

L'Association
canadienne des études
sur l'alimentation



Canadian
Association for
Food Studies

Minutes from the 2025 AGM

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Agenda

CAFS / ACÉA AGM

June 4, 2025 | 12:45pm – 1:30pm

In person, George Brown College, St. James Campus, SJA-128

Virtual Zoom Link:

<https://mcgill.zoom.us/j/88166917713?pwd=faRKYYx0JteSFql1NjebJNho4ER8lF.1>

1. Land Acknowledgment and Welcome
2. Overview and Approval of the 2025 AGM Agenda
3. Approval of 2024 minutes
4. Reports
 - a) Board's Co-Chairs' Report
 - b) Treasurer's report
 - c) Conference Co-Chairs' Report
 - d) Communications and Administrator Report
 - e) Canadian Food Studies Editorial Collective Report
 - f) Ad Hoc committee on Palestine and the Right to Food
5. Ratification of the new CAFS Board
6. Adjournment of the AGM
7. Commencement of the CAFS Strategic Planning World Cafe

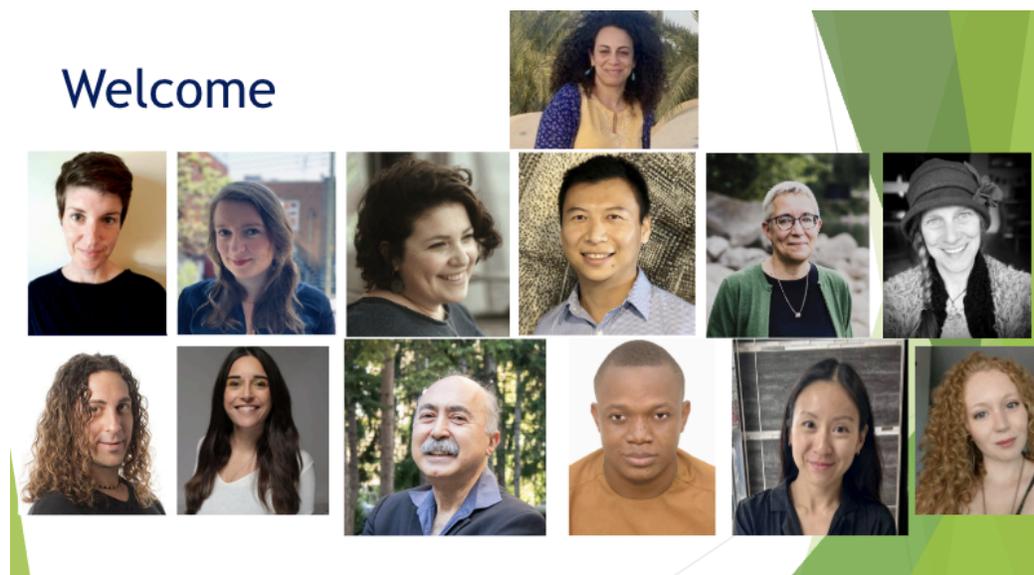
Formal Presentation ([Slide Deck Link](#))

CAFS AGM 2025

Wednesday June 4, 12:45 – 1:30pm

In attendance: Michelle Ryan, Jenelle Regnier-Davies, Zsofia Zambo, Abra Brynne, Diana Chu, Amar Laila, Christy Kelly-Bisson, Eric Schofield, Joy Stewart, Julie Robertson, Amanda Shankland, Josalyn Radcliffe, Laurence Godin, Hannah Brown, Megan Hathaway Scrivens, Alesandros Glaros, Nuala Bobowski, Natalie Sisson, David Szanto, Caroline Flory-Célini, Dakota Cherry, Jodi Koberinski, Natasha Pennell, Sara Edge, Pamela Tudge, Bryan Dale, Yukari Seko, Narayan Subramoniam, Steph Chartrand, Amara Digout, Mike Lawler, Sarah Rotz, Lesley French, Elaine Power, Belinda Li, Mustafa Koc, Charles Levkoe, Zhenzhong Si, Kristen Lowitt

Virtual Participants: Michelle Ryan, Zhenzhong Si



1. Land Acknowledgment and Welcome,

- 2025 AGM opened by Board Co-Chair Zsofia Mendly-Zambo and Board Member and co-presenter Abra Brynne
- Co-presenters started with a land acknowledgment and a welcome to all attendees.
- The co-presenters thanked members for their presence and contributions to CAFS over the past year.

2. Overview and Approval of AGM 2025 Agenda

- 2025 AGM Agenda was reviewed and approved without amendments.

3. Approval of 2025 AGM Minutes

- Minutes for 2024 AGM approved without objection

4. Reports

a) Board's Co-Chairs' Report

Presented by: Zsofia Zambo and Jenelle Regnier-Davies



- Presenters reflected on a year of transition and growth, including planning for the 2025 CAFS Assembly.
- Emphasized the organization's evolving role and thanked outgoing and continuing board members.
- This year, CAFS celebrated the 10th anniversary of *Canadian Food Studies / La Revue canadienne des études sur l'alimentation*.
- Conference planning and strategic planning have been the big focus for the year, with many board members participating in these processes.
- The board continues to iterate in its non-hierarchical model. Earlier in 2025, the Board underwent a governance review.

b) Treasurer's report

Presented by: Zhenzhong Si

- Reviewed financials for the period May 1, 2024 – April 30, 2025.
- **Association Finances:**
 - a. ~\$20,000 in expenses; ~\$17,000 in revenue.
 - b. Closing balance: \$5,821.25 in the bank; \$15,954.00 in PayPal.
 - c. Net revenue: ~\$13,000.
 - d. **Journal Finances:**
 - e. Bank: \$16,743.59
 - f. PayPal: \$8,881.14
 - g. Total journal funds: ~\$24,800
- Combined total funds (Association + Journal): over \$45,800

- Zhenzhong noted a \$10,000 decrease from the previous year and recommended exploring funding options.

c) Conference Co-Chairs' Report

Presented by: Jenelle Regnier-Davies and Kristen Lowitt



2025 CONFERENCE REPORT

| BY THE NUMBERS: | | By comparison 2023: | 216 |
|--|----|--------------------------------|-----|
| 162 people registered: | | full registration | 70 |
| Full registration | 60 | Reduced registration | 90 |
| Reduced registration | 81 | BIPOC and unpaid registrations | 56 |
| Black or Indigenous student | 16 | | |
| #297-Comps (association free passes) | 5 | | |
| Student symposium participants: 45 | | | |
| Tour participants: TBD (25?) | | | |
| Projected social attendees: TBD (80?) | | | |
| Exploration gallery: 24 pieces/submissions | | | |

*Really important to re-introduce the **BIPOC** coverage for greater accessibility

- Discussed planning process undertaken for the 2025 CAFS Assembly.
- Expressed appreciation to members involved in logistics, programming, and local coordination.
- Co-chairs noted the ongoing challenges with delivering a conference. The conference is labour intensive with limited sources. The Federation model has grown to be challenging to navigate. However, the conference remains an important opportunity for CAFS membership engagement, making it a priority for the board.
- For more details, see slides 9-11 in formal presentation.

d) Communications and Administrator Report

Presented by: Michelle Ryan

- Compared to 2024, engagement and followers continue to grow across platforms. Presenters discussed statistics for Mastodon, LinkedIn, Instagram, Facebook, Bluesky, and Journal readership.
- CAFS no longer active on X (Formerly Twitter).

Communications and Administrator Report

June 2nd Stats:

- Mastodon: 324 followers (244 June 21, 2024)
- IG 1095 accounts reached in the last 30 days (731 accounts reached June 21, 2024)
- LinkedIn 750 post views in the last 30 days (post views 831 June 21, 2024)
- On Facebook, CFS post reach was 66 in the past 28 days (79 June 21, 2024)
- On Facebook, CAFS post reach was 331 in the past 28 days (278 June 21, 2024)
- We no longer post to X (Formerly Twitter).
- Bluesky 165 Followers (147 Followers April 28th)

CFS readership continues to grow

519 readers/week (June 2024 - June 2025) (27K total)

510 readers/week (June 2023 - June 2024) (23K total)

480 readers/week (January 2022-December 2022)

335 readers/week (January 2021-December 2021)



e) Canadian Food Studies Editorial Collective Report

Presented by: Charles Levkoe

- Celebrated the 10th anniversary of the journal.
- Thanked the editorial team, translators, and contributors.
- Noted ongoing work on policy and transparency (e.g., AI policy, revised fee schedule).

f) Ad Hoc Committee on Palestine and the Right to Food

Presented by: Sarah Rotz

- Ad Hoc Committee has been busy planning several events to support the community
- In June 2024, committee hosted a film screening of Aisha's Story to CAFS members
- In Fall 2024, two articles were published on the use of food as a weapon in Gaza and in Canada (published in The Conversation, and CFS)
- The committee has also been working diligently to plan for the panel plenary series and research workshop at the CAFS 2025 Conference.

5. Ratification of the proposed CAFS Board 2025-2026

Presented by: Zsafia Mendly-Zambo

- New members have submitted interest in joining the Board of Directors for 2025-2026.
- New members include: Patricia Unung, Genevieve Sartor, Aaron Vansintjan, and Kristen Lowitt
- No objections to the board and the new board members

Ratification of New Board Proposed CAFS Board 2025-2026

Administrator: Michelle Ryan
Jenelle Regnier-Davies
Mustafa Koc
Stephanie Chartrand
Erik Chevrier
Jade Crimson Rose Da Costa
Alexa Ferdinands
Tiloux Soundja
Alissa Overend
Danya Nadar
Emma Somerville
Diana Chu
Rebecca Ellis

New members:
Patricia Unung
Genevieve Sartor
Aaron Vansintjan
Kristen Lowett



6. Adjournment of the AGM

- Co-presenters thanks members for attending the AGM and encouraged members to stay for the strategic planning world cafe session.
- Motion to adjourn was supported by all.
- AGM adjourned at 1:30pm.