

Ottawa Field-Naturalists' Club – Board of Directors Meeting
Monday, October 20, 2025 – 7:00 p.m. on Zoom
Minutes

Chair: Owen Clarkin

Present: Emilia Michaud (until 8.00 p.m.), Jessica Sims, Annie Belair, Elizabeth Moore, Ted Farnworth (until 8.00 p.m.), Janette Niwa, Jakob Mueller, Lisa Chamney, Ken Young, Gordon Robertson, Bev McBride, Katriina Ilves (until 8.30 p.m.), Susan Lehmann

Absent: Ann MacKenzie

1. Approval of the Agenda – the agenda was approved as circulated with the addition of:
3 a) FWG RC internet provision
2. Acceptance of Minutes from September 15, 2025 Board of Directors meeting
Moved by Elizabeth Moore, seconded by Janette Niwa, that the Minutes of the September 15, 2025 Board of Directors meeting be approved. **CARRIED**
3. Business arising from the minutes
 - a) FWG Resource Centre internet provision - Ted had researched internet costs and all providers are quoting in the region of \$60 per month so staying with Fido, the current phone provider would seem to make sense.
Moved by Ted Farnworth, seconded by Gord Robertson, that FWG be provided with internet service so that events can be held there. **CARRIED**
It was noted that there are likely to be some initial equipment/installation costs.
4. Communications - Ken reported that there had been nil received by mail, noting that there was ongoing job action by postal workers.
5. Treasurer's Report – Ken had circulated the following report by email:

“Current Financial Processing

No issues.

We are now starting our 2025–26 fiscal year: October 1, 2025 through September 30, 2026.

Year-End Financial Processing

There are currently no issues. The schedule is:

September 30 Fiscal year end

October 9 Final processing of deposits and payments for FY2024–25

Mid-October Welch sets up a shared file folder for uploading documents

October 15 by this date, Ken has provided Katryna with any year end adjustments or entries to QuickBooks

October 31 by this date, Ken has uploaded all documents for Welch except those related to the Charity Return T3010

November 5 Katryna has uploaded all her documents (sometimes the HST is a bit late)

November 7 Proposed Teams meeting (Welch hosting) to discuss documents, any issues, timelines, etc.

November 28 by this date, Ken has uploaded files related to the Charity Return T3010

December 3 (or earlier)
draft financial statements from Morgan to Ken

December 15 OFNC Board meeting to review and approve signing the financial statements

December 31 deadline for providing financial statements to members, prior to ABM

January 14 OFNC Annual Business Meeting

January 12 Welch starts work on the Charity Return

March 31 Charity Return submission deadline

Chart of Accounts

The Chart of Accounts is the set of accounts that we use to categorize our revenues and expenses. It is used in everyday financial processing, such as the processing of expense claims. As well, it is the framework for our budget and our financial statements.

The set of accounts has been revised, with effect on October 1. The changes are minor, and mainly serve to simplify the chart by reducing the number of accounts. It was circulated to directors on October 17.

Expense Reimbursement Procedures

An updated Authorization form, and updated instructions, were also circulated on October 17. Please make volunteers aware of these new instructions. – and make sure old forms are destroyed.

6. Issues for Discussion

a) OFNC Website & Events planning re: birding

- i) Website: Emilia inquired whether Birds Committee is permitted to update the website independently and was advised that they can. Emilia was not sure whether they had the skills to manage this and was advised to contact Sandy Garland. Owen suggested that all chairs should be updating the website yearly in association with Sandy. Ken noted that there have been longstanding issues with website updating as it is not very user friendly. Gord noted that he and several others have access to the website and are able to do this but it would be difficult to organise a system that would suit all users. Emilia was advised that any major updates should be referred to the Board.

- ii) Events: Emilia inquired how birding events should be incorporated into the events calendar. Owen noted that the Events Committee tries to organise a varied programme but wondered whether someone from Birds could attend Events meetings or at least some of them.

A discussion ensued about the possibility of introducing some more varied types of events. Suggestions included: movie nights; events targeted towards families with children younger than Macoun Club age (~8yrs); workshops; FWG quest-style events; FWG tours using the quest materials; events targeted towards the student age population (it was noted that we have very few student members) possibly in partnership with the universities.

- b) Budget 2025-2026 – on behalf of Ann, Ken presented the slightly revised budget for fiscal year 2025-26 (**appended**) for approval. It is the same as discussed at the September meeting with two changes. In light of the costs reported by Ted in 3(a) above, the Resource Centre budget is increased by \$1,000 instead of \$600 for the internet hub, bringing the total budget for the Resource Centre to \$4,300. Safe Wings had to increase their expenses by \$850 to obtain extra security for their website which was hacked. These will be recurring expenses in future years.

Moved by Ken Young, seconded by Jakob Mueller, that the 2025-2026 budget be accepted as presented. **CARRIED**

- c) Species at Risk Legislation: Letters – Jakob had circulated three letters that Ontario Nature is asking OFNC to sign onto. ON is currently trying to focus on the reductions in protection for the environment that are buried in Bill 5.

Moved by Jakob Mueller, seconded by Katriina Ilves, that OFNC endorse each of three position statements from Ontario Nature. **CARRIED**

- d) CFN plan for catching up on publication schedule & implications on behalf of Publications Jess had circulated a report of the Publications Committee Meeting held on September 16, 2025 (**appended**) which included two significant decisions made with respect to CFN; namely (i) that 2025 will be skipped as a publication year in order to address concerns about subscription renewals and (ii) that articles will be published on-line as soon as they are finalized.

Owen asked whether Publications were confident that the subscription management agency EBSCO will look favourably on the skipped year. He was advised that they had not yet had a response but several subscriptions had been renewed recently and they are hopeful that the strategy will work.

- e) Events Email (Newsletter?) – Jess advised that she is hoping to work on this later this year or early next year.

- f) Policies (OFNC events & activities: “safety”) The Club had been asked whether we should be doing events in view of wildfires. Owen had responded that there were no restrictions and the Board felt that the Club conducted walks in a responsible manner.

A Board Member expressed concern about the reference to foraging in a recent advertisement of a walk. Other members also felt that foraging was an activity that required particularly responsible handling. Owen will follow up with the leader of the event.

7. Committee Updates

- a) Awards – Bev had circulated the following report by email:

“Club members have received notice that it’s time to nominate award candidates. There was an email sent to the members’ email list. The T&L with the notice might be delayed if members did not pick them up at the latest monthly meeting. The committee will hold its first meeting of the current awards season on December 10.”

Bev noted that they have received a couple of nominations in response to the email.

- b) Birds – Emilia had circulated the following report by email:

“Membership

- We have a total of 5 people interested in joining the committee: 2 have observed already and one is ready to join; three have not observed yet but we will have them join our next meeting.
- We want to have some changes in the committee as some members who’ve done certain duties for too long are ready to give that up.

Bird Records Subcommittee TOR

- see PDF file attached. **I think this either needs to be voted on by the BOD or I move to accept the TOR as we have already voted on that during our own BC monthly meeting.**

Activities and updates

- Janet presented at the West End Learning Unlimited on Oct 14. Her presentation was about Bird ID, both song and visual. She also provided information about the OFNC and provided pamphlets on the OFNC. She presented to 150 people and it went extremely well.
- **Land Access Permit for Shirley’s bay causeway** (to allow us to study/survey shorebirds in that area) - in process.
- **Tour of the bird skins collection of the Museum of Nature** (at the Pink Road location) - likely in November. Tour limited to 12 people.
- **Accessible birding locations** - working on updated document
- **Bird Song ID course** - we have material from a previous course and working on getting a course in place for Spring 2026.
- **Bird Feeders** - the one feeder we maintained on the Quebec side is not going to be active due to trees which have fallen at the site making the site unsafe.
- **SHRIKE database digitization** - we continue to use UofO student volunteers to get that data from paper checklists into eBird.
- Other projects we are working on but which are not that far along:
 - Bird tour/walk with members of the COO - tentative in February 2026
 - Ottawa River - Lac Deschenes IBA/KBA bird survey with the COO - TBD but ideally in May 2026
 - Birding Travel presentations – TBD”

c) Conservation – Jakob had circulated the following report by email:

“Drought ongoing across region

Throughout the summer, our region received less than 40% of normal precipitation, which was exacerbated by a much higher-than-normal number of days with above average temperatures, including more than double the normal number of days with temperatures above 30° C. This means that low rainfall was compounded by high evaporative loss. According to Agriculture Canada, a swath between Kingston and Ottawa is now classified as "Extreme Drought" with the rest of the region classified as "Severe Drought". Water levels are very low in most places. The dryness of course increases fire risk, and some have occurred in natural areas, including one in Alvin Runnals forest (a.k.a. The Ninth bog) that started September 21, and one between Lavant and Ompah (in north Frontenac County) that started yesterday.

Ecologically, many plants may seek early dormancy to avoid dying outright, and fruit crops (including nuts and seeds) will be aborted or reduced, affecting winter food stores for many animals. Most deciduous trees and herbaceous plants should be able to bounce back from one dry year, but would be under stress and vulnerable if next year has a similar pattern. Water depth is important for many overwintering animals to avoid freezing, so the degree to which water bodies can "recharge" through the fall may affect winter mortality.

Macskimming Outdoor Education Centre visit

The Conservation Committee was invited to visit the Macskimming Outdoor Education Centre on September 21, the day after the advertised Open Trails day, without the restrictions or time limits of the public day. The visit reinforced that this site is highly biodiverse, which was apparent despite the ongoing drought conditions. Highlights included the uncommon plant American Water-Pennywort (*Hydrocotyle americana*), the provincially rare Blunt-lobed Grapefern (*Sceptridium oneidense*), a species of fingernail clam in a (dry-in-September) vernal pool (potentially *Sphaerium occidentale*), the provincially rare Lemon Cuckoo Bumblebee (*Bombus citrinus*), and four of the six species of salamanders recorded from the site.”

d) Education & Publicity – Gord had circulated the following report by email:

“Fall storyboards were posted at the FWG.

Tour of the FWG was given to 20 girls and boys of the 24th Ottawa Scouts Beaver Colony on 17 September.

Five biographies were created by Fred Scaini and formatted by Michelle Michichiuc for use at the Billings Estate Junior Explorer's day on 20 September. A quest was also prepared by Gord Robertson to help focus attention on the local flora and fauna.

Canadian Association for Girls in Science on will tour FWG on 4 October with Deb Doherty, Stephanie Valade, and Cheryl Souliere.

Stephanie is working on updating the trifold board and a flyer about the club. Fred will contact Staples for quotes on prices.

Gord will get new flyers made to replace several missing English flyers. Ed&Pub will take over this job for the FWG from Eleanor Zurbrigg.

Ted Farnworth to contact Fido to add internet to telephone Wi-Fi.

Gord added a link to the Education pages in the Committee's submenu.”

Gord noted that there had not been a lot of feedback to the questionnaire they had sent out regarding members expertise.

- e) Events – Owen noted that the Committee is always looking for new properties and reported that they had visited Howard S. Mitchell Forest near Vankleek Hill and had found it to be full of rare plants. Stormont Dundas Glengarry Counties leases out some of the forest to a sugar bush operation so there are tubes everywhere but there has been no cutting to thin out the non-sugar trees. Owen suggested it would make a good venue for a spring ephemerals walk.

Jess suggested that Events consider approaching local authors to talk to the Club.

- f) Finance – see 6b) above.

- g) Fletcher Wildlife Garden – Ted had circulated the following report:

“Most outdoor volunteer activity has ended for the year
The water system for the Back Yard Garden has been winterized
Storm windows have replaced the screens on the windows of Building 138
The bird feeder has been moved to a new location beside the pathway leading to the pond
We are redoing the map that was on the bulletin board near the parking lot as it is outdated
We are looking to replace the name of Building 138. Right now it is referred to as “Resource Centre”. We are open to suggestions.”

- h) Macoun Club – Susan reported that activities are proceeding as usual. Owen and Katriina had offered to do some sort of event with the Club.
- i) Membership – Lisa had sent round the Membership Annual Report, showing current numbers, types of membership and distribution. Currently she only shares the Membership List with Ken and Jess.

Ken raised the question of member privacy. We have a number of lists/databases. There is no easy solution to developing an airtight approach to privacy. We are not a regulated industry like, say, healthcare and there is not a lot of guidance. Regulatory software is usually out of the U.S. Ken emphasised that government legislation affecting us does discuss privacy. Owen would like to discuss this matter further.

j) Ontario Nature – Jakob had circulated the following report by email

“Regional East meeting held on October 15

The fall regional meeting was held virtually on October 15. Among other things, many attendees expressed a version of frustration, fatigue, or despair at the scale and scope of current environmental challenges in Ontario, and the "flooding the zone" strategy being employed, wherein multiple regulations, policies, and laws are being changed or revoked simultaneously, under the cover of distraction from seeming larger, certainly louder world events. From this, we agreed that persistence, perseverance, resiliency, and mutual support is key, both at an organizational level and on an individual one.

Bill 5 and its "spin-off" effects remain a key focus for Ontario Nature, which is trying to galvanize public sentiment in ways that limit damage, and ideally force repeals or reversals of regressive changes. Of particular focus are the erosion of wetland protections, and the severe reduction and undercutting of provincial-level Species-at-Risk protections.

Ontario Nature is seeking a meeting with the City of Ottawa, jointly with the City of Ottawa and the Friends of Stittsville Wetlands, to advocate for wetland protections and conservation best practices at a municipal level, which could help mitigate the loss of provincial-level protections and "Provincially Significant Wetland" designations.

Three related letters for club endorsement

Related to these priorities, an email already circulated to the board contained three draft joint letters, each addressing a different aspect of Bill 5-related changes open for comment and review. Ontario Nature is seeking our endorsement on all of these.

Carden Alvar solar farm proposal update

Ending on a positive note, and an example of persistence and perseverance galvanizing enough public support to force a positive change: the proposed solar farm reported last month that would have occupied 2500 acres of high-quality habitat, is not moving forward. Due to the sheer amount of opposition to the proposal, and the substantive concerns raised, the company behind the project backed away completely.”

Jakob reported that it was apparent at the meeting that all these threats to the environment are taking a significant mental and emotional toll on those individuals involved in conservation. He emphasised the need to continue to focus on conservation moving forward but to maintain a balance and take a break when needed.

Jakob noted that another omnibus bill, the “Building a More Competitive Economy Act’ was introduced today. This is likely to make species at risk legislation even weaker.

k) Publications – (see also Item 6d) above) Jess had circulated the following report by email:

“The Publications Committee report is a significant one this time. The committee met on September 16 and made two important decisions regarding the publication of The Canadian Field-Naturalist (see Item 6d) above).

Dwayne had circulated the following report by email:

- since last OFNC Board meeting on 15 September, Dwayne in the field in southern BC for a week and Amanda at a conference for the same week, both with limited access to email / their files
- Robert (layout) on the way to Europe for 2 weeks today (will have slower than normal access to the web)

138(4) October-December 2024

- 7 galleys produced, three posted online (2, 4, and 11 Oct), two awaiting return of author (AU) order / copyright transfer forms; two in final editing after AU review of galley
- manuscripts on: fishes of the Rideau River-Canal system; grizzly predation on bison calf; prescribed fire on aspen; Stonecat catfish in Saskatchewan; Grouseberry habitat use by Grizzly Bears; growth patterns of 1st-yer minnows using otoliths, inner ear bone'; and horned dinosaur fossil from Saskatchewan (open access)
- cover picture is an artist's rendition of an attack on a horned dinosaur by a albertosaurine tyrannosaur during the Cretaceous Period of the Mesozoic Era (see embedded draft mock-up)
- charge for using artist Julius Csotonyi's paleoart paid by AUs of dinosaur paper
- 16 galley pages of Book Reviews (BR) and New Titles (NT) ready for online posting once all seven manuscripts have been posted
- total of 66 journal pages so far, so should have enough for minimum 80 pages with News and Comment (docx produced including a note added about continuous online posting and full colour printing), Editors' Report for 137 (in progress), and Index for Volume 138 (yet to be produced)

139(1) January–March 2026 – Note the skipping of the 2025

- 1 Note on four-toed salamander sent for formal copyediting today
- 1 Article on scent marking in mesocarnivores returned with AU tweaks and nearly ready for formal copyediting (sent back to AUs today)
- docx of BR ($n=7$) and NT rcvd from Jess 25 August (before her departure on 5 September)
- News and Comment will include an explanation of what happened to publication year 2025

Other manuscripts in the process

- 4 author revisions have been received including 1 revision edited by Associate Editor (AE)
- 2 revisions being handled by AE
- 11 recommendations by AE received and awaiting EiC (Editor-in-Chief, Dwayne's) decision: reject, revise, resubmit, accept
- 2 sent for AE opinions after AU revisions
- 33 being revised by AU, some of which will probably not be revised by AUs
- 9 with reviews in progress and EiC awaiting recommendation by AEs
- 5 assigned to AE but not yet sent for formal review, including 1 today received last Friday; 1 of which the AU had difficulties with OJS and seeing and understanding what still needed to be done (trying to avoid outright rejection without review); another Dwayne asked AE if worthy of formal review in addition to his seeking clarification on taxonomic status of the subject of the article from colleagues at COSEWIC
- total 31 submissions/queries received so far in 2025 so submission increased since last year
- by 25 October 2024, had 21 submissions/queries (total of 25 that year)
- 47 in 2022 and 2023
- 46 in 2021
- 63 in 2020

Annie reported that over 100 copies of T&L had been collected at the monthly meeting during the postal strike. The remainder were posted last week. It is not clear how long they will take to arrive.

Book Club - Jess: Our next meeting is on October 28 at 7 p.m. (still using Zoom). We will be discussing Eager: The Surprising, Secret Life of Beavers and Why They Matter. I am trying a slightly different meeting format with no speaker and just focusing on discussion of the book. I'm taking an idea from the feedback survey I sent to book club members over the summer, where we will switch groups half-way through the meeting so everyone gets an opportunity to talk to different people. The vote for the next book will be sent later this weekend. I am keeping to the same schedule I had for the first round of book club, meaning after October's meeting the next meeting will be January.

l) Safe Wings Ottawa – Janette had circulated the following report by email:

“Website Hacking Event

- Hack redirected searches through Google, direct access remains unaffected (typing our website address into web browser bar)
- No breach found of personal data
- Paying for the 3rd party website cleaning and monitoring service (as per Ann's budget update) - challenge due to the “layers within the website” so doing a clean ourselves then contractor (helps keep costs down)

Volunteer Activities / Bird Tagging

- Encouraging & helping volunteers with bird tagging
- Call-out for rehab help due to high numbers of birds in care
- Need more volunteers for patrolling downtown area

Advocacy

- NAC has cost request for treating the north side – to mngt framed as a compliance issue
- Have volunteer who will document/photograph bird-friendly buildings and upload them to the Global Bird Collision Mapper; includes OCH building in the East End that reportedly has bird-friendly glass causing complaints from residents
- Ottawa Community Housing's recent developments: Gladstone Village and Mosaic Phase 2, were initially planned to be bird-friendly but were made non-compliant without notice

BFO

- Ready for entry-level certification, but city is still stuck thinking need standards and no-roaming bylaw, which is NOT the case
- Sending to SW (1) poster for the storytelling circle at Foge Capital Forests to distribute to the membership and (2) link for the BirdSafe campus bird walk and cleanup event on the Rideau River

- Will share with Councillor King about OCH not following through with bird-friendly glass in their new developments
- Will share information about Bird Friendly Gatineau's certification application

Social Media

- Posting to ask people to send in photos of bird-friendly buildings once the documentation system is set up

Carleton U research

- Student working on publishing her research on standardized monitoring and developing infographics in November for outreach as appropriate

8. Adjournment – there being no further business, the meeting was adjourned

Recording Secretary: Elizabeth Moore

Upcoming Meeting Dates

November 17, 2025

December 15, 2025

January 19, 2025

Appendices

1. 2025-2026 Budget
2. Publications Committee Report on the publication of *The Canadian Field-Naturalist*
October 20, 2025

**Appendix 1: Ottawa Field Naturalists' Club - Budget for FY2025-26
Approved by the Board of Directors on October 20, 2025**

	Account	Budget \$
OPERATING REVENUES:		
	4005 Membership Fees	\$ 28,000
	4030 Sales FWG	17,000
	4030 Sales Other	1,500
	4105 Donations - General	6,000
	4106 Donations - FWG	3,500
	4109 Donations - Safe Wings	8,000
	4200 CFN Subscriptions	12,000
	4220 CFN Author's Charges	32,000
	4410 Pelee Trip Revenue	41,000
	TOTAL OPERATING REVENUE	\$ 149,000
EXPENDITURES:		
	5001 CFN Expenses	\$ 79,000
	5105 Trail & Landscape	33,000
	5202 FWG Habitats	8,000
	5203 FWG Fundraising	2,500
	5230 Resource Centre	4,300
	5305 Awards Committee	225
	5310 Birds Committee	3,200
	5311 Safe Wings	11,100
	5315 Macoun Club General	1,200
	5315 Macoun Fund	1,000
	5320 Pelee Trip Expenses	34,000
	5325 Education & Publicity	3,950
	5330 Events (except Pelee) Expenses	7,300
	5335 Membership Committee	400
	5605 Affiliation Fees	248
	5620 Club Administration	3,410
	5670 Donations	7,000
	5685 Insurance	2,200
	5690 Financial Service Fees	2,580
	5710 Professional Fees	19,707
	5790 Website	500
	TOTAL EXPENDITURES	\$ 224,820
	EXCESS/(DEFICIT) OF REVENUE	(\$75,820)
	4440 Interest from Investments	45,000
	NET REVENUE WITH INTEREST	(\$30,820)

Appendix 2

Publications Committee Report on the publication of *The Canadian Field-Naturalist* - October 20, 2025

The Publications Committee met on **September 16** and made two important decisions regarding the publication of *The Canadian Field-Naturalist*:

1. To address concerns about subscription renewals, CFN will skip 2025 as a publication year.

What does this mean? The issue currently in progress and slated next for publication is **Vol. 138 issue 4 (2024)**. This is the final issue for Volume 138 and will be published by the end of the current year. Then, what would have been Volume 139 (2025) will become **Volume 139 (2026)**.

For a full explanation of the reasoning behind this decision and the steps that the committee will take to implement it, **SEE the email copied at the bottom of this report: “DOCUMENT 1: Update from Publications Committee”** sent by Committee Chair Jeff Saarela to Owen on October 8, 2025.

2. a) CFN articles will now be published online as soon as they are finalized (i.e., switch to rolling publication).

What does this mean? Instead of having to wait for *all* articles, notes, and book reviews to be completed to publish an issue in its entirety online, the CFN editorial team can now post articles *individually* as soon as they are finalized (i.e., author proofs and copyright forms are complete). The switch to rolling publication aligns with industry standards and will help demonstrate timely output to partners like EBSCO, authors, and subscribers.

This is a great idea! Why didn't you do this before? One very key element has changed with CFN's publication process that now allows us to make the switch to rolling publication online: CFN has switched to **digital printing in full colour**, which has eliminated the need (and previous constraint) of having to optimize page layouts for colour placement. It also means that every page can now be printed in colour at no extra cost! With our previous printing method (offset printing), colour pages were limited and grouped to reduce costs, and so final pagination had to be 'locked in' before any article could be published.

When will it start? It's already begun! The editorial team has started to implement rolling publication for **Vol. 138 issue 4**. You can see what this looks like here: <https://www.canadianfieldnaturalist.ca/index.php/cfn>

How will you notify authors? A notice went out to authors about this change on October 3, 2025, and an announcement was also posted to the website: <https://www.canadianfieldnaturalist.ca/index.php/cfn/announcement/view/13>

The CFN Production Team has drafted a letter that will be published in the next issue. I highly recommend reading it, as it does an excellent job explaining the background behind this decision (and includes some fun

facts about printing processes). **SEE the draft copied to the bottom of this report: “DOCUMENT 2: The Canadian Field-Naturalist moves to full-colour printing and continuous online posting”.**

2. b) This switch to digital printing (which allows us to do rolling publication) will likely necessitate a change in CFN’s page charges to authors.

Why? With digital printing in full colour at no extra cost, this means that CFN can no longer charge extra for colour pages. The Publications Committee will discuss this at our meeting on October 21 and will then likely propose changes for approval for the Finance Committee/Board of Directors.

Next meetings: October 21, and early December (annual in-person dinner with Dwayne)

Publications Committee Report — Extra Documentation

DOCUMENT 1: “Update from Publications Committee” sent October 8, 2025 from Jeff Saarela

Hi Owen,

I’d like to brief you on a recent decision the Publications Committee made when we met on Sept. 16.

Most CFN subscriptions are managed on our behalf by EBSCO, a subscription management agency. Within the last year or so, EBSCO suspended selling subscriptions to CFN given the delayed publication schedule. To date, ~100 institutional subscribers have not renewed for volume 139 (2025), of which no issues have yet appeared. This is a critical source of revenue for the journal, and we need to do our best to get EBSCO to remove the suspension so we can try to get these subscribers back.

To address this issue, the committee decided that CFN will skip 2025 as a publication year (on paper) to realign our publishing schedule with the correct calendar year:

- Volume 138(4) remains 2024 and will be published in the final months of 2025.
- The next issue, which would have been Volume 139 (2025) becomes Volume 139 (2026).
- This eliminates the longstanding issue of our delayed publication schedule (we are about 1 year behind at present – and this is a constant source of pressure on the team) and aligns publication dates with the calendar year going forward. We expect this to be sufficient evidence for EBSCO that we are “back on track” such that they will open up subscriptions. This is the only action possible to get “caught up”.
- This change requires a bit of work on the part of the committee to ensure that a relatively small number of subscribers (<40) who already paid for 139 (2025), which will not exist, do not pay again for 139 (2026).
- We have briefed Ann and Ken on the Finance committee. They understand the minimal short-term financial implications of this change.

Overall, we believe this approach will be viewed favourably by all stakeholders – the Board, subscribers, subscription agents (EBSCO), authors, and readers – as the longstanding issue of being behind schedule will no longer exist.

Someone from the Publication Committee who is at the next board meeting will be able to share this information with the full board during that meeting. I wanted to let you know in advance, as there are several moving parts related to this that the committee needs to stay on top of in short order.

All the best,
Jeff

DOCUMENT 2: *The Canadian Field-Naturalist* moves to full-colour printing and continuous online posting

Advances have been made in digital printing as a replacement for offset printing. Offset printing uses plates to transfer an image, including text, to a rubber surface onto which a sheet of paper is rolled. It is best suited for large print runs. Digital printing is similar to laser printing in that it uses toner or liquid ink to transfer the image to paper, but it is less wasteful than offset/laser printing and is better and more cost effective for smaller print runs. Because of COVID-19 supply-chain issues, *The Canadian Field-Naturalist* (CFN) tried digital printing, with limited success; see 135(4) and 136(1). Recently Gilmore Printer Services, Ottawa, which prints CFN, upgraded their digital printer. Recent results using digital printing were equivalent to offset printing; see 138(2) and 138(3). As such, CFN has moved to digital printing. One additional advantage for digital over offset printing is that CFN can now be printed fully in colour. Previously, while the online version was in colour, there was an additional cost to print in colour for those authors wishing and able to pay for colour. This additional charge has now been eliminated. And, we no longer have to produce two versions of the journal: one full-colour for posting online and the other for printing, some of which could be in colour.

Another recent change is that manuscripts for articles and notes will be posted online as soon as they are finalized and we have received author order and copyright transfer forms. Previously we waited until all the content of an issue was ready before online posting. The continuous online-posted, latest issue will be labelled "In Progress" when we are still adding content and it is not yet complete. Content in the "In Progress" issue will be fully citable, with a year, volume, issue, page numbers, and a DOI assigned when they are published. As always, the latest issue can be viewed at <https://www.canadianfieldnaturalist.ca/index.php/cfn/issue/view/111>.

Lastly, while content will continue to be posted online, now immediately as it is finalized, the publication date for each issue of CFN remains the mailing date of the printed copy, which occurs several weeks after a full issue is posted online and the print-galley proofs have been reviewed and any required corrections made. The publication date remains extremely important when new species are formally described and named is changed as outlined in international codes for nomenclature of flora and fauna.

CFN Production Team