

HOCKEY EASTERN ONTARIO

813 Shefford Rd.
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PRESS RELEASE

Date: July 14, 2022
Ottawa, Ontario:

Hockey Eastern Ontario (HEO) held their Annual General Meeting on July 13, 2022

Some highlights include:

HEO Board of Directors Election

Congratulations to the following individuals who have been elected to the to the HEO Board of Directors for a two-year term:

HEO President: Krista Outhwaite

Krista sat on the HEO Board in the position of Director since HEO's amalgamation with HEO Minor in 2020. Krista brings a wealth of experience to the Board of Directors as a former senior executive with the federal public service. She has held previous volunteer roles in hockey, including as Chair of Bytown District and President of the Ottawa Sting Minor Hockey Association. Since 2020-22, Krista served as chair of HEO's Governance Committee, its HR Committee and the newly formed Equity, Diversity and Inclusion Committee. Krista developed and consulted widely on HEO's inaugural five-year Strategic Plan.

HEO Director: Yves Cloutier

Yves, a federal government employee played minor competitive hockey, Junior A and finished his hockey career playing for the Ottawa University Gee Gee's. He has coached teams for Gloucester Cougars MHA as well as Gloucester Rangers. He has been part of the Gloucester Center MHA board as Director of Development as well on the Ottawa Jr. 67's Board as Director of Development and VP Operations. Yves is excited to be giving back to Minor hockey.

HEO Director: Allison Burnett

Allison brings a background of strategic business leadership to the HEO Board and is a certified change management professional. Her volunteer experience is extensive, including involvement at the Minor Hockey Board level as well as Team Manager roles at both the competitive and house league levels. She is looking forward to helping aspiring athletes at all levels.

HEO Director: Craig Halpenny

Craig, a lawyer who owns and operates a general law practice, has been active in volunteering for different organizations including sports. He brings a strong knowledge of coaching and managing hockey teams over the years at various skill levels and ages. From an administrative perspective, Craig has served as Director of Hockey Operations for the Ottawa Valley Silver Seven. He looks forward to serving on the HEO Board.

These individuals will join the existing HEO Board of Directors:

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HEO Director: Kim Greer
HEO Director: Tim MacPherson
HEO Director: Marc Richer

HEO and its members thank Gary Hopkins, 2020-22 President of the Board, and Paul Ross and Joe Rubino, 2020-22 Directors for their service and contributions to amateur hockey across the Branch.

Other key AGM highlights included the following:

- HEO Members voted to ratify the following ByLaw amendments:
 - Article IV Governance, Section 4.6 (c) which changed the submission date for candidates' nominations to the HEO Board from April 15th to May 15th of each year.
 - Article IV Governance, Section 4.9 (1).a and 4.9 (2). a which provides an option for voting members to cast a blank ballot in President and Director elections where there is one (1) valid nominee for the vacant Director position, in addition to casting a ballot in favour of the nominee or abstaining.
- HEO Members received the 2021-22 HEO financial and audit statements from KPMG and HEO's Treasurer and Executive Director, and approved KPMG as the auditor of record for HEO's 2022-23 financial year.
- HEO's Members received a report from the President, Gary Hopkins, on behalf of the Board outlining progress made in 2021-22 on a variety of policy, program and governance initiatives for the benefit of members. Some examples include:
 - HEO, in lockstep with the Province of Ontario, emerged from lockdown and welcomed an almost full return to programming in the past season.
 - HEO welcomed the implementation of the officiating Green Armband (pilot) Program for all minor-aged officials.
 - HEO ran eight NHL First Shift programs involving 234 participants with the goal of welcoming first-timers to the game of hockey.
 - HEO families received \$63,247 from the Hockey Canada Assist Program to help with the costs of participation in hockey.
 - With the support of the Government of Ontario, HEO allocated over \$150K of Provincial Sport Organization grant funding to its members to help them run hockey programs.
- HEO's 2021-22 Annual Report is out and can be found here [HEO Annual Report 2021-22.pdf](https://www.hockeysteamontario.ca/HEO%20Annual%20Report%202021-22.pdf) ([hockeysteamontario.ca](https://www.hockeysteamontario.ca))

For more information, consult the Governance webpage on HEO's website: www.hockeysteamontario.ca