



THE ROYAL CANADIAN
COLLEGE OF ORGANISTS
LE COLLÈGE ROYAL
CANADIEN DES ORGANISTES



Royal Canadian College of
Organists
Niagara Centre
Annual General Meeting



June 7th, 12:30 p.m. at Betty's Restaurant, Chippawa, ON

(cover picture)

The organ's technical specification

Manual ICC - a3, 58 notes

Stop Diapason 8 (wood; bottom octave shared with Manual II)

Principal 4

Pedal Organ C - f', 30 notes

Bourdon 16

Manual II CC- a3, 58 notes

Stop Diapason 8 (CC - f#o wood, the rest being a metal chimney flute)

Flute 4 (chimney flute)

Twelfth 2-2/3

Fifteenth 2

Couplers

Man II to Man I

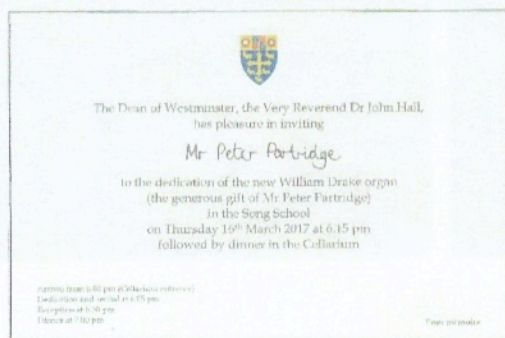
Man I to Pedal

Man II to Pedal

Tremulant to the whole



(Presentation photos)



RCCO Niagara Centre 2018 AGM

Lunch

Agenda

Call to Order

2017 Minutes

President's Report

Treasurer's Report

Membership Report

Presentation by Peter Partridge

Nominations Report

Elections

Motion to Adjourn

ROYAL CANADIAN COLLEGE OF ORGANISTS
Niagara Centre, Annual General Meeting
June 1, 2017, Betty's Restaurant, Chippawa

Members Present: President Rob Anderson, Ryan Baxter, Frank Cammisuli, John Clipsham, David Cowan, Mary-Teresa Franceschini, Cathy Henderson, John Henderson, Ruth Schappert, Faye Shaver, Marjorie Slinn, Peter Snyder, Ken Stevens, Rodger Swinton, James van den Brink, Paul Waite.

President Rob Anderson called the meeting to order at 1:59 pm.

Moved by Marj Slinn, seconded by Faye Shaver to approve the minutes of the 2016 Annual General Meeting as printed. Carried.

Moved by John Henderson, seconded by Ken Stevens to receive the **President's Report** as printed. Carried.

The **Treasurer's Report** was presented by James van den Brink who noted that the Investment Fund was up by about \$1100 from the end of the previous year (April 30, 2016). The fund is invested in a Balanced Fund with RBC. The cash balance in the Operating Fund is \$2210.77 at April 30, 2017. James has succeeded in reducing bank fees to \$2.50 per month. James answered a question that the National RCCO is a registered charity, but not the local branch. It was also suggested that financial support for organ students might be a use for the fund. Acceptance of the Report was moved by James, seconded by Paul Waite. Carried.

Membership Report: for June 1, 2016 to May 31, 2017, members totalled 28, down by 2 from the previous year, though there were 3 new members. Ruth Schappert reminded us that the renewals for 2017-18 are now due, and moved for the adoption of her report, seconded by Faye Shaver. Carried.

Program: several members shared anecdotes from their experiences as church organists, a highly condensed version follows:

Rob Anderson reported playing a concert in Niagara Falls, in the Fugue from the D minor Tocatta and Fugue by Bach; the page turner accidentally dropped the paper onto his hands, thence to his lap, and his feet, and she fell against him in seeking to retrieve them. He carried on throughout, to receive a standing ovation in the end.

Faye Shaver shared a number of anecdotes from her 31 years of

weddings at St. Mark's in Niagara on the Lake, including being asked to play "For Unto Us a Child Is Born" as a processional when the bride was cleverly hiding an 8-month pregnancy, and another when the bride kept asking for changes in the service, with the final change being to change the groom.

Paul Waite notes there is a Little Wedding Chapel in the Peninsula Inn in Niagara Falls, and he was recently notified of another wedding chapel opening in the "Battlefield Community Centre and Chapel" which used to be Lundy's Lane United Church.

Rodger Swinton related a number of consequences resulting from a fire when he was organist at St. Andrew's in Moose Jaw, including amusing aspects to using a funeral home for evening services and practices.

Marj Slinn was asked to use a Hawaiian chant in a wedding service for the minister's niece and said she would not do that though she was willing to help in other ways. The subsequent Labour Day Sunday, the minister announced it would be Marj's last Sunday (she was shocked to discover she had just been fired.) The good news was that the following Sunday she happened to attend Stamford United, and they immediately asked her there, where she has been ever since.

Ken Stevens reported being asked by his organ teacher, Eric Dowling to play a Sunday service for him at St. Georges that would be also on CKTB; his instruction for the end of the service was to play until the light went on at the back gallery.

Peter Snyder reported about a program being broadcast in honour of the upcoming coronation of Elizabeth II, Eric Dowling was about to announce the program when two elderly sisters, one holding an ear trumpet entered the gallery who announced loudly with the program "on air" "Can't hear a thing up here."

Nominating Committee Report: Peter Snyder presented the report on behalf of the committee, noting that there was still no nominee for vice-president, and moved that the report be accepted. Marj Slinn noted that she was to be "telephone hostess", and with that amendment accepted, seconded the motion. There were no further nominations and the motion carried.

Rob expressed appreciation on behalf of the Centre for the many years of service on the executive by Faye and Rodger. Both indicated a continued willingness to help, but not formally on the executive.

Rodger (as he traditionally has done) moved for adjournment.

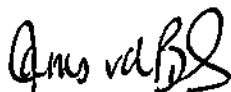
RCCO Niagara Centre
Statement of Revenue & Expenditure and Changes in Fund Balance
For the Fiscal Year Ending April 30, 2018
(Unaudited)

	<i>Operating Fund</i>		<i>Investment Fund</i> ¹	
	Year to Date	Prior Year YTD	Year to Date	Prior Year YTD
<i>Revenue</i>				
Dues	547.00	431.00	-	-
Donations	600.00	625.00	-	-
Interest	-	-	169.20	1,112.59
Events	80.25	-	-	-
Total Revenue	1,227.25	1,056.00	169.20	1,112.59
<i>Expenditures</i>				
Professional/Artist Fees	650.00	-	-	-
Meals & Entertainment	-	12.99	-	-
Event Expenses	405.91	454.00	-	-
Publications	-	187.61	-	-
Bank Fees	30.00	30.00	-	-
Miscellaneous	301.61	304.14	-	-
Total Expenditures	1,387.52	988.74	-	-
Excess of Revenue (Expenditures)	(160.27)	67.26	169.20	1,112.59
 Fund Balance, May 1, 2017	 1,946.20	 1,878.94	 12,521.27	 11,408.68
Fund Balance, April 30, 2018	1,785.93	1,946.20	12,690.47	12,521.27
Outstanding Cheques (Deposits)	286.43	264.57	-	-
Cash Balance, April 30, 2018	2,072.36	2,210.77	12,690.47	12,521.27

Notes:

¹ The reporting period for the Investment Fund is from April 1 to March 31 for the respective years.

These statements have been prepared by the Treasurer on June 7, 2018



James van den Brink, CPA, CMA

Membership Report for RCCO Niagara Centre – June 1 , 2017 to May 31, 2018

	Memberships 2016-2017	Members 2016-2017	Memberships 2017-2018	Members 2017 - 2018
Regular	11(<i>includes 1 dual membership</i>)	11	13	13
Senior	12	12	11	11
Student	1	1	3 (<i>includes 1 dual membership</i>)	3
Joint Regular	0	0	0	0
Joint Senior	2	4	2	4
Total	26	28	29	31

Non-renewal for 2017-2018 – 4 regular members/memberships(including 1 dual membership)

The 29 memberships include 7 new memberships (6 memberships and 1 dual membership).

Change in numbers for 2017-2018 – increase of 3 members/memberships

Therefore, 31 people are members of RCCO Niagara Centre on May 31, 2018.

Membership Fees are due on/or before **May 31, 2018**.

Respectfully submitted,
Ruth Schappert
Membership Convenor

RCCO Niagara Centre

Report of the Nominating Committee 2018-2019

The Nominating Committee (Dave Cowan, Ruth Schappart, Peter Snyder-Chair) offer the following nominees to serve on the Niagara Centre RCCO Executive for the year 2018-2019:

President – Robert Anderson

Vice-President – David Ruler

Treasurer – James van den Brink

Membership Convener – Ruth Schappert

Newsletters (Nazard & Tierce) – Ken Stevens

Website & Facebook Page – David Ruler & James van den Brink

Members-at-Large – Ryan Baxter, David Cowan, Mary Teresa Franceschini, Dianne Humann,

Marjorie Slinn and Peter Snyder

The Nominations are open until the Annual General Meeting, June 8th, 2018

It is worth noting that the position of Vice President has now been filled by David Ruler. This is an important position within the organization as a means of ensuring continuity in future leadership.

Respectfully submitted by Peter Snyder on behalf of the Committee.

Facebook and Website

The Centre's website, www.rconiangara.ca, is being managed by James Van Den Brink and David Ruler. The site serves as a communication tool to solicit new members, provide substitute information for area organizations, publish news of interest and our monthly newsletters, and manage a calendar of events with information submitted by members and others that have interest in choral and organ music. Original articles written and published by David since February include, "Numerology in the works of J.S. Bach", "Update on the restoration of the world's largest pipe organ" among others. Future ideas for articles or events should be emailed to druler56@gmail.com.

The website has an email subscription feature to receive future alerts to Centre events. Our model meets Canada digital solicitation requirements. This service is in its nascent stages. We are using Mailchimp as the software tool. Our usage and list size remains below the paid subscription threshold. Using Mailchimp allows us to segment members and non members as well as interests to use as a tool to announce pending events.

One of our challenges is creating awareness of our organization and the value it can bring to others. We need your help in creating a working database of institutions, teachers, musicians, with addresses, phone numbers, and emails to begin a personal invitation process to familiarize them with RCCO Niagara Centre. We will use this list to make in person visits and phone calls to invite prospects to become members or to learn how to use our services.

Our facebook page, <https://www.facebook.com/rconiangara>, is being utilized to build awareness for our organization. Members and friends can help by sharing posts we publish with their friends, writing comments on posts, and inviting their friends to "like" our page. These simple steps quickly build our reach. Official RCCO Niagara Centre events are announced on Facebook. Members are encouraged to select "interested" or "attending" to the event listing as this increases the reach of our programmes. There is a deliberate attempt to publish one new item a week on the facebook page. If an article is published on our web site the weekly facebook post will highlight something of interest from that article to draw people back to our website and use it as a resource. In one recent example the son of Alec Wyton responded to an article first published on our website, with permission, about his father's relationship to Healey Willan. There was further correspondence related to other unpublished material.

The "reach" of our posts, which is how many people have seen the post, ranges from 27 to 937. The article that generated the most activity, 35 likes or shares, was our original story on Ryan Baxter's personal interests. We also did a "live" stream of the choral reading session which reached 65 people of which 21 took some sort of action such as sharing or liking it.

Significant posts can be "boosted" to our target audience through paid advertising. This is an idea to explore once we have more experience in original content.

Some ideas that need your help in the coming year is to publish on a monthly basis one pipe organ of interest in our area, or one that is no longer extant, with its history and use and any interesting highlights. Please get to David Ruler with your recommendations and who to work with.

Remember that social media and our website are the easiest most cost effective way to build membership. We need your help.

Respectfully Submitted

David Ruler

The Partridge-Drake Organ Westminster Abbey, London, UK

Organ Consultant DR WILLIAM McVICKER describes the new practice organ given to the Abbey by Canadian Peter Partridge

IF THE READER has ever paused to consider how the music staff at Westminster Abbey find time to prepare for the sheer number of services which require organ accompaniment, it would soon become clear that the Abbey's busy schedule precludes the organists from daytime practice on the grand Harrison & Harrison instrument. The organists have to work late into the evening to avoid disrupting activities in the building.

It was with enormous pleasure (and a certain amount of welcome relief) that Peter Partridge, former

Assistant Organist between 1962 and 1964, made an exceptionally generous offer to fund the design, manufacture and installation of a small practice organ in the Abbey's new and much needed Song School.

I was contacted by the Organist and Master of the Choristers, James O'Donnell, with a view to establishing how a new instrument could be commissioned. After some initial meetings to discuss where the organ should be placed and how its musical character might be informed, I set about the process of drawing up a brief for which organ builders could tender.

The work of a number of eminent English and European companies was examined and examples of their work inspected, before a shortlist of three organ builders was compiled.

After a formal procurement process, it was agreed that the strongest offer came from William Drake Ltd. of Buckfastleigh in Devon - a small firm with five employees, making and restoring organs to an exceptionally high standard. As it happens, the work of the company was well known to the Abbey music staff, as a Drake instrument had been made for the Chapel of St Mary Undercroft, in the Palace of Westminster, in 1999. William Drake, the founder of the firm, had sadly died during the restoration works to the historic 1735 Richard Bridge organ at Christ Church, Spitalfields.

The business has been ably continued by the company directors, Joost de Boer and Geert Noppers, and the exceptional standard to which the Spitalfields' organ was completed was an important factor in their appointment to build the Song School instrument.

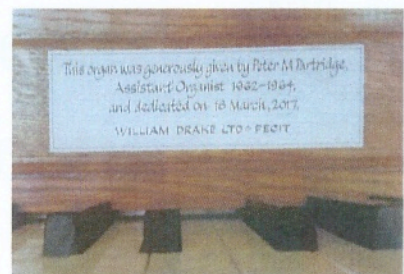
It has taken a year to construct the organ in the workshop in Devon and each of the multitudinous components has been lovingly handcrafted using traditional methods. The instrument is clad in lightly oiled European oak and the case pipes have been gilded by John Brennan. The instrument weighs well over half a ton and so it was necessary to ensure that the first floor of the Song School was strengthened during building works to take account of the combined weight of the grand piano, organ and any singers who might use the space for rehearsals.

The instrument has two manuals and pedals, seven stops and mechanical action. The metal pipework is constructed in high-quality, lead - tin alloy, whilst the wooden pipes are of Scandinavian redwood and oak. The pipe shades are also in oak and were carved by Robert Laurent.

The key coverings are of bone (ivory is, of course, no longer available) and the accidentals and stop-knobs are of solid African black-wood.

The stop labels are hand-written, as is the maker's nameplate which records 'This organ was generously given by Peter Partridge, Assistant Organist 1962-64, and dedicated on 16 March, 2011. After the

dedication a brilliant private recital was given by James O'Donnell in the presence of the donor.



Important Upcoming Events

Tomorrow, June 9, 7:30 Dr. Andrew Henderson in Concert
St. Andrew's Presbyterian Church, Thorold
Andrew will play a benefit concert to support the restoration and preservation of the Beaverdams Church.

Tuesday, June 12, 7:30 First Executive Meeting for New Committee
Queen Street Baptist Church

Friday June 29th, 10:30 a.m. Mini Organ Crawl in Smithville
to see historic organs. Free luncheon hosted by ladies of the Smithville Churches. Meeting at Smithville United Church, Hosted by Hamilton Centre. RSVP to choirs@stjudeschurch.net

Friday, July 6, at 7:30 p.m. Dr. Ken Cowan and his wife Dr. Lisa Shihoten "In Concert"
Duo Organ and Violin
Knox Presbyterian Church, St. Catharines