

Evan Huus - Chair, Music Committee (2016-17)

The music committee is in an unfortunate state right now. It has been well over a year since our last full meeting, and many of our past members have indicated that they no longer have the time to participate. Thanks to the hard work of Doug, Warren, Graham, and Terry we still managed to set up a solid fall concert celebrating Canada's 150th, and have "As Seen on TV" on the way this spring.

Going forward, the music committee cannot continue as it is currently run. It is unclear what authority and responsibilities (if any?) rest with the committee as opposed to with the librarian and conductor, so it is difficult for the committee to make decisions. It is also difficult to recruit for committee membership from within the band, since the work and impact are both ambiguous.

I am hopeful that we can rebuild the committee by granting it a clearer set of responsibilities. This will give it purpose and make it easier for new members to participate, and it will also lighten the load on our wonderful librarian and conductor who otherwise end up doing an incredible amount of work for each concert on top of their regular duties. A clearer set of responsibilities will also allow us to get ahead of the game and begin planning next season's concerts before the summer kicks in. Ideally we would like to have music selected, purchased (as necessary), and ready to distribute in August so that we can hit the ground running for our fall concert.

Alternatively, perhaps the current lack of interest and structure is an indicator that the committee no longer serves a useful purpose, and should simply be disbanded. In either case, we must ensure that the desires of the band membership as a whole continue to influence the selection of our music.