

Minutes of the Inaugural Meeting of
THE CANADIAN CARTOGRAPHIC ASSOCIATION

Ottawa, October 18, 1975

The meeting was called to order by L. M. Sebert. A proposed agenda and a draft constitution were distributed to all delegates.

Mr Sebert welcomed the delegates, and proposed Dr Keith Fraser be appointed Chairman of the meeting. This was agreed.

Dr Fraser then asked for approval of the proposed agenda. It was suggested by Mr Kerr (President of the National Commission for Cartography) and Mr McCulloch (President of the Canadian Institute of Surveying) that their remarks should come before the discussion of the constitution. This was agreed and they were moved to the position following the address of Professor McGrath.

It was noted by Mr Sebert that persons making nominations might be influenced by changes in the draft constitution, so this item was moved to follow the discussion of the constitution.

With these changes the agenda was adopted.

Mr Jean-Paul Drolet, Dr John A. Wolter and Professor Gerald McGrath then gave their papers. These papers will be published in The Canadian Cartographer.

The Chairman thanked the speakers and then called on Mr T. McCulloch to speak as President of the CIS.

Mr McCulloch said that there are seven disciplines in the CIS, all feeling the urge for autonomy. These are geodesy, photogrammetry, photo-interpretation, land surveying, hydrographic surveying, engineering surveying and cartography. The CIS is understandably worried about this splintering effect. There are many in the CIS that are strongly against any move toward autonomy and these people, in a democratic society, must be listened to. The CIS is, in effect, a paymaster with the ability to give considerable financial support, but only to those groups that want to stay under the CIS "umbrella".

The Chairman thanked Mr McCulloch and then asked Mr Kerr to address the meeting. Mr Kerr made the following statement.

"Cartography within the CIS comes under very strong dominance from the survey sector. The academic cartographers, in particular, are restive under this dominance. At a meeting held at Laval's Forestry Experimental Station in the Forêt Montmorency I advocated the formation of a Cartographic Association, but this did not receive approval. Instead Professor McGrath and I were appointed as an ad hoc Committee to look into the whole matter of cartography in the CIS.

After a study of the situation we prepared a report favouring the formation of an Association for Cartography. This was too revolutionary for the CIS who preferred 'an evolutionary process'. This was implemented in the formation of the National Commission for Cartography. This Commission would include representatives from all associations interested in cartography. These were (at the time of founding the Commission) the Canadian Institute of Surveying, the Ontario Institute of Chartered Cartographers, the Society of University Cartographers, the Association of Canadian Map Libraries, and the Canadian Association of Geographers. Thus in a democratic way all cartographers in Canada would be represented on the Commission (by representatives from these five organizations) except those cartographers who do not belong to any of these organizations.

"The representation on the Commission is CIS - 12, OICC - 3, and 1 each from the other organizations. This may not seem democratic but 'money buys votes' and the CIS is prepared to pay the large share of the operating costs of the Commission.

"Admittedly there were gaps in the representation of cartographers in the coverage given by the five organizations, but despite this the Commission was founded at the CIS meeting in Fredericton in June 1975. Shortly after this I was dismayed by a letter from Mr Sebert stating that a Canadian Cartographic Association was being formed. I believed then, and I believe now, that the National Commission should have been brought into planning stages of this new organization. However, I support the aims of the new organization. I have already found that the two names, 'The Canadian Cartographic Association' and 'The National Commission for Cartography' are causing some confusion in Europe, but this situation will resolve itself.

"The CCA will do well to work within the National Commission and avoid competition with its other associations. The National Commission does not intend to set up symposia at the present time but does want to get a cartographic newsletter started. It is hoped there would be six issues per year. The CIS will pay for this.

"The question of a journal is more complex. The Canadian Cartographer, excellently edited by Professor B. V. Gutsell and published at York University should become the official journal of the National Commission, and negotiations with Professor Gutsell are under way.

"On the international scene, relations with the International Cartographic Association will continue to be through the National Commission as a representative of the CIS.

"Everyone at this gathering must remember that to cut away from the CIS, to cast off the shore lines so to speak, will cost a lot of money. The evolutionary procedures advocated by the CIS are still working, but for the time-being I strongly urge this new society to work within the National Commission."

The meeting then adjourned for lunch.

At 2:00 p. m. the Chairman recalled the meeting. He stated that before lunch various opinions had been expressed on the desirability and role of the new Association. He felt that discussion should now be held leading up to a resolution that the Association should be formed. The Chairman suggested that motions should be made to clarify two aspects that seemed to be troubling certain delegates, namely the relationship of the CCA with the National Commission, and competition that the CCA might engender in the field of licensing or chartering cartographers.

It was moved that the CCA apply for membership in the National Commission. The motion was seconded, and during the discussion Mr Kerr said that there is provision in the constitution of the National Commission for the acceptance of new member organizations. The motion was carried.

It was moved that the CCA make no attempt to license or charter cartographers. This motion was seconded and carried.

After a short discussion it was moved by Professor Klawe and seconded by Mr Thomas Wray that the Canadian Cartographic Association should be formed. The motion was carried unanimously.

The Chairman then directed the meeting to a discussion of the constitution.

It was suggested that the term "cartography" be defined in the constitution so that there would be no antagonism created in organizations dealing in surveying and photogrammetry. It was pointed out that the United Nations definition of cartography includes these disciplines. Others pointed out that this was not to be only an association for cartographers but for all those interested in maps including their use and custodianship, and hence a detailed definition of cartography was probably not appropriate. It was decided to leave the matter to an ad hoc committee which would draft the final constitution.

It was moved that a final constitution when written would include the sentence - "The Canadian Cartographic Association is organized as a private, non-profit association of members who are interested in the study and furtherance of cartography" or words to that effect. Carried.

The Chairman then asked for a motion to approve Article IV Section 1 as far as the end of 1a, of the draft constitution. This motion was made and seconded. During the discussion it was agreed that the words "and interest groups" be deleted, and that "official" be substituted for "various" (of the official committees,...).

With these amendments the motion was carried.

The Chairman then asked for a motion on Article IV, Section 1b. After discussion it was moved that Section 1b be deleted in its entirety. This motion was seconded and carried.

The Chairman asked if there was any other discussion on the draft constitution.

The length of terms of office was discussed (Article IV, Section 5). The benefits of a two-year term were pointed out, but after discussion it was agreed that for the present the one-year terms were probably best.

As there was no further discussion on the constitution the Chairman asked for the following motion:

"It was moved that the draft constitution as amended by the motions just made be accepted in general terms, subject to review of an ad hoc constitution committee to be appointed by the officers of the Association."

This motion was carried.

The Chairman then stated that the time had come for the nominations of officers. He called first for nominations for the office of President. Professor J. J. Klawe was nominated and elected by acclamation.

Nominations for 1st Vice-President were then called. The following were nominated.

Professor Gerald McGrath
Professor Liane Ottmann
Mr Aubrey LeBlanc

Professor McGrath was elected.

Nominations for 2nd Vice-President were then called. The following were nominated.

Mr Roger Norgren
Professor Liane Ottmann

Professor Ottmann was elected.

Mr L. M. Sebert and Mr Thomas Wray were then nominated for the offices of Secretary and Treasurer respectively and both were elected by acclamation.

The Chairman then stated that he would turn the meeting over to the President elect, but before doing so pointed out that much remained to be done before the Association was really launched. There remained the enrolment of members, collection of dues, and the setting up of a system for the accountability of funds.

Professor Klawe then took the podium. He thanked Dr Fraser for the excellent way in which he had handled the difficult work of the inaugural meeting. He spoke of Bernard Gutsell's fantastic achievement in publishing and editing The Canadian Cartographer on his own for more than a decade at York University. During that period, the journal had gained prestige not only in Canada but also throughout the world. The President emphasized that The Canadian Cartographic Association was founded to be essentially a cartographic association in the widest terms rather than an association of cartographers and hence would welcome into its membership all who have a serious interest in cartography. He then stated that he would take early steps to bring the CCA into the National Commission for Cartography.

The President then called for any other business.

Professor Guelke moved "That the editor and publisher of The Canadian Cartographer be approached with a view to making The Canadian Cartographer the official journal of the Canadian Cartographic Association". This motion was seconded by Professor Heidenreich.

During the discussion of this motion it was pointed out that negotiations were already in motion to have The Canadian Cartographer made the journal of The National Commission, and that the situation should be explored by the officers of the CCA before voting on the above resolution. It was proposed by Mr Witiuk and seconded by Dr Douglas that the motion be tabled until the first general meeting of the CCA.

It was moved that an ad hoc committee under the Chairmanship of Mr Aubrey LeBlanc be formed to investigate a suitable committee structure for the CCA. This motion was carried.

The Treasurer-elect moved that the Association open a bank account with those officers mentioned in By-Law V (the President, the Secretary and the Treasurer) be authorized as signing officers with the signature of any two to be required on all cheques issued by the Association.

This motion was carried.

It was then moved that the officers of the Association be instructed to appoint a constitutional committee, to include members outside the executive. This committee would review the draft constitution together with the amendments made at this meeting and report to the executive at or before the next annual meeting. This motion was amended by making April 1st, 1976 the deadline for the report. With this amendment the motion was carried.

Professor Norman Drummond, the representative of the Canadian Association of Geographers, then rose to congratulate the new Association and to wish it every success.

Mr Kerr also extended congratulations to the new Association.

The President thanked the Organizing Committee for their excellent work, the speakers for the high quality of their papers and Dr Fraser for his excellence in the role of Chairman of the Inaugural Meeting.

The President then said he hoped the First General Meeting could be held in Alberta in May or June of 1976.

A motion to adjourn was made and carried.

Registration at the meeting numbered 82.

