

Minutes
BCGREA Annual General Meeting
October 20th, 2021 by Zoom (Recorded)

- 1) Call to order: 9 am. There were 70 in attendance.
- 2) Executive Roll Call: Ken Pendergast – President
Brian Green – 1st Vice President
Carrie Mulcahy – 2nd Vice President -*absent*
Johanna Morrow – Provincial Treasurer
Kathy Torhjem – Provincial Secretary
Al Barclay – Provincial Membership Secretary
Lawrence Johnson, Finance Committee
Josie Byington, Administrative Support
- 3) Branch Delegates:
Br 100 - Connie Copostinsky
Berta Weber
Sondra Hadrath - observer
Br 200- Al Kneeland
Dave Dyke
Br 300 - Ron Kerr
Debbie Kerr
Br 400- Dan Harlow
Nancy Perry
Br 500- Edna Park
Br 600- Roz Kennedy
Lea Campbell
Gloria Johnson
Mary McDaid - observer
Br 700- Alex Wallach
Br 800- Bonnie Billington
Navin Goburdhun
Alfred Malcolm
Marilyn Melville
Br 900 Maurice Davidson
Imre Horvath
Br 1000 Lorraine Ibbitson
Doug Ibbitson
Br 1100 Jean Sickman
Paul Beagan
Bonnie Christian
Br 1200 Barbara Golder
Sarf Ahmed
Tammy Welch

	Terry Prentice
	Valeska Campbell
	Vicki White
	Laura Lam
Br 1400	Bob Low
Br 1500	Vince Sherry
	Roland Oliynyk
	Grace Kramer
Br 1600	Terry Burgess
	Art Kaehn
Br 1700	
Br 1900	Bob Wilson
	Don McMillan
Br 2000	Gord Griffeth
	Patrick Harkness
	Brian Taylor
Br 2100	Wilf Brodrick
	Janice Leonard
Br 2300	Dan Anderson
	Elden Davis
	Shirley Besler - observer
Br 2400	Pat Dickson
Br 2500	Colleen Coccola
The Pen	Charles Le Vertu

- 4) Guests:
- Albert Peeling – Legal Council
 - Isobel Mackenzie – Senior’s Advocate – guest speaker
 - Jim Naguid, Zoom Support
 - Al Coccola – R&R committee
 - Lisa Hansen – Johnson Inc.
 - Mark Costeles – Johnson Inc.
 - Cheryl Anderson – Hearing Life Canada
 - Laurie VanWyk – Hearing Life Canada
 - Diane Wood – President of BC FORUM (www.bcforum.ca)
 - Sheila Pither – President of COSCO

- 5) Welcome Delegates & Guests – President Ken Pendergast called the meeting to order at 9:03 am and welcomed all in attendance. There was a quorum present.
- 6) There was a minute of silence in memory of past members.
- 7) Approval of the Agenda – **Motion:** M/S Terry Prentice/Lorraine Ibbitson be accepted as distributed. **Carried.**
- 8) Approval of Minutes – **Motion:** The minutes of the 2020 AGM were approved as distributed on the motion of Al Barclay, seconded by Alex Wallach. **Carried.**

9) Guest Speaker – Isobel Mackenzie – BC Seniors’ Advocate who spoke on seniors’ issues and priorities. Her presentation will be available on the BCGREA website.

(www.bcgrea.ca) Lawrence Johnson thanked her and presented her with a gift in appreciation for her presentation.

10) Affinity Partners –

a. Johnson Inc – Mark Costales made a short power point presentation on his company’s programs. He can be reached at mcostales@johnson.ca. He presented a draw gift to Vicki White from Branch 1200 (Victoria)

b. Hearing Life – Cheryl Anderson and Laurie VanWyck made a short power point presentation on their services. Cheryl presented a draw gift to Shirley Besler from Branch 2300 (Mt. Arrowsmith).

11) Reports – The executive reports were previously distributed.

12) BCGREA Financial Report – Johanna Morrow - Johanna took us through a short presentation of our financial position. Johanna provided clarification to questions asked. **Motion:** M/S Johanna Morrow/Patrick Harkness that her report be accepted as presented. **Carried.**

13) New Business

a. Website Update – Brian Green reported. The new website is about 80% completed. 90 % of new members use the on-line application forms. Branches are encouraged to update their own sites and make use of Campaigner.

b. Logo contest – eight different versions were presented. There was a vote by the delegates on first and second choices. The version chosen is the one we are currently using. Coming in second is the dogwood/bluejay combination designed by Tammy Welch (Branch 1200) who wins the \$100 prize.

c. COSCO – Wilf Brodrick spoke briefly on the work of COSCO and their recent very successful conference.

d. Recruitment and Retention Committee – Al Coccola - see attached.

e. Resolutions – Brian Green – see attached.

i. Resolution 1 – Concerning time frames for submitting resolutions to the Provincial Secretary – Amendment 1 – M/S Alex Wallach/Ron Kerr that the time frame notice in Section 7 be reduced from 40 days to **30** days. **Carried.** Amended resolution supported by the committee. **Carried.**

ii. Resolution 2 – Concerning increasing provincial executive honorariums by 50%. M/S Barbara Golder/Grace Kramer. **Carried**

f. BC Health Coalition had offered us a seat on their steering committee as a labor organization. However, we are not a labor organization so do not qualify. We would like to have representation and will look for a suitably qualified person to serve in another way.

14) Elections – Lawrence Johnson – The following members were elected to the Executive and will serve as Table Officers;

a. President – Brian Green

b. 1st Vice-President – Vince Sherry

c. 2nd Vice – President – Patrick Harkness

- d. PSPP Trustee – Johanna Morrow
- e. The other positions are appointed by the President.

15) Good of the Order

- a. Lawrence Johnson – Pension Post Retirement Benefits will be changing in 2022 particularly in prescription coverage. Member affected are being notified directly by Greenshield.
- b. Brian Green – Expressed thanks to the members of the executive who are now retiring and who have served the organization so well.

16) Motion for Adjournment – The meeting adjourned on the motion of Lawrence Johnson at 12:35 pm

RECRUITMENT AND RETENTION COMMITTEE REPORT

Gooday. Like the branches, the R & R committee has been struggling. We have a good group of individuals from eight different branches. At times we all just want to go out there and do things, but Covid happened.

We have managed a few ongoing projects.

- We plan on setting up an R & R page on the BCGREA website. This will provide a source of information and ideas for branches. So look for that in the next couple of months.
- We held a Zoom meeting for the Peninsula Branch, supplying door prizes and guest speakers around their regular branch meeting. While turnout was low there was a lot of positives. Please contact me if you think that this would be of interest to your branch.
- We have started a process whereby branches can apply for a grant from the R & R committee of up to half the cost of any R & R activity, to a maximum of \$500. It is our hope that branches will use these funds to try new ideas. Do whatever it takes to make the branches more meaningful to the general membership. Branches can request the funds by providing a report on the success, failure, and lessons learned, that can be shared on the web page. The funds will come out of the R & R budget that you approve today. We will forward, with receipts, to our Treasurer who will issue the payment. Information will be posted on our web page.
- We are in the process of compiling a list of suggestions to entice people to branch activities. Al Barclay will be taking comments from anyone. A master list will be posted on the webpage as a resource for branches to visit and get ideas.

A couple of motions that came out of our last meeting:

1. **Motion** that the R&R Committee endorse the concept of doing a province wide membership survey using a professional survey company to ensure that the questions are constructed to make the results useable and implementable. Carried unanimously.

2. **Motion** that the Provincial Executive send a letter to the PSPP Board of Trustees asking that they consider allowing us to send a promotional brochure or invitation for membership to all current retirees on their mailing list. This letter should point out that both the College and Teachers retiree associations have been given permission to send that out to their potential member base. M/S Al B, Brian, carried unanimously.

In closing, we, the committee, look forward to working with you as we endeavor to re-establish what we have lost in the last 19 months.

Thank you for your attention.

SPECIAL RESOLUTIONS FOR 2021 AGM

TITLE: Amendment to Time Limits for Sending Resolutions to the Provincial Secretary and related notice periods

WHEREAS the current 70 day time limit for the presentation of special resolutions by Branches to the Secretary is unduly onerous on Branches and

WHEREAS all communications respecting notice of special resolutions are now presented by electronic message (email) eliminating the dependency on the postal system

BE IT RESOLVED That the current 70 day time limit set out in Section 5 of the Meeting Policy and Procedure guide be amended to a 40 day time limit and, be it further resolved that the time frame for the Secretary to send out such notices to Branches under section 7 be reduced from 40 days to 20 days as a consequential amendment.

Presented by Victoria Branch 1200

The Resolutions Committee has determined that the motion is appropriate and supports this motion

Note: the carried motion passed at the AGM changes the time frame for notices to the Branch to be 30 days rather than 20 as proposed

TITLE: Amendment to the honorarium status for Table Officers

WHEREAS the table officers are taking on increasing responsibilities as the organization develops making the roles more onerous and difficult to recruit and

WHEREAS there has been considerable inflation with no recent increase in the modest honorarium given to table officers

BE IT RESOLVED that the honorarium for table officers be increased by 50% across the board.

Presented by Victoria Branch 1200

The Resolution Committee has determined that the motion is appropriate however takes no position on its merits.

RESOLUTION COMMITTEE Members Brian Green, Jean Stickman, Bill Solberg, Pat Dickson, Terry Prentice, Terry Burgess.