

**2025 Annual General Meeting
Assemblée générale annuelle 2025**

MINUTES

June 2, 8:30 – 10:30am EDT

George Brown College (hybrid)

Waterfront Campus (WF), Room 004/005

51 Dockside Drive, Toronto, ON

Zoom Link: <https://utoronto.zoom.us/j/85850089108>

Meeting ID: 858 5008 9108

1. Call to Order. President's Welcome and Territorial Land Acknowledgment (Merli Tamtik)
Ouverture de la réunion, Mot de bienvenue de la présidente, et Reconnaissance du territoire

President Tamtik called the meeting to order and noted that Quorum of a minimum of 25 members was reached.

President Tamtik also welcomed members to the annual general meeting, thanked everyone for attending, called the meeting to order, and offered a Land Acknowledgement.

2. Approval of the Agenda (Merli Tamtik)
Adoption de l'ordre du jour

MOTION: That the Agenda as presented be adopted. (Rashed Al-Haque / Kathleen Matheos). Carried.

3. Approval of the 2024 Minutes (Merli Tamtik)
Approbation du procès-verbal 2024

The minutes of the CSSHE 2024 AGM were available to the membership on the CSSHE website. This year, they were also provided in French as CSSHE is a bilingual organization.

MOTION: That the Minutes of the CSSHE 2024 AGM be approved as presented. (Derek Stovin / Erin Anderson). Carried.

4. Business Arising (Merli Tamtik)

Affaires découlant

There was no business arising from the minutes.

5. President's Report (Merli Tamtik)

Rapport de la présidente

President Tamtik provided the President's Report for 2024-25. The slides for this presentation, as well as for the other committee and Treasurer reports noted in the relevant sections of the minutes below, can be found at:

https://docs.google.com/presentation/d/1jlkdHdRCuW8NQLbcjE4F_VdmPm5OZV1_/edit?slide=id.p1#slide=id.p1

President Tamtik shared that this has been a year of transition but an absolute pleasure to serve as President, and with the other Board directors.

This year we are celebrating 55 years since the CSSHE was formed. 2025 also marks a decade since the Truth and Reconciliation Commission's Calls to Action—a time for reflection, responsibility, and renewal.

In 2024-25, the Board has fully supported the mission of CSSHE by:

- Disseminating and Recognizing Scholarly Work (e.g., Annual conference; Awards; CJHE)
- Fostering a Connected and Engaged Community (e.g., Webinars; Newsletters; Accessibility Committee; “Spotlight on Colleges” event; Increased volunteer pool; Student supports)
- Enhancing Member Capacity and Collaboration (e.g., Amplified collaboration across sectors; Volunteer base; Sponsorship funds for the conference)

President Tamtik thanked the 2024-25 CSSHE Conference Sponsors:

- Kwantlen Polytechnic University (Dr. Alan Davies)
- Centre for the Study of Educational Leadership and Policy Steering Committee, Simon Fraser University (Dr. Michelle Pidgeon)
- Centre for the Study of Canadian & International Higher Education, OISE / UofT (Dr. Glen Jones)

6. Awards Committee Report (Aliya Kuzhabekova / Eric Lavigne)
Rapport de la Comité des prix

a. 2024 CSSHE Prizes – Announcement of Recipients

Prix de la SCÉES 2024 – Annonce des lauréats et lauréates

- Master’s Thesis Award Recipient: Jessie Hendriks, Brock University
Digital Horizons: Faculty and Student Perspectives on ChatGPT and the Future of English Studies
- Geis Doctoral Dissertation Award Recipient: Dr. Lyn Trudeau, Brock University
Inner/Spirit Fire and Indigenous Student/Researcher Identity: Differing Spaces from an Ojibway Perspective
- Sheffield Award (CJHE) Recipients: Drs. Roberta Soares and Marie-Odile Magnan, University of Montreal
“I Didn’t Know What To Do, Where To Go”: The Voices of Students Whose Parents were Born in Latin America on the Need for Care in Quebec Universities
- Research and Scholarship Award Recipient: Dr. Stephanie Waterman, Ontario Institute for the Study of Education, University of Toronto

There were many nominations and it was a very competitive awards process.

b. Awards Policies and Procedures Updates

Mises à jour des politiques et procédures des prix

There was significant work done this past year with the board to revise and update the awards policies and procedures, which was following up on the work done the previous year. This included:

- Policies and procedures were changed to ensure consistency and clarity
- Evaluation forms were aligned with the new policies and procedures

Changes were approved by the Board prior to their use this past awards cycle. The committee will continue to work on the policies and procedures to address any issues that emerged and will discuss with the Board the possibility of developing new awards.

7. Financial Report – Treasurer (Emma Harden-Wolfson / Tim Howard)

Rapports financiers – Trésorier

- a. 2024 Audit and Report on Finance
Audit et rapport sur l'état des finances

Treasurer Harden-Wolfson provided a report on the finances of the CSSHE, which included noting that:

- Membership fees have not been increased since 2022, and no increase is proposed for this year due to the current stable financial position of CSSHE
- About 2/3 of income comes from membership fees and the annual conference, so the Board will continue to monitor and review fees in 2025-26
- There was approximately \$98k in income and \$70k in expenses
- Expenses include the administrative services of the Secretariat, which serves 5 scholarly associations. CSSHE receives excellent value and Secretariat expenses have not increased since 2017

Treasurer Harden-Wolfson presented the audited financial statement and reminded CSSHE members that they can request the full report from the Secretariat. The audited financial statement can be found at the link provided in section five of the minutes above or can also be requested by members from the Secretariat.

MOTION: To approve the 2024 financial statement for CSSHE as presented and the report of the auditor. (Michelle McGinn / Erik Lavigne). Carried.

- b. Appointment of Auditors for 2025
Nomination des auditeurs pour 2025

MOTION: To appoint McKay Duff LLP as the Auditor for CSSHE for the 2025 fiscal year. (Eric Lavigne / Phoebe Kang). Carried.

- c. 2025 Budget
Budget 2025

Treasurer Harden-Wolfson presented the proposed budget for CSSHE for 2025, which included noting that:

- There is a projected surplus of approximately \$17K for 2025
- There is a new commitment in a new budget line created for decolonization, an increased allocation for language translation to support the CSSHE commitments as a bilingual organization, and funds allocated for a board member meal

- The conference budget is delegated to the conference committee and they have done an excellent job managing those revenues and expenditures
- The Board is planning to implement a contingency fund

MOTION: To approve the CSSHE budget for 2025 as presented. (Emma / Merli). Carried.

8. Report of the *Canadian Journal of Higher Education* (CJHE) (Editor Michelle McGinn)
Rapport de la *Revue canadienne d'enseignement supérieur* (RCES)

Editor Michelle McGinn provided a report on the activities of the journal, which included:

- The number of manuscripts submitted by year
- The issues and number of manuscripts published this past year [i.e., June 2024 to May 2025; Issues 54(1), 55(1), 55(2)]
- The Special Issue 2025 (Co-Editors Christine Helen Arnold & Kathleen Clarke) *Canadian Student Affairs and Services* is published in two parts due to the large response to the call for submissions
- Expressions of interest are due July 1, 2025, for the Special Issue 2026 (Co-Editors Elizabeth Buckner, Emma Harden-Wolfson, & Phoebe Kang) *From recruitment to restrictions: A new policy era for international students in Canadian higher education*
- The SSHRC Aid to Scholarly Journals application is due Sep. 2025 but further information about the details have yet to be received
- The intent is to fully use the existing SSHRC grant to scholarly journals
- The CJHE will continue to be indexed in ERIC in spite of the cuts happening in the U.S. that are resulting in many journals and periodicals being de-indexed.

9. 2025 Conference Report (Erin Anderson / Kathleen Matheos)
Congrès annuel 2025

Thank you to the entire 2025 CSSHE Conference Committee:

- CSSHE President, Merli Tamtik
- CSSHE Past President: Michelle Nilson
- Local Area Coordinator: Vivien Slezak
- Conference Proposal Team - Track Chairs and Peer Reviewers
- French Translation Team
- Social Networking Team
- Outreach Team
- Conference Assistants

Conference Co-Chairs highlighted that there was a 97 percent acceptance rate with 84 percent presenting and 111 people presenting in-person. As of May 25, there were 211 registrants with 198 for in-person rather than for online-only participation. 55 institutions were represented with participants from ON, BC, AB, QC, MB, SK, NB, NF, and NS as well as from the US, Germany, and Japan.

The following keynote and highlighted sessions were delivered:

- Spotlight on Colleges: Navigating Change in Uncertain Times
- [CSSE/CSSHE Joint Plenary] Sustaining Futures in the Now: Young People Becoming Teachers
- [ACDE/CSSHE Joint Session] Building Systemic Change for Equity: Implementing EDID Policies
- [CSSHE/CSA/CSSE/CNIE Joint Plenary] Towards True Reconciliation: Decolonizing Systems and Healing Communities

The Congress Graduate Merit Award recipients were:

- Nawal Arshi (University of Calgary)
- Brandon Dickson (University of Waterloo)
- Ting Du (University of Calgary)
- Yawen Liu (York University)
- Randeep Nota (University of Toronto)
- Ezgi Ozyonum (Concordia University)

President Tamtik thanked Co-Chairs Erin Anderson and Kathleen Matheos for their dedication and work resulting in a successful conference and presented them with gifts of appreciation on behalf of the CSSHE.

10. Communications Committee Report (Phoebe Kang)
Rapport du comité des communications

There has been a lot of work done by committee members this past year to increase outreach to CSSHE members. Committee members are: Kathleen Clarke; Cynthia Eden; Emma Harden-Wolfson; Phoebe Kang; Eun-Gi (Cathy) Kim.

Four webinars were planned with three already successfully delivered:

- Webinar 1: Reframing International Higher Education in Canada (Wednesday, January 29, 2025, 12:00-1:30pm EST)
- Webinar 2: Celebrating Student Research: Emerging Scholars in Canadian Higher Education (Wednesday, April 30th, 2025, 12:00-1:30pm EST)
- Co-hosted Webinar 3: Spotlight on Colleges: Navigating Change in Uncertain Times (at the 2025 CSSHE Conference, May 31, 2025, George Brown College)
- Upcoming Webinar 4: Rethinking and Reinventing the University through Indigenous Visions (Wednesday, October 22, 2025, 12:00-1:30pm EST)

Other highlights include:

- A newsletter was created this year. For feedback or questions please email: csshe.communications@gmail.com
- A LinkedIn account was set up for CSSHE, which has gained 847 followers already

11. Partnership Committee Report (Merli Tamtik on behalf of Michelle Nilson)
Rapport du comité de partenariat

The Partnership Committee and the Board has been actively collaborating with the Canadian Association of College and University Student Services (CACUSS) and an MOU is now in place.

Work is being done toward a MOU with the Association for the Study of Higher Education (ASHE) to provide discounted rates to our members. The Committee has also started looking toward the EU for potential partnerships.

12. Nominating Committee Report - Presentation of Elected CSSHE BOD 2025
(Merli Tamtik on behalf of Michelle Nilson)
L'annonce des résultats du vote pour le conseil d'administration 2025

On behalf of the Nominating Committee Chair Michelle Nilson, President Tamtik presented the results of the 2025 elections for the CSSHE Board of Directors:

- Aliya Kuzhabekova, 2-year term (second term)
- Christos Orfanidis, 2-year term
- Emma Harden-Wolfson, 4-year term
- Rashed Al-Haque, 1-year term filling the vacancy from the second half of Emma's previous 2-year term

President Tamtik thanked Michelle Nilson, Past-President, for her dedication and excellent service for many years to the CSSHE.

President Tamtik welcomed and presented the CSSHE Board of Directors 2025-26:

Merli Tamtik (UManitoba); Rashed Al-Haque (Camosun College); Erin Anderson (OISE/UT); Kathleen Clarke (Wilfrid Laurier); Cynthia Eden (OISE/UT); Emma Harden-Wolfson (McGillU); Phoebe Kang (UT/Mississauga); Eun-Gi (Cathy) Kim (OISE/UT); Aliya Kuzhabekova (UCalgary); Eric Lavigne (OISE/UT); Christos Orfanidis (OISE/UT); Derek Stovin (UWinnipeg).

13. New Business (Merli Tamtik)
Affaires nouvelles

President Tamtik updated members on recent developments related to Congress 2026.

The CSSHE Board of Directors invited a delegate from the Congress organizing committee to the recent in-person May board meeting to provide updates and discuss Congress 2026. The Board was informed that Congress 2026 will not be happening due to the withdrawal of the venue previously presumed. Further, there is very little assistance that the FHSS will provide.

The Secretariat has begun discussions of potential options among its five organizational members but more information is needed. There is some hope that all five could host a conference in 2026 together. A decision will need to be made on whether CSSHE will host a conference on its own or if it can and will join with the Secretariat.

Secretariat Director Cam Smith noted that they received notice of this change only three days prior to FHSS making it public. Five requests for proposals have been sent to smaller potential venues than are usual for Congress. Cam stated he will keep all the Secretariat groups informed.

There was discussion from the floor and a statement that input would be sought from CSSHE members, including through feedback provided on the post-conference survey.

There seemed to be member support for an in-person gathering. Some thoughts were expressed that a smaller gathering might be easier to manage if, for example, only 5 rooms are needed for CSSHE. Thoughts were also shared about the value of being able to attend presentations given within some other societies that include areas of study that have a close affinity to the work carried out by CSSHE members.

14. Adjournment
Ajournement

MOTION: To Adjourn. (Emma Harden-Wolfson)

Meeting ended 10:24 EDT.