of 72 was also mentioned and this appears to be School Improvement Plans. 56.8% of elementary schools have a teacher with an AQ in math.

There is a plan to promote Math-AQs through a subsidy program. This will be done in conjunction with OTF who will conduct a survey to gather evidence of its benefit.

OTF – Private discussion verified that our concerns RE the conference and interaction with affiliates of OTF have been received. There was an indication that there is work to be done to address the concerns.

Other

Sandi DiLenna is retiring in August.

Miroslav Lovric is taking over co-chairing the Fields Math Ed Forum. He replaces Dragana Martinovik.

The one stop URL for math was provided as OntarioMathEdResources.ca

2. **OTF Subject Association Meeting – May 23**

This is normally a two-day event with the Ministry of Education providing the Friday. However, they opted not to, while OTF decided to go ahead with their traditional Saturday program.

The focus was leadership and it was a workshop run by a representative of the Ed Broadbent Institute. What was useful about the presentation was that the speaker was basing the presentation on leading volunteers within the political and political action arenas. This was refreshingly different than school board leadership because it offered advice on "enabling" without the same confines as a paid position has.

It was suggested that this workshop might serve new executive members for various organizations but would be prohibitively expensive for any single organization because of the relatively low numbers each year. If OTF organizes a leadership event like this again, OAME should consider sending some delegates from the board of directors.

3. **Ontario College Mathematics Association – May 27**

Tim and Judy had a virtual meeting with two representatives of the OCMA. We share similar interests and the meeting was to look at ways we might cooperate while maintaining independence. The conversation was primarily informational but some ideas have been floated. The discussion is ongoing and as an action plan is developed it will be brought to the executive for oversight.

4. **Canadian Mathematics Society – various dates.**

Discussions with CMS regarding the relationship with OAME have been primarily informational. CMS has indicated that it is involved in a strategic reorganization and that they envision talking to OAME if the reorganization changes the way they address math education in K-12.

5. **Ontario College of Teachers – June 8**

OAME was approached regarding a review of the Math AQ/Specialist policies for intermediate and senior. We were well represented with Tim, Judy, and Dan in attendance. There were seven non-OCT people involved (including the three of us). The work will continue over the next month or two.

COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE

Futures

1. OAME collects $45 plus a $35 PD fee from conference participants.
2. There were about 75 presenters who were not members of OAME.
3. A Chapter Award was suggested for outstanding contributions to one's chapter, criteria to be determined by the local chapter. Those chapters turning over their chapter representatives would be eligible each year.
4. Hosts for OAME 2018 and OMO 2017 are required.
5. It was suggested that, as of OAME 2017, we discontinue the Past-Presidents' luncheon and support the attendance of Past-Presidents at the annual banquet.
6. The question was asked: "Could the Leadership Award be applied to a small group rather than an individual?" Moved by Bill Lundy, seconded by Sandra Jean Price, that we change the wording in the awards language to allow a small group to be nominated for the Leadership Award rather than an individual. Bill Otto pointed out that the process is that SPaRC needs to address this, create the wording required and bring this motion to the October board meeting.

Communication

1. There is a concern with email addresses. Everyone has an "oame.on.ca" address that is linked to their personal address. Many of the addresses that "oame.on.ca" directs to are school board addresses. With the current labour situation, many of the re-directed emails are not arriving at their destination. It is suggested that each person have a personal address that is known to Lynda Ferneyhough and Greg Clarke so that they receive all messages from OAME. The alternative is to pick up their mail from the "oame.on.ca" address.

SPaRC

1. The committee has worked out the wording to change the by-laws for the Annual General Meeting. This will come to the board at the October meeting.

Curriculum

1. A letter is going out to the Ministry of Education. The committee wants more time to work on the wording then have the board look at the letter.

Executive Report

1. Traditionally, at the October board meeting, the chapter representatives meet for a half-day for work on websites and MCIS. The suggestion being put forward is that this should be a meeting for all directors, rather than just for chapter representatives.
2. Greg Clarke indicated that the requests for the fall PD would be a review of the features of the members only section of the website and MCIS for Dummies.
3. Meeting dates for next year.
    a. Executive – September 18-19, January 15-16, April 22-23, May 27-28
    b. Board – October 16-17, February 19-20, June 10-11

Committees reconvened to debrief, consolidate, and plan next steps.

COMMITTEE MINUTES

CHAPTER REPRESENTATIVES

Lynda reminded the reps they are required to submit: three Board meeting blurbs on Chapter news, and the annual report; including the Executive names and e-mails (all need to be OAME members), the slightly longer blurb, and the financial report. Lynda will send the template for the annual report out now. It is due Sept. 10th, 2015.

Reps will be reporting on how their chapter handles OMO playoffs, choosing teams, finances etc. during the PD portion of the Board meeting.

A discussion ensued on ideas to help struggling Chapters. Some suggestions were to make use of grad students and teacher candidates whenever volunteers are needed. (mini-conferences, OMO). Also use those involved in the OAME Grade 9 Applied Math Project. The Board will develop a list of strengths that the Chapters could draw on. For example: how to run a virtual conference, how to use MCIS for local conferences, how to enhance websites, suggesting speakers for local conferences, running OMO playoffs and sending teams to the provincial OMO, revisiting your constitution, and nominating for the OAME annual awards.

COMMUNICATIONS

Present: Tom Boland - Chair; Lynda Ferneyhough; Bart Vanslack; Greg Clarke; Daniel Jarvis; Tim Sibbald; Christine Sasso

NOTE: Tom advised that he will not be returning as Chapter Rep next year and therefore will not be able to continue on as Committee Chair. *Bart volunteered to take on the role of Committee Chair.*

1. Critical Path Review

- Review the Communications Committee Critical Path. *Amended the CP to include reminders being sent from Committee Chair to Gazette and Abacus editors, Advertising Mgr and Webmaster to send reports before board meetings.*

- Gazette and Abacus to have their own critical path but to continue to report to the Communication Committee before board meetings.

2. Publications and Website

Gazette: Editor's Report (Dan's report to follow)

- June issue (4th of the year) is now out.
- Discussion on whether we should develop a policy regarding publishing memorials / obituaries for people involved in math? In some cases they might have been involved in OAME, in the Ministry, in the field?

Next Steps: Consensus is that memorials 'may' be published for OAME members, and that Chapter Reps be responsible for passing on such information to the Gazette editor.

- Conversation regarding the online version of the Gazette / Abacus.

Next Steps: Going forward, all digital subscribers will get notice when they are available as opposed to Greg sending out a separate link.

- Suggestion that the committee consider eventually going to an on-line tracking system to coordinate the whole process of writing, editing, putting together the publications.

Next Steps: Daniel will investigate programs that are available and bring information back to the next Communications Committee meeting.

- Daniel has introduced 2 new features in the March and the June editions where by he is filling what would be "white spaces" by 1) highlighting math researchers in the province and their recent projects, and 2) highlighting Canadian authors and their recent works.
- Tim questioned whether we send copies of the Gazette to any database? And whether there are any royalties.

Next Steps: Greg to look into this.

3. Advertising – (No Report)

- Conversation regarding advertising … Are our costs being covered or is there a need to push for more advertising? Consensus is that costs are covered but the committee doesn't really have a good feel of what the role entails and / or how advertising is solicited.

Next Steps: Decision made that Bart, as new Committee Chair, will request a report from Robert, Advertising Manager, outlining his role and how the committee might support him.

4. Website – Greg Clarke

- OAME site – Not a lot of changes since last meeting
- MCIS site – Have made a number of changes and added new features, mostly to accommodate for OAME 2015 – lots of work.
- Going forward → Claudio (re: OAME) and Kathy (re: MCIS) will continue working with Greg. Greg would like to have one more person involved with respect to the programming side of the website and would be interested in suggestions that might come from the committee or the executive.
- **Greg revealed that he is planning on living to 100 and has committed to continuing in his current OAME roles until he is at least 70.**
- Lynda updated us with respect to a decision to give memberships to presenters next year in order to keep them happy. Greg will update MCIS to allow for this change. Bart suggested that this could be promoted at the Chapter level to encourage people to present.
- Greg suggested that we might have to consider switching to a new / different type / bigger server at some point. He is leery because of the amount of work involved, but wants us to know that he is in the investigation stage. Daniel suggested that perhaps we should investigate a single server vs. a shared server.

Next Steps: Greg will look into this over the summer and bring back info to the next committee meeting. That said, the committee has given Greg the go ahead if he needs to make a sudden change.

- Daniel suggested that opening the website to Faculties of Education is a good idea that should be continued. Everyone agreed.

Next Steps: Tim and Greg will touch base in this respect sometime before the fall.

5. OAME email addresses – Discussion regarding our OAME email addresses. Everyone has an OAME address, tom.boland@oame.on.ca, for example, which ultimately comes to an OAME server and then is redirected to the email address that is associated with your membership. This has become a problem due to the current political situation. Given strike actions, boards have shut people out of their board email addresses. According to Lynda, this has already happened and there is potential that it could affect a greater number of boards moving forward into the fall. Therefore, any member who is using their board address to access OAME emails, should either begin accessing their emails directly from their OAME address, or provide Greg with an updated, personal email address – not affiliated with your board.
Next Steps: All members were asked to either use their OAME email addresses directly, or to forward alternative email addresses, other than your board address, to Greg ASAP.
6. Promotions – Lynda Ferneyhough;
- Freebies for conferences: member decals for conferences, folding Frisbee for OMO, pencils
- Still have sticky graphs and some T-shirts, Abacus, etc.

7. Additional agenda item from executive …
- Discussion regarding the escalating labour situation and its possible affect on future planning of conferences and events. Should we consider an article of some sort, published on our website and in The Gazette, which clearly positions OAME as a volunteer organization which is not in any way connected or driven by the Ministry or the School Boards. Overall, it was decided that this probably not be a good time to respond to OSSTF or proactively reach out to other Unions, but that this should be brought forward for a future conversation.

Next Steps: Lynda will write up something to be posted on our webpage thanking our conference organizers, volunteer members etc. AS well, Greg will ensure that information regarding our vision, purpose, the fact that we are non-affiliated with the Ministry or boards, etc. is clearly visible on the website.
8. Template for chapter brochures?
Discussion regarding the need for a template that chapters could use …drop in their logo, name, key contact, etc. This could then be made specific to each chapter and used for promotions.
The committee felt this was not required.
9. Protocol for handling requests from outside organizations. With respect to Communications Committee, this might mean Website, Gazette etc., - who do we say yes to, who do we say no to?
Due to time, this item was put off to the next meeting.
10. Photo booth at conferences?
- Suggestion form executive that we consider the suggestion of having a photo booths (like that which people have at wedding receptions) at the conference. People could record their thoughts about the conference. Potentially these could be used to support the conference.

Gazette Editor Report (D. Jarvis) June 6, 2015
What follows is a brief report of the Gazette Editor for the June meeting:

- **Volume 53 Number 3** (March 2015). This issue was finished on schedule and was sent by Penny C to the web editor. However, owing to a number of factors, the WebMaster has indicated that the issue was not uploaded to the secure member website as of the June meeting. It will be uploaded shortly, along with the June issue. A new feature was the inclusion of Math Researcher profiles from Ontario universities, listing projects in which they are currently involved. This issue included the following TOC items:

Regular Columns
Technology Corner: PhET Interactive Simulations, and More from Desmos /Mary Bourassa
OAME/NCTM Report /Todd Romiens
Fields Institute MathEd Forum Report /Stewart Craven
What's The Problem? Completing the Square /Shawn Godin

Hey, It's Elementary: Up! Up! Up! Taking Flight with the Bell Tetrahedral Kite /Lynda Colgan
In the Middle: Using Efficient Visual Representations to Solve Mathematical Word Problems /Mirela Ciobanu
MB4T (Mathematics by and for Teachers): The Importance of Connecting Patterns to Multiple Algebraic Descriptions /Ann Kajander
Provincial Digital Learning Resources: What's New? GSP Files—Gems from the Past! /Greg Clarke, Agnes Grafton, Ross Isenegger, Markus Wolski

Articles

Recasting Mad-Minutes: Going Back to the Basics? /Marc Husband & Tina Rapke
The E-Brock Bugs Computer Game: What if Becoming a (Better) Mathematician was a Fun-Filled Adventure? /Laura Broley, Chantal Buteau, & Eric Muller
Vectors and the Track and Field Jumping Events /Patrick Russell
Doing Maths Algorithmically in the Age of the Computer: Introducing Octave, a Comprehensive, Open-Source Software Resource /Roger Herz-Fischler

Special Features

Book Review: Introductory Calculus for Infants (O. M. Inouye, 2011) /Tim Sibbald

- **Volume 53 Number 4** (June 2015) has been completed on schedule, and is now heading to print and will be uploaded to the website as soon as possible. Math Researcher profiles continued in this issue, and I also included a number of Canadian math researcher quotation excerpts from the newly-released international *Encyclopaedia of Mathematics Education* text. This issue included the following TOC items:

Regular Columns

Ask Assessment Abby: Evaluating Curricular Expectations /Assessment Abby
Fields Institute MathEd Forum Report /Stewart Craven
Hey, It's Elementary: If I Had a Million Dollars… /Lynda Colgan
In the Middle: Using Singapore's Model-Drawing Approach for Solving Word Problems /Mirela Ciobanu
MB4T (Mathematics by and for Teachers): Pattern Rules that "Look" Different—The Perfect Motivation for Algebra Tiles /Ann Kajander
OAME/NCTM Report /Todd Romiens
Provincial Digital Learning Resources: What's New? Recently Released Learning Tool Apps! /Greg Clarke, Agnes Grafton, Ross Isenegger, Markus Wolski
Technology Corner: Which One Doesn't Belong? /Mary Bourassa
What's The Problem? Telling Time /Shawn Godin

Articles

The Mathematics of Photographs /Tim Sibbald
Revealing Subjective Probability in the Middle and High School Mathematics Classroom /Egan J. Chernoff & Jack W. Chernoff
Exponential Function and Tangents /Meth Devendra
Doing Maths Algorithmically in the Age of the Computer: Introducing Octave, a Comprehensive, Open-Source Software Resource /Roger Herz-Fischler

Special Features

Book Review: The Spark: A Mother's Story of Nurturing Genius (K. Barnett, 2013) /Tim Sibbald

- Costs for the "Prime Proofing Services" (Gitta Berg) for the past three issues have been $708.75, $603.75, and $638.75 respectively. Costs for Penny C for layout/design has been approximately $2000/issue. They have both been extremely good to work with, returning work promptly and demonstrating flexibility, understanding, and cooperation throughout the three cycles.
- I have provided a number of members with permission to reprint copies of a particular article for use in a conference setting, and to link their articles to their web-based CV pages.
- We are currently looking for a guest columnist to replace Mirela Ciobanu for the "In the Middle"

column as she begins graduate studies for next two years. OMO rep was approached to see if they might have a suggested name of an appropriate author, but I have not yet received any names from this org.

- During the June OAME Board Meeting in Toronto, I suggested that the Communication Committee at some point consider moving towards an online system for journal tracking, as many other academic journals have done. I agreed to begin looking at what this would actually entail, in terms of possible products/companies for this transformation. We also agreed to post each new Gazette issue asap to the secure member website (one place only in the database), and to make all members aware of this upload.

  I continue to enjoy the Editor's role, and look forward to working on future issues of the next volume (54). Please let me know if there are any suggestions or criticisms. Thanks. Dan Jarvis

THANK YOU (placed on website)
OAME, a registered charitable organization, is so fortunate to have such a dedicated and talented cadre of **volunteers**. We want to thank all those who serve on the OAME Board and/or on the Chapters' Executive Committees. We know you are busy professionals and appreciate your dedication to *promoting excellence in mathematics education*. We'd also like to express our appreciation for the volunteer organizers and the amazing job they did for the OAME2015 conference and the OMO competition. Thank you all for your valuable time and contributions to OAME.

CURRICULUM
Present: Byung Chun (for Charlotte Aust), Pamela Chun, Sonia Ellison, Vince Glavene, Chi Hang, Kyla Kadlec, Jill Lazarus, Judy Mendaglio, Todd Romiens, Anne Yeager, Lori Yee, Paulene Washington
Regrets: Charlotte Aust, Jane Silva, Denise Filipovic, Jung Choi-Perkins
Items from Executive

a. Critical paths: No changes required.
b. Future Curriculum Changes: Curriculum changes will involve incorporating Cathy Bruce's work on fractions and updating front matter. At this point there is no need for our input. We decided to write a letter to the Ministry of Education to offer our support and to strengthen this connection. A subgroup of the committee worked on this and we discussed the letter as a whole.
c. KNAER: No changes from the last meeting. We have questions and concerns about the connection. We suggest that promotions should contact KNAER to have them fix the spelling mistake in our name on their website.
d. Protocol for handling requests from outside organizations: For now we are saying yes. We suggest that when the opportunity arises, filter through Executive and support one or two individuals to attend. Is there a way to share with the board (e.g., on the OMAE website)? This discussion led to a conversation related to offering our support to Faculties of Education and what that might look like. A subgroup of the committee worked on this.
e. Curriculum concerns from other Canadian Math Organizations if we develop ties. No changes from last meeting.
f. E-Conference places offered to other math organizations: The only province that replied was Nova Scotia. They had a group of teachers involved and they were very appreciative of the offer and got a great deal out of their participation.
g. Assessment Abby: How would opening up questions for response from readers work?: We decided to invite readers to respond by emailing Abby and for the committee to discuss the responses at our next Board meeting. The two questions from PRMA will be included in the

fall issue of the Gazette, in addition to a new piece addressing a parent question, “how can I help parents/guardians understand my assessment practices?” A subgroup of the committee worked on this and we discussed the article as a whole.

Action Items:

i) Curriculum committee will submit Assessment Abby piece to Dan for the fall issue

ii) The Ministry of Education letter will be shared with Executive (to be signed and sent)

ii) Has anyone responded to KNAER?

iii) We discussed the possibility for having a platform to share what we are doing between meetings (e.g., on the OAME site).

OUTREACH

ALLOTMENT OF COLLECTED FEES:

Discussion focused on a scenario whereby the "PD Fee" would be reduced from the current 35$ to a percentage of the current membership fee. The revised PD fee would be earmarked for a special fund, to support (e.g.) OMO, Extraordinary Chapter requests, PD. Needs further discussion by committee of the whole then executive approval.

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING:

General agreement in committee of the whole, when this was presented, that the AGM should fall in October at the same time as the directors' meeting. This will require a motion to me drafted for the 2016 AGM,

PRESENTERS AT ANNUAL CONFERENCE MUST BE OAME MEMBERS?

Although this was discussed, it would appear that starting 2016, all presenters will be given a one-year e-membership; therefore, further discussion was unnecessary.

CHAPTER AWARD:

The notion of supporting individual chapters who may wish to have an award for a member who has made an outstanding contribution to the chapter received unanimous support in the committee. "Outstanding contribution" will be defined by each chapter; recipients will have their names and brief narratives published in the *Gazette,* s well as mention at the annual banquet, if present; OAME will supply high-quality certificates, framed, to the chapters entitled to make the awards. In order to spread the costs out over time, it was decided tat those chapters having rep turnover that year may submit names- chapter names/dates to be published in the *Gazette*.

CONFERENCE PLANNER:

This will be moved to Google Drive by Bill Lundy, and organized in a fashion that permits selection of desired portions (e.g. folders, hyperlinks). Once this master working document is ready, access will be opened up to a select group (likely past and upcoming conference chairs) for them to comment. Outreach will then review comments, approve, and amend the document each time they meet; thus, the planner will always be no more than four months out of date.

Host for OAME 2018**:**

Sandra Jean will be spearheading personal requests to Y^4MA, WOMA, and COMA, all of whom have indicated a possible interest.

Host for OMO 2017:

A chapter is considering this, but doesn't want the info published until it has decided. They will advise asap.

AWARD PLANNING DOCUMENT/MANUAL:

At present there is no such document in the fashion of the annual conference planner or the OMO planner. Our first step will be to search for, and consolidate, currently-existing documentation. These will be reviewed at the next committee meeting to determine next steps.

PAST PRESIDENTS’ LUNCHEON:

This is still up in the air, as there seems to be nothing but tradition dictating its existence. Various options were floated, chiefly the idea that past presidents be invited to the banquet and recognized there. The rationale for this is mainly to have them mix and mingle with current executive members and board members, as well as others who are in attendance. No decisions on this yet, as there was a question as to how much control the host chapter has in determining how this looks. Items still open.

PROTOCOL FOR HANDLING REQUESTS FROM OUTSIDE ORGANIZATIONS:

This was discussed in committee but not the general group as a whole. Our thoughts included:

Vetting requests can be problematic. Who gets a nod, who gets nixed?

Steer potential advertisers to the *Gazette*.

Unsolicited emails to members is not a good idea, period.

Add “classified ads” to Gazette; include a disclaimer (re limit of liabilities, not endorsed by OAME, etc), as well as a note that ads must conform to the vision and mission of OAME. Posted at discretion of Gazette editor. If classifieds, ads used, what does OAME's insurance company say?

SHOULD AWARD NOMINATIONS BE APPROVED BY CHAPTERS?

The committee consensus on this was that first we need to address the bigger issue of the quantity of awards. No

further discussion was felt necessary at this point.
REVISE LEADERSHIP AWARD SO THAT SMALL GROUPS ARE ELIGIBLE:
The committee felt this was a worthy amendment; a request was sent to SPARC to change the wording for the Leadership Award to include "small group" as well as individual.
Discussion also branched into when this award should be presented: it was felt by most that perhaps the Leadership Award should be tied to the Leadership Conference.
CRITICAL PATH DOCUMENT:
The current critical path document was (a) very hard to locate and (b) deemed out of date, once found. A draft revised edition has been circulated to committee members for their input, with a vision that there will be a document ready for submission by the October meeting.

SPaRK

1. Review of Minutes from February Meeting
2. To Do Items Suggested by Executive:
   a) Review the critical path status for the committee
   b) Final documents for Constitution, By-Laws and Terms of Reference
   Fred's job
   c) Wording and timing for changes to Annual General Meeting
   Housekeeping already done (see below)
   d) Succession for officers of the organization
   plan to be put in place for recruiting president elect, presidents
   e) Protocol for handling requests from outside organizations
   terms of reference or bylaw...how directors should handle the many requests
   f) Member actions wording for October meeting for every committee.

In the By-Laws

By-Law 2 Meetings

1. An Annual General Meeting of OAME/AOEM shall be held in conjunction with the Annual Conference.

From Minutes of SPaRC, February 7, 2015.

The committee was charged with changing the wording of our documents pertaining to the timing of the Annual General Meeting. We could not submit changes today due to the process demanded in the constitution regarding amendments.
The committee reviewed our most up to date version of the documents, highlighted areas that need to be changed for the timing of the AGM and noted several housekeeping items, as listed below.
1. Change AGM to Annual General Meeting
2. Change OMG to Ontario Mathematics Gazette
3. Change Jan 24th to January Executive meeting

back to the meeting:
Tim Sibbald led a brainstorming session on the role of directors in supporting Chapters. Directors to asked to sit according to geographic areas. The members were asked to consider the following questions:

1. How do chapters and directors currently interact?
2. How can interactions be improved?
3. For next year, how can directors better support chapters and what do chapters need from directors?

Any other business
Letter from the Curriculum Committee: The committee read a letter to the Ministry of Education asking for consideration of our input into any curriculum refresh.
Requests for OAME participation in events in Ontario: Judy Mendaglio and Tim Sibbald have recently attended events where OAME has been invited, usually at short notice, to participate in events in the province. Reports from Tim and Judy will be included in the minutes.

Moved by Sandra Jean Price, seconded by Pamela Chun that we adjourn.

Written/Oral Reports
• Outreach – Paul Alves
• Communications – Tim Sibbald
• Chapter Representatives – Lynda Ferneyhough
• Strategic Planning – Bill Otto
• Curriculum Committee –Sonia Ellison & Judy Mendaglio
• Executive Directors' Report – Lynda Ferneyhough
• OAME 2015 Conference – Wayne Erdman
• Leadership 2015 – Tim Sibbald
• Ministry of Education – Trish Steele
• OTF/Ministry of Education Subject Association – Tim Sibbald
• Field's Institute – Paul Alves, Judy Mendaglio
• NCTM – Todd Romiens
• Nominations – Paul Alves
• College Student Achievement Project – Bill Otto