Minutes of the LPI 2024 Annual General Meeting
June 22nd, 2024 – 1300 UTC

AGM Recap

https://www.lpi.org/articles/linux-professional-institute-2024-annual-general-meeting/
https://www.lpi.org/elections/2024-2/reports/

Chair: Jon "maddog" Hall
Facilitator: G. Matthew Rice (Executive Director)
Community Host: Max Roveri (Community Manager)

1. Welcome and Opening Remarks

Chair: Jon "maddog" Hall

Welcomed members, partners, staff, and attendees.

Confirmed the need to reach quorum (10% of 288 members).

Reminder to vote in the ongoing Board election before 9:30 EDT / 13:30 UTC.

Acknowledged those who helped organise the AGM: Max Roveri, G. Matthew Rice, and the tech team.

2. Executive Director's Report

Speaker: G. Matthew Rice

Reviewed 2023 Annual Report and organisational activities.

Highlighted LPI's ongoing relevance and impact in the certification market.

Key milestones:

Release of fourth Essential Certification: Open Source Essentials

Ongoing updates to LPIC-2 and DevOps Tools Engineer exams

Growth of Approved Trainer Program

Focus on free, multi-language learning materials at learning.lpi.org

Encouraged partner contributions to LPI blog/newsfeed

Noted growing demand for Open Source Program Offices globally (including UN interest)

Emphasised LPI's commitment to community: translation, content sharing, volunteering

Highlighted the Share Your Voice and Upgrade to Linux initiatives

Acknowledged the value of the membership program, especially certification permanence

Invitation to members to participate in governance and board elections

Previewed LPI's 25th Anniversary in 2024, with planned celebrations and promotions

3. Treasurer's Report

Speaker: Riccardo Prudenciato (Board Treasurer)

Financial trend for 2023 showed recovery after pandemic losses.

Revenue: Increased, driven by voucher sales

Expenses: Decreased, more efficient

Deficit: Still present but significantly reduced

Q1 2024: LPI returned to surplus

Emphasis on maintaining financial reserves for stability

No need for loans during COVID years; goal is continued responsible growth

4. Governance & Board Elections

Chair: Jon "maddog" Hall

Explained LPI's governance structure as a Canadian non-profit:

Board size: 3–13 members (currently 10 via Nominating Committee, 3 via Member Ballot)

Annual AGM is a legal requirement

2024 Election Details:

Five board seats up for election

Two outgoing board members chose not to renew: Vicky Brasseur and Jon Hall

Voting Resolutions:

  ☐ Approved: Approval of 2023 AGM minutes
  ☐ Approved: Appointment of Kwart & Company as 2024 auditor

Board Election Results (via STV voting system):
  ☐ Elected for 3-year term:

Klaus
Jill
Brian
Dorothy
Uirá

maddog officially steps down as Board Chair

Will continue as Returning Officer and advisor for board transition

Plans to promote greater board diversity (e.g. Asia, Sub-Saharan Africa)

5. Community Q&A Highlights

Moderator: G. Matthew Rice

Questions from Tiago (and others):

Membership value:

Current 25% discount for exam vouchers will be raised to 50%

Permanent certification status

Upcoming improvements to Approved Trainer Program

LPIC-3 Learning Materials:

Challenge remains due to specificity of topics

Self-study and third-party resources are recommended

Ongoing discussion on support for LPIC-3 learners

Digital Badging:

Credly integration under discussion

Enhancements planned for social media-friendly credential sharing

Learning Materials Index Page:

Shared during the meeting (via chat)

6. Recognition of Jon "maddog" Hall

Presented by: G. Matthew Rice

Acknowledged Jon's contribution to LPI and global open source community

Official launch of LPI's Hall of Fellows, with Jon Hall as the inaugural fellow

Presented engraved award on behalf of the organisation

7. Closing and Next Steps

maddog to send thank-you and transition letters to board members

July: Organisational board meeting to elect new chair, secretary, treasurer

Monthly board meetings to resume in July or August

Meeting adjourned by Jon "maddog" Hall

LPI - AGM 24

Welcome, everybody, to the Annual General Meeting of the Linux Professional Institute for 2024. My name is Jon "maddog" Hall.

I am the Board Chairman of the Linux Professional Institute, and I have been since 2015. I want to remind everybody that the voting for the Board of Directors is continuing on and will be going on until 9.30 Eastern Daylight Time or 13.30 Universal Time. So if you haven't voted yet, please do.

At the end of the voting period, we will tally up the votes, tell people what the results are of the different questions like acceptance of the auditor and also who is elected to the Board for the next three years. I want to welcome all of the members, all of the partners of Linux Professional Institute, all of the staff who are listening, and I want to especially thank the people that made this particular meeting possible. That's Max Baveri, who you may see later, and G. Matthew Rice, who is Executive Director, and our friends at the platform that we're all using.

In order for this AGM to be successful, we have to reach what is known as quorum, and at this point we have 288 different members that are members of LPI, and we have to have at least 10% of them having voted and met this. So if you haven't voted yet, please do so. In the next few minutes, we're going to have a few reports.

One will be given by G. Matthew Rice, Executive Director, and the other will be given by Riccardo Puginciato, our Treasurer, and then I'm going to turn it over to Matt for him to do his reports, and then afterwards it'll be Riccardo doing his. Matt, take it away. I just found out I was muted.

So, again, welcome everybody that could make the meeting, and thanks, Max, and for those that aren't able to make it, I hope that some of you are watching the recording of this meeting. I'm going to be going through our 2023 Annual Review. It gives a nice summary of all

of the activities we've been doing for the previous year, as well as sometimes a sneak peek into things that are coming.

The first thing we start with in our Annual Review is some proof statements for us that we're still on the right track in what we're doing. There's still a high value in the market for the certification programs that we're doing. We're still helping newcomers and people that are transitioning into new fields like IT to find employment or start their own consulting business.

So we find that gratifying that some of our partners and other industry leaders have helped us, you know, with their surveys and their research and determined that we're still on track. As well, if there's any questions while I'm going through this review, feel free to type them in the reception. I'll check on them in a second.

This table of contents, we just put together a little collage of people you might recognize, like maddog, some of our board members, staff, and other people, and talks, of course. So some of the things we do, one of the things we like to do is to help promote our partners. They're really the vanguard of all the activities.

We're here to support them, their education programs, their hiring programs, what have you. So actually, for any partners that are listening to this, if you would like to share something with our community, whether it's technical knowledge, business acumen, opinions on the state of open source, we do welcome your participation and we'll help you get that published on our blog or newsfeed. And, of course, our biggest activity is our certification program.

So over 2023 and leading into 2024, we finished our fourth essential certification. That's the open source essentials that you can see here. So now they cover a good entry level set of topics for anybody that's new to open source and Linux, including just wanting to be a little more secure when they're on the internet.

The other thing that's going on this year is we are updating LTEc2 and our DevOps certifications. So if anyone wants to help participate in that, you can find a mailing list where a

lot of the activity and updates are shared. I can put that URL in the chat later if anyone needs it.

And I'll just leave it at that. So this is the open source essentials one. This one has garnered a lot of interest, particularly folks that are interested in advocating and creating open source program offices.

That seems to actually be a very hot topic this year amongst governance circles, including all the way up to the United Nations. And if you keep an eye on our blog and our newsfeeds, you'll probably hear more about those sort of things later on during the year. And another large program we have is our learning materials.

Basically lesson plans. We cover LPIC-1, some of the essentials, and we're continuously releasing new lessons as we go, as well as translating them into a number of languages that you can see here on the right. We try to release learning materials as we update our existing certifications, but keep an eye on learning.lpi.org for any updates.

They're free to download and use. We do have a few requirements for commercial use, mostly just so that we can keep everybody updated when things are fixed or new lesson plans come in, you know, so that there's no confusion for people that are using them on what's the latest version, and to keep, you know, any edits and updates together. For our membership program, we are actually now over 300 members, and we do have a program that is specifically for our members.

It's the approved trainer program. Now, all of our partners are expected, especially the training partners, are expected to have their instructors be certified at the level that they're teaching, but this approved trainer program is meant to help individual trainers keep up to date, present themselves to the public. They might be offering their service to corporate training partners and colleges and universities, and we'll be doing more during this next year to support them as well.

One of the talks is to enable students to be able to start providing feedback, not just on our training partners' activities, but the individual trainers' as well, something else to help them with their reputation. And we also have, of course, our standing partnership programs. Instead of doing everything as a one-off with anyone that wants to work with us, we found that there's some themes in what they want to do, and so we've been able to put together these programs so that it expedites supporting them in, well, helping us with our mission, which is to promote the use of open source everywhere, particularly in a commercial and professional setting.

And as well, if any members or certification holders would like to get involved and help us with that mission, there are numerous volunteer programs that they can sign up for. Just lpi.org slash community should find this list, and it ranges from helping us at booths, events we go to, helping us with translations, both technical ones in the learning materials and exams, as well as our web content and our news, or even helping us create your own content with us. We call it Share Your Voice.

And, of course, if you're interested in governance, there's also a few committees that people can join. And since most of the people here today are members, as well, there's board positions every year that open up that you can run for. You can either apply through the nominating committee, which is open to everybody, or you could go through the member-nominated route where we'll help find some other members that believe in your rationale for wanting to be on the board and help you get enough nominations to get on the ballot.

And then the rest of the report is more about our activities. So some of the events we go to, we go to numerous ones throughout the year. We're always interested in seeing members and certification holders pop by to say hi.

So keep an eye out for that as well. And we've also got a small program going called Upgrade to Linux. There was a recent couple of updates to other desktop operating system that was going to make a lot of hardware obsolete.

So we thought we would do a little push to promote the idea of maybe repurposing those computers and running Linux or VSD. You might have noticed earlier in the annual review here, we also have a VSD certification, free software, FOSS. We like supporting all of it.

And if you download a copy of the annual review, you can also see some of the results of our marketing activities and presence on social media. And of course, being a promoter of open source software, we also use it ourselves, from developing some of the software we use internally to using WebLate and other tools for translation. This is not a complete list, but pretty close to all the different software that we use internally.

And as well, this is a list of the board members that we had as of 2023. Some of them are remaining. Some are leaving, like Jon is at the end of this month.

And so, of course, again, I can't stress it enough. We're always looking for good board members, board members that understand the value of open source and would like to help with steering and the direction of LPI in general. And soon to be updated, also a little timeline of LPI's history.

This year is going to be our 25th anniversary birthday of LPI. So we are looking to do some promotions around the number 25 and our birthday. So if anyone has some suggestions on things we could do, we welcome them as well.

And then a little written history as well for those that have good eyes or are willing to read it later. And that's it for my presentation. I'll leave it at that.

Yeah. And I think I'm in the right chat, but I – oh, actually, I'm not on the stage. Were there any questions? Yeah.

We do not have questions at the moment. But if you are finished, I'm very happy to introduce Riccardo. Yes.

Okay. Feel free to take the mic. Hello, everybody.

I am Max Rovery. I am a community manager in LPI. And I'm going to introduce now for you Riccardo Prudenciato.

Riccardo Prudenciato is part of the board, and he's going to give us some insights about the treasurer's report as he is in the board, the treasurer. Over to you, Riccardo. Thank you.

Okay. Thank you, Max. Okay.

Hello, everyone. As Max was saying, I am the treasurer of the board. I am in the board since 2022 and currently having this role of the treasurer, which is basically responsible to keep the board informed about the financial situation of the organization.

So I'm always in touch with the staff to inform the health of the organization. Okay. And I'll give you here a brief overview about how was our, especially the last year, right? The 2023 and how we are now.

Okay. So a little bit about the results, how we are going, the trend of the revenue expense surplus. Okay.

This is a comparison about how was the 2023 year compared with 2022. So we see increases. We had increases in online.

So increasing revenue, an improvement in the expenses, right? And then having a better result, right? We were in deficit yet, but much better than in... Riccardo, sorry. Do you want to share some slides? I forgot to show the slides. Yeah.

Thanks for saying. Yeah. Can you see it now? Coming up.

Thanks. Yeah. Thank you.

Okay. So start again. This is the results from 2023 compared with 2022.

Okay. So we had increases in improvements, right? In all lines. So increase in revenue, improvements in the expense.

So we have basically have here the revenue, which LPI revenue comes only from today, only from the voucher sales, right? So it had an increase. Cost of revenue is everything related to the, to every sale we made on vouchers. And then we have the gross profit, the operational expenses and the results, the last line.

So it had improvements in all lines. So better revenue showing some growth, improvements in the expense. And, but it's still in deficit, but much better than 2020.

We need to have in mind that after the pandemic era, the years, right? We have lost, lost in revenue, increase in expenses due to inflation. So it was difficult years, especially 21 and 22. And we are going back to the track now with the current results.

Okay. So this is something to have in mind in these results. So this is the, revenue and expense quarter by quarter since 2022.

So we see right now back in a trend of increasing revenue and expenses under control and even improving the expenses, and then having a barrier results in the last line. Okay. So we were having deficits, huge deficits every quarter, and now we are back in a health situation.

So we are ready to grow now. And this is the result by year. Okay.

So as I was saying, it was difficult year 2022, better in 2023. And now I, we already have the results from the first quarter of this year. And in this first quarter was, we were in surplus, right? So we have, yeah, we are basically in a good trend and recovering from the pandemic years.

And this is the balance sheet, basically how much money we have, how much money LPI has in cash and in assets. Here is compared to the, after the first quarter of 24 and after the first quarter of 23. So we had a little loss yet, but we are much better.

And this is how we went by year. So here is important to mention that how important is to have some reserve, right? To have some money in cash and reserve. It was very important during the pandemic years, having this cash at a reserve.

And we went through without much problem that needs to have looking for loan or this kind of thing. But now we are stable again. And we, we trend to keep this reserve to, to not have any issues and have safe operations, right? So this is, this is a report from the financial side, basically showing that we are recovering, recovered already from the pandemic years with changes in revenue and expenses.

And we are now much health again, and in a good, good trend here. So thank you all. You have, if you have any questions, just post it in the chat and that's it.

Thank you. Thank you, Ricardo. I know we are going, we are having through the comments or some questions you are going to be answered or directly through the same comments panel or later.

We will not miss your comments for sure. Thank you again, Ricardo. And now we go back to Marduk.

One of the main, the main topics of the AGM is, is about the elections. And so Marduk is going to explain everything about this specific topic from right now. Thank you, Jon.

Okay. Thank you, Max. Yes.

You know, that LPI is a nonprofit that is centered in the Canadian and in the country of Canada, as a Canadian nonprofit, there are certain requirements that we have to run as a nonprofit. Unlike a profit-making company, we do not have stockholders. Instead, we have stakeholders and the stakeholders can be companies, can be industry that depend on having free and open source trained professionals to run them.

Stakeholders could be you, our members and, you know, so forth. And so every year we have to have this AGM and we have to have elections for the board of directors. Likewise, there are typically two or three things that we have to have the members vote on.

One of them is acceptance of the previous year's minutes, the 2023 minutes from the AGM, which we have distributed to you electronically. The second thing is to accept the auditor for the organization, which is Kuat and company. They've been our auditor for the last several years.

It is a good rule of thumb to change auditors from time to time. And so we're projecting that in the 2025, we will have a new auditing firm, but in the meantime, we need to have approval from the membership to accept Kuat and company as the auditor for 2024. And, you know, so these are the types of things that we've, we've built into the election system of the past two weeks and today, these questions, as well as electing three, no, actually five board members.

So normally we would have three board members elected three or four board members elected in a year. And that is because we have a certain number of members on the board. It can go anywhere from three as a minimum to 13 as a maximum that is required by the Canadian government and our articles of incorporation.

However, this year, and, and, and so we have about 10 members which are elected through a nominating committee, which we call the non-com. And then three members are reserved for a membership of LPI to come through a different ballot, a different track. And unfortunately we haven't been successful in getting three members from the membership organization to come into the board.

And we continue trying to make this easier and easier for people to do, keep encouraging members to run directly. So this year where we would normally have three people each, each year circulate out as term limits, we also had two additional people say, well, I don't really, you know, I could run another year. I could be here another year.

I could run for another term, but those two members decided not to do that. So we took the three that had to rotate out because of term limits and we have the two who said we're going to be leaving. One of those is Vicky Brashear who has been very good in the board and myself.

I have been the board chair and been on the board since 2015. I could have run for another term three years, but I'm 73 years old and running for another term would mean I would be leaving the board at the age of 76. And while I'm not ready to be buried yet, I think it's good to

pass the board chair position to another member of the board while I can still be around to help them in the board transition.

And likewise, perhaps get people who have been systems administration, systems administrators and stuff like that to be on the board, to have more ideas of things. Now the board is not necessarily the organization that runs the, it's not the group that runs the organization. That is typically done by the staff and G. Matthew Rice, who you heard from earlier is the executive director and he's the person who tells the staff what to do.

The board does give direction in various ways, but we're mostly here to make sure that the organization is legally and fiscally responsible to the members and to the community in large. So that is what the elections are about. And I've been told that we have the results from the election.

And I'm going to ask Matt if he would be kind enough to

First TRANSCRIPT
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instructors be certified at the level that they're teaching. But this approved trainer program is meant to help individual trainers keep up to date, present themselves to the public. They might be offering their service to corporate training partners and colleges and universities. And we'll be doing more during this next year to support them as well. One of the talks is to enable students to be able to start providing feedback, not just on our training partners activities, but the individual trainers as well. something else to help them with their with their reputation. And we also have, of course, our standing partnership programs. Instead of doing everything as a one off with anyone that wants to work with us, we found that there's, you know, some themes in what they want to do. And so we've been able to put together these programs so that it expedites supporting them in, well, helping us with our mission, which is to promote the use of open source everywhere, particularly in a commercial and professional setting. And as well, if any members or certification holders would like to get involved and help us with that mission, there are numerous volunteer programs that they can sign up for. Just lpi.org slash community should find this list. And it ranges from helping us at booths, events we go to, helping us with translations, both technical ones in the learning materials and exams as well as our web content and our news or even helping us create your own content with us we call it share your voice and of course if uh if you're interested in governance there's also a few committees that that people can join and since most of the people here today are members As well, there's board positions every year that open up that you can run for. You can either apply through the nominating committee, which is open to everybody, or you could go through the member nominated route where we'll help find some other members that believe in your rationale for wanting to be on the board and help you get enough nominations to get on the ballot. And then the rest of the report is more about our activities. So some of the events we go to, we go to numerous ones throughout the year. We're always interested in seeing members and certification holders pop by to say hi. So keep an eye out for that as well. And we've also got a small program going called Upgrade to Linux. There was a recent couple of updates to other desktop operating system that was going to make a lot of hardware obsolete. So we thought we would do a little push to promote the idea of maybe repurposing those computers and running Linux or BSD. You might have noticed earlier in the annual review here we also have a bsd certification free software fos we we like supporting all of it and if you download a copy of the annual review you can also see some of the the results of our our marketing activities and presence on social media and of course Being a promoter of open source software, we also use it ourselves, um, from developing some of the software we use internally to, um, using web late and other tools for translation. Uh, this is not a complete list, but pretty close, uh, to all the different software that we use internally. And as well, this is a list of the board members that we had as of 2023. Some of them are remaining, some are leaving like Jon is at the end of this month. And so of course the, again, can't stress it enough. We're always looking for good board members, board members that understand the value of open source. and would like to help with steering and the direction of LPI in general. And soon to be updated, also a little timeline of LPI's history. This year is going to be our 25th anniversary, birthday of LPI. So we are looking

to do some promotions around the number 25 and our birthday. So if anyone has some suggestions on things we could do, we welcome them as well. And then a little written history as well for those that have good eyes or are willing to read it later. And that's it for my presentation. I'll leave it at that and actually see if there's anything yeah and i i think i'm in the right chat but i oh actually i'm not on the stage were there any questions yeah uh we do not have questions at the moment but if you're finished i'm very happy to introduce ricardo yes okay feel free to pick the mic Hello, everybody. I am Max Rovery. I am a community manager in RPI, and I'm going to introduce now for you Ricardo Prudenciato. Ricardo Prudenciato is part of the board, and he's going to give us some insights about the treasurer's report as he is in the board, the treasurer. Over to you, Ricardo. Thank you. Okay. Thank you, Max. OK, hello, everyone. As Max was saying, I am the treasurer of the board. I'm on the board since 2022 and currently having this role of the treasurer, which is basically responsible to keep the board informed about the financial situation of the organization. So I'm always in touch with the staff to inform the health of the organization. and i'll give you here a brief uh overview about how was our especially the the last year right the 2023 and how we are now okay so a little bit about the results how we are going the trend of the revenue expense the surplus and go on Okay, this is a comparison about how was the 2023 year compared with 2022. So we see increase, we had increases in online, so increasing revenue, an improvement in the expenses, right? And then having a better result, right? We are, we are We were in deficit yet, but much better than in... Ricardo, sorry, do you want to share some slides? I forgot to share the slides. Thanks for saying. Yeah, can you see it now? coming up thanks yeah thank you okay so start again uh this is the are the results uh from 2023 compared with 2022 okay so we had increases in improvements right in all lines so increase in revenue improvements in the expense so we have basically have here the revenue which lpi revenue comes only from today only come off only from the voucher sales right so it had an increase cost of revenue is everything related to the to every sale we made on vouchers and then we have the gross profit the operational expenses and the results the the last line okay So it had improvements in all lines, so better revenue, showing some growth. Improvements in expenses, but it's still in deficit, but much better than 2020. We need to have in mind that after the pandemic era, the years, right, we have loss in revenue, increase in expenses due to inflation. So it was difficult years, especially 21 and 22. And we are going back to the track now with the current results. So this is something to have in mind in these results. So this is the revenue and expense quarter by quarter since 2022. So we see we are now back in a trend of increasing revenue and and expenses under control and even improving the expenses right and then having a barrier results in the the last line okay so we were having deaths huge deaths every quarter and now we are back in a health situation so we are ready to to grow now okay And this is the result by year. Okay. So as I was saying, it was difficult year 2022, better in 2023. And now I, we already have the results from the first quarter of this year. And in this first quarter was, we were in surplus, right? So we have, yeah, we are basically in a good trend and recovering from the pandemic years. And this is the balance sheet, basically how much money we have, how much money LPI has in cash and in assets. Here is compared after the

first quarter of 2024 and after the first quarter of 2023. So we had a little loss yet, but we are much better. And this is how we went by year. Here is important to mention that how important it is to have some uh reserve right to have some money and cash and reserve uh it was very important during the pandemic years having this the cash or the reserve and we went through without much problem without need to have looking for loan or this kind of thing but now we are stable again and we we trying to keep this reserve to not have any issues and have safe operations, right? So this is a report from the financial side, basically showing that we are recovering, recovered already from the pandemic years with changes in revenue and expenses, and we are now much health again and in a good trend here. So thank you all. If you have any questions, just post it in the chat and that's it. Thank you. Thank you, Ricardo. I know we are heading through the comments of some questions. You're going to be answered all directly through the same comments panel or later. We will not miss your comments for sure. Thank you again, Ricardo. And now we go back to Marduk. One of the main topics of the IGM is about the elections and so Mad Dog is going to explain everything about this specific topic from right now. Thank you, Jon. Okay, thank you, Max. Yes, you know that LPI is a nonprofit that is centered in the country of Canada. As a Canadian nonprofit, there are certain requirements that we have to run as a nonprofit. Unlike a profit-making company, we do not have stockholders. Instead, we have stakeholders. And the stakeholders can be companies, can be industry that depend on having free and open source trained professionals to run them. Stakeholders could be you, our members and so forth. And so every year we have to have this AGM and we have to have elections for the board of directors. Likewise, there are typically two or three things that we have to have the members vote on. One of them is acceptance of the previous year's minutes, the 2023 minutes from the AGM, which we have distributed to you electronically. The second thing is to accept the auditor for the organization, which is Kuat and Company. They've been our auditor for the last several years. It is a... good rule of thumb to change auditors from time to time. And so we're projecting that in the 2025, we will have a new auditing firm. But in the meantime, we need to have approval from the membership to accept Kuat and company as the auditor for 2024. And so these are the types of things that we've built into the election system of the past two weeks and today. These questions, as well as electing three, no, actually five board members. So normally we would have three board members elected, three or four board members elected in a year. And that is because we have a certain number of members on the board. It can go anywhere from three as a minimum to 13 as a maximum. That is required by the Canadian government and our Articles of Incorporation. However, this year, and so we have about 10 members which are elected through a nominating committee, which we call a non-com. And then three members are reserved for membership of LPI to come through a different ballot, a different track. And unfortunately, we haven't been successful in getting three members from the membership organization to come into the board. We continue trying to make this easier and easier for people to do, keep encouraging members to run directly. So this year, where we would normally have three people each year circulate out as term limits, we also had two additional people say, well, I don't really, you know, I could run

another year, I could be here another year, or I could run for another term. But those two members decided not to do that. So we took the three that had to rotate out because of term limits, and we have the two who said we're going to be leaving. One of those is Vicky Brasheur, who has been very good in the board, and myself. I have been the board chair and been on the board since 2015. I could have run for another term, three years, but I'm 73 years old and running for another term would mean I would be leaving the board at the age of 76. And while I'm not ready to be buried yet, I think it's good to pass the board chair position to another member of the board while I can still be around to help them in the board transition. And likewise, perhaps get people with who've been systems administration, systems administrators and stuff like that to Be on the board to have more ideas of things. Now, the board is not necessarily the organization that runs the... It's not the group that runs the organization. That is typically done by the staff. And G. Matthew Rice, who you heard from earlier, is the executive director. And he's the person who tells the staff what to do. The board does give direction to... in various ways, but we're mostly here to make sure that the organization is legally and fiscally responsible to the members and to the community in large. So that is what the elections are about. And I've been told that we have the results from the election. And I'm going to ask Matt if he would be kind enough to explain that in a moment. However, I want to thank everybody who voted. We're happy to say that we met quorum so that we met the requirements of the country of Canada. And so Matt, would you please talk about the results and tell people what happened? We can't hear you. Thank you. So it should just be a refresh to get the results. It's the voting ends at 930. Oh yeah, it's ended. There we go. So we just have to find the results. That would do it. So this is the first ballot, which was the results for the election. And because it's a, I forget what the name is, STV, a runoff vote, the most popular person gets the win and then the votes get allocated to other people. So the end result would be here at round four. So Jon, these would be the five folk that won the election for this year. So congratulations, Klaus, Jill, Brian, Dorothy, and Uirá. It looks like you're a board member for the next three years. And Matt, what about the different resolutions that were also voted on? I see at the bottom approval minutes and resolution to appoint the firm. There was one no vote, but the rest of the members voted to approve it. And I think those were the two resolutions that we actually voted on. So both of those passed. That's good. And we met quorum for all of the votes. So that is also good. Thank you very much, Matt. I appreciate that. And next thing is submissions of questions and comments and things like that and i might ask matt to take a look at some of the comments that were typed in see if he has any comments on on some of those because some people said you know there were things that they submitted last year and perhaps you could address some of those informally right now and later on we will have them treated in a more formal manner OK, thanks. OK, go ahead. Yeah. So Tiago was the person so far that has asked some questions. So if I missed anything, let me know. But the and his questions were in the reception area in the Q&A. So there are some responses. And one of them was Can we do more to make the membership program attractive to certification holders? And the one specific comment was the annual 25% discount voucher for an exam. We've actually been

talking about that and I think next year it's going to be bumped up to 50%. We've also got the approved trainer program, which we want to make more and more valuable to our members, but that's also just a subset of them. Now, that said, probably the most compelling value to the membership program is the fact that your certifications don't expire or go inactive as long as you're a member. for people that need these certifications for their workplace or their consulting businesses, that's probably the most valuable thing in the program. And then probably the next valuable thing would be the ability to use the professional development units that members have to submit if they want to continue being a membership beyond the first three year cycle. It demonstrates not only the minimum level of confidence from what's displayed by achieving certifications, but it also means that the member has been continuing to grow as a IT professional. Now, that all said, we're always open to suggestions on how we can make the membership program more appealing. We definitely would love to have many more members than we do now. So if anyone listening to this recording or here today have some suggestions, the easiest way to get them to us is probably just send us an email at info, I-N-F-O, at lpi.org. And I'll switch over to the stage to see if there's any comments on that. But I'd like to address the other two questions first. The first one was, are there any plans basically for LPIC 3 content books, learning materials? That one's always been the most difficult to source authors for, but also because of the focused nature of the LPIC3 content certifications, there's usually one or two or sometimes three books that are already published in various languages that do as good or a better job of covering the material that's in our certifications at that level. So, um, you know, our focus has been to create the learning materials for the, you know, the, the essentials level and they'll pick one and two, um, because generally it's those, uh, people that are trying to get those certifications that need the most help. Uh, by the time you're at LPEC three self study and, and industry books are, and, and there's also, uh, for those that don't know, there's a, a forum, uh, that we host called discuss, well, HDPS discuss.lpi.org, where anybody could go there and post some questions and look for some help as well. Not just from, uh, LPI staff, but from other, other people using that, that forum. And then the last one is basically a question about, are we going to be supporting any digital batching? And Credly is definitely the 800 pound gorilla in the digital batching arena. And we are currently in discussions with them about, uh, using their service. We are also planning on augmenting the existing ability to share your credential through a URL that employers can, uh, click on to verify your certification and membership status. Um, but also to, you know, make it so that you can, to make it easy to, you know, publish some bragging and, and, uh, and a form of digital badge, uh, on some of the more common social media platforms. So, um, Hopefully that'll be before the end of the year. Uh, it's, we've got quite a bit of runway, so I think it's doable and I will now go and see if there was any other comments, um, over on the stage area or max, if you've been keeping an eye on them. You can hear me Matt. Yes. Okay. We are covered at the moment and we are going to share. There was a comment about where to find the full list of our materials, which is a specific page within the learning portal. And we are going to share it in a second. So we are covered. To you guys. Thanks. Okay. I think I will take over again at this point. We're moving towards

closing the meeting, but before we do, I would like to thank the staff, the board of LPI, the partners, and all of our members for all of the time that we've tried to make LPI a successful organization, and I think we are successful. We have over 300,000 certified people in over 180 different countries. And we try to keep the costs of taking the test, the vouchers as low as possible while still be able to keep afloat during hard times. But as I said before, it is time for me to step down and let somebody else be the board chair and to try and uh, continue going. However, I'm not going to disappear from LPI. This year I took on a new role since I was not going to be elected and not going to run for elections in this term. I took on the role of what is known as the returning officer. It is a person who has no skin in the game for being elected. He works with the nominating committee. He works with the board to try and get a more diverse board. And I will be continuing that role into next year, trying to get more people from, say, Asia or Sub-Saharan Africa or other places that are underrepresented in the LPI Board of Directors. So I will be doing that. In addition, I will be helping the new members of the board come on board, perhaps the new chairman or chairperson, I should say, not necessarily a male, but the new chairperson come on board and I will be helping them, giving them advice, but they, of course, will be the ones who will vote on things and make the decisions on things. So I am just an advisor to them. What will be happening is that in the next week, I will send out letters to the retiring board members, thanking them for their work, to the people who were elected, congratulating them on their election and helping to set up some coordination meetings in July and the transition of the board seats from the old board members to the new ones in July. and i will send out a letter to the people who did not who ran but did not win um it is possible if one of the other board members leaves and we need to fill in that board seat that we would reach out to the elections again and take the person next down the line that's up to the existing board as to how they want to fill that So there are a lot of messages I'll have to send out to people. And then in July, we will have an organization meeting where we elect a new board chair, perhaps a new secretary, perhaps a new treasurer, whoever wants to have it. And perhaps Ricardo will continue to want to be the treasurer. That would be fine. But they make that decision and that will be done in July. And then the regular board meetings will start up again monthly, perhaps in later July, later in July or in early August. So that is the plans of how the board is going to continue. And we hope to see you all in next year at the AGM. And please communicate with us, you know, through discourse, through Mattermost and through the channels that we have, your ideas and concerns. It is monitored by staff, it's monitored by the board, and we'd love to hear from you. And before we adjourn completely, Matt Rice has asked to say some words. So Matt. Yeah. Thanks. Yeah. I'm going to leave the Euro that in the chat and I guess share my screen as well. Sorry, I'm hearing the loop on the reception. So I just wanted to, on behalf of myself, LPI, staff, everybody, including the open source community and Linux community, I wanted to thank you, Jon, for all of the support that you've given to LPI and to free and open source software since probably before I was even born. In fact, I think Jon was a supporter of free software before it was even termed that. Jon's been a strong supporter of LPI since day one. And if you scroll through this page, you'll get a little bit of a bio of that. He was even helping

financially from before LPI was incorporated, not to mention the last decade of being the chair of the board for us. Jon, you've definitely set a high bar for others to try and match when it comes to volunteering and helping every community that you've participated in. Now we also wanted to, to give Jon some sort of gift or present or something, um, uh, as he's, uh, well, walking out the door, but I guess into a different door. And since, you know, LPI is all about the people in the community and using open source and Linux and VSD, we thought what better present to give Jon than one that he'd been suggesting that we do for others for years, which is to create a hall of fellows. basically a, I don't know, a dictionary, not dictionary, a listing of people that have made substantial contributions to not just Lynx Professional Institute, but open source and free software in general. And so not only are we launching that program, but we thought that there was no one more deserving of being the inaugural fellow on the list than Jon himself. Uh, so Jon, uh, I will just walk over to the other, uh, room in a second. Um, but we've created a, an award for you as well. Not sure if it shows up on the, on the camera, but I'll, I'll walk over and, and give it to you in a second and just end with thanks again. Um, glad you're not disappearing into the night. Um, but for everything you've already done, uh, we all thank you very much. Well, and I thank you, Matt, and other staff people who have helped with this. Ah, thank you. Oh, it's heavy. Oh, it's a good thing I'm going to be traveling by car back to the United States because I'm not sure that I will be able to, I'm not sure that I'll be able to carry this on the airplane. This is a considerable hunk of material here. But thank you very much. It means a lot to me. And, and again, I want to thank because people talk to me about free and open source software. And I say that this is a community of people that work together to create and make the world a better place. And when we were deciding to start organizations like Linux International and LPI back in the late 1990s, we realized that Linux was going to be more than just a hobbyist tool or hobbyist thing. It was going to be more than a technical thing. It was going to promote business. It was going to create jobs. It was going to allow real commerce to be done. And people laughed at us. And they said, no, it'll never happen. And in fact, I was working for Digital Corporate Corporation and the Digital Unix Group, a closed source commercial version of Unix. And my management said, what are you doing? This will never work. This will never happen. And today, all those people now work for Red Hat. So thank you, one and all. You're not going to get rid of me. I will still be here. But I will be moving on to a different way of supporting LPI and free and open source software. Thank you again. So with that, I'm going to move that we adjourn the AGM. Everybody have a rest of the nice Saturday. Enjoy yourselves. And I thank everybody who made this happen. Ricardo, Max, Matt, the people, Daniel, the people from the platform, everybody. Thank you once again. So I move that the meeting be adjourned. And since we only have a motion that's needed, thank you very much. Goodbye. Thank you, everybody. Thank you, everyone. Thank you. In garages, schoolrooms, small towns and cities, around campfires and deserts, startups and universities, people are connected and changing our reality. Rather than top-down control, it's open collaboration. Rather than power for the few, it's spread amongst many. And although nobody's certain how the future will unfold, why not help write it and have a say in how it's told?