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**THE ONTARIO REGION OF
THE FEDERATION OF DANISH ASSOCIATIONS IN CANADA
Minutes of the Annual General Meeting - Saturday October 4, 2025
Hosted by Sunset Villa, Puslinch, Ontario**

1. Welcome by the President

Liselotte Ostergaard opened the meeting at 2:15 and welcomed the 16 participants. Special welcome was extended to Rolf and Vita Christensen from Ottawa, as well as guest speaker Lynn Crow from the Puslinch Historical Society.

2. Danish Federation Song - The Danish Federation song was sung.

3. Round Table Introductions: Each participant introduced themselves and signed the Roll Call Log.

4. Approval of Agenda: Monica Jensen moved to approve the Agenda; seconded by Lisa Olsen. All in favour.

5. Minutes from Spring Meeting of April 27, 2024:

Aase Christensen tabled the minutes and moved the minutes be accepted as written. The motion was seconded by Monica Jensen. All in favour.

6. Treasurer's Report: Lis Sondergaard tabled the Treasurer's Report and moved the Report be accepted as presented.

The spring lottery plus the membership fees have brought the balance to \$945. Monica Jensen seconded motion, All in favour.

7. Reports from Member Organizations

- **Danish Club of Ottawa:** Rolf Christensen presented on behalf of Lene Kelly:
 - The Danish Club of Ottawa celebrated their 50th anniversary with a lunch in May.
 - The Executive Board was re-elected at their AGM
 - The club will be holding their annual Christmas Bazaar on November 15th, 2025
- **Danish Lutheran Church Toronto:** Liselotte Ostergaard presented the report:
 - The Danish Lutheran Church Toronto continues to offer weekly activities including Church Café, Golden Age Club, Folk Dancing, Knit Wits, and Danish movie afternoons.
 - Pastor Kirstine is leading a Bible Study on Women of the Old Testament.
 - The annual Thanksgiving Dinner will be held on October 18th
 - The Church will be holding their annual Christmas Bazaar on November 15th, 2025.
- **Sunset Mindepark:** Sune Overgaard presented the report
 - Eight plots have sold to-date in 2025.
 - There have been 20 interments in 2025.
 - Sune credited the upkeep of the beautiful Mindepark to the "Geritol Gang", in particular the three volunteers who mainly look after maintenance and interments.
- **Sunset Villa Association:** Monica Jensen presented the report
 - Sunset Villa celebrated their 75th anniversary
 - The 2025 Constitution Day was very well attended
 - The annual Nordic Market will take place on December 7th
 - Sunset Villa will be hosting the Annual Danish Federation Conference in June 2026
- **Danish Women's Cultural Association:** No report.
- **Pass Lake Historical Society:** Report submitted by Lena Moore (Secretary)
 - The Pass Lake Historical Society hosted three evenings in July to learn more on Genealogy
 - The Society participated in the 2025 Pass Lake Country Fair with display boards, photo books, song books and artifacts
 - The community will be celebrating the Church's 100th Anniversary in the fall of 2026
 - The Society now hosts their meetings in the newly constructed Salem Lutheran Church
- **Danish Canadian Chamber of Commerce:** no report.

8. Cultural Input: Lynn Crow from the Puslinch Historical Society gave an excellent presentation on the history of Puslinch.

- Puslinch was named after Lieutenant-Governor Sir John Colborne's wife's birthplace in Devon, England. Settlers, mainly "Highland Scotch," started arriving in the 1830s. Villages with businesses, stores, and tailor shops developed around Adam Black's Hotel and the Crieff crossroad. The area's rich resources of granite and limestone attracted skilled stonemasons who contributed to a strong masonry tradition.
- Lynn spoke on the various settlers and their contributions to the establishment of the area.

- Lynn discussed the link between Lt. Colonel J.B. Maclean, the publisher of Maclean's Magazine, and the property now owned by Sunset Villa Association. Maclean previously owned the property, and the original building at the Sunset Villa location belonged to him. In 1955, the Danish-Canadian community established the Sunset Villa Association and obtained ownership of the property.

Coffee and Lottery

\$450 was raised from the Lottery which was split 3 ways between the Danish Canadian National Museum, New Denmark Historical Society and Ontario Region Federation.

- 9. Danish Federation Conference, Sunset Villa, Puslinch 2026** – The conference will be held from June 4th to 7th, 2026. Host will be the Sunset Villa Association, Puslinch, On. The theme is to be “Traditions”
- 10. Danish Federation Heritage Seminar:** Sune Overgaard and Pastor Kirstine Rasmussen are the Seminar coordinators for the 2026 Heritage Seminar which will be held from June 8 to 12th, 2026. Pastor Kirstine will be the Headmaster of the Seminar.
- 11. Update from Danish Canadian National Museum:**
- 12. Other Business:**
 - A brief discussion took place on ideas of maintaining and attracting new memberships as well as encouraging more people to attend events.
- 13. Elections:** Liselotte Ostergaard handed the Chair over to Gert Andersen, for the supervision of the elections for Board Members. The members of the current Board were willing to stand for reelection. There were no further nominations from the floor therefore, Liselotte Ostergaard (President), Lis Sondergaard (Treasurer) and Aase Christensen (Secretary) were elected for another year by acclamation.
- 14. Spring Meeting:** Sune Overgaard has kindly volunteered to host the Spring Meeting on April 18th at the Church, where the Royal Dinner will also be taking place in the evening. Everyone is invited to attend.
- 15. Adjournment:** Monica Jensen moved the meeting adjourn at 4:32.

*Respectfully submitted by
Aase Christensen, Secretary*

Participants

Rolf Christensen	Past President, Danish Federation
Lisa Olsen	National Secretary, Danish Federation
Liselotte Ostergaard	President, Ontario Region Danish Federation
Lis Sondergaard	Treasurer, Ontario Region Danish Federation
Aase Christensen	Secretary, Ontario Region Danish Federation
Sune Overgaard	Danish Lutheran Church Toronto; Sunset Mindepark
Gerda Andersen	Danish Lutheran Church Toronto
Kirstine Rasmussen	Pastor, Danish Lutheran Church Toronto
Ole Jensen	Danish Lutheran Church Toronto
Gert & Inge Andersen	Sunset Villa Association
Jens Christensen	Sunset Villa Association
Vita Christensen	Ottawa Danish Club
Betty Andersen	Sunset Villa Association
Monica Jensen	President, Sunset Villa Association
Lillian Rosendal	Sunset Villa Association
Lynn Crow	Puslinch Historical Society