

# BCGREA Branch 2000 Cheam View Executive Meeting Minutes for March 2022 was held via Zoom, Chilliwack; Friday Mar. 11<sup>th</sup>.

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- 1. Meeting was called to order** by Chair Gord Griffeth at 2:05 pm with 7 in attendance: Gord Griffeth (Chair); Peter Maguire (Past Chair); Patrick (Pat) Harkness (Vice-chair/COSCO rep. / provincial 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice-President); Brian Taylor (Treasurer); Richard (Rick) Porcina (Communications); Lynne Dennis (Membership); Dawn Stublely (Secretary).  
Absent: Lynne Burger (backup Treasurer); Delores Hiles (Speaker Coordinator).

- 2. Opening Remarks by Chair** provided by Gord.

- 3. Minutes of Last Executive Meeting** The minutes of the executive meeting held Feb. 11, 2022 via Zoom, were read by Dawn, accepted as read.

## **4. Reports and Items for Executive Discussion:**

**Chair:** Gord Griffeth

- Gord will not be attending the upcoming April 27th Directors meeting in Prince George. Pat will be attending representing both Branch 2000 and his role as 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice President in Provincial executive.

**Vice-Chair (and Provincial 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice President):** Patrick Harkness

- Pat attended virtual COSCO meeting this morning, Mar. 11. See COSCO report.
- Pat met with Peter to get his copy of the BCGREA history. He also went to Nanaimo in his role of Pen editor and went to the BCGREA historic files, Lawrence and Kathy have keys. Pat brought home a box with extensive membership lists with SIN numbers that need to be destroyed, and many many different versions of the BCGREA history including a small floppy. Having an impossible time finding anyone who can read that old disc version. Many thanks to his wife for retyping documents.
- On Feb 22, Pat was a co facilitator of “Stay on the Road” Presentation.
- Pat attended the BC Public Sector Pension Conference, his \$100 attendance fee will be paid by Provincial.

**Treasurer:** provided by Brian Taylor

- Brian forwarded January's financial statement to all branch executive by email.
- The previously outstanding check for \$70 that Brian forwarded to COSCO with the COSCO affiliate renewal form in Dec. 2021 has been cashed.
- Branch's bank balance at the end of Jan. was \$4,243.64.
- Further discussion continued from last executive meeting, to pay for all or a portion of lunch costs at the next general meeting, in order to reduce our larger than usual bank balance, that is if Canton offers us a similar arrangement as we had previously. Peter motioned, Pat seconded. The BCGREA balance includes both provincial and all branches, which has to be less than a certain balance to keep the status of non-profit.
- Peter is still unable to open financial statement attachments from Brian. Dawn sent a couple test emails to Peter with statements and also forwarded January's financial statement in long format not as attachment.

**Membership:** provided by Lynne D.

- Membership at 143. Three hard bounced on membership list, one life member deceased, Charles Atkinson; P. Temple and D. Carson in Mission, long time members, outstanding. Two newer members soft bounced, a couple at same address with different email addresses. Lynne will follow up.
- Thank you to Brian for the check to reimburse for stamps used.

**Secretary:** provided by Dawn.

- All emails received since the last executive meeting Feb. 11th, have been documented although only those needed for meeting reference have been printed out in entirety. Many emails revolved around the training of Dawn, Rick and Pat on Campaigner by Bill Meyer. Also the creation of a Provincial email address for Rick as Communications of Branch 2000, [Communications.branch2000@BCGREA.ca](mailto:Communications.branch2000@BCGREA.ca) and thru checking executive emails of the website the discovery that both Peter and Gord had the same email [Chair.branch2000@BCGREA.ca](mailto:Chair.branch2000@BCGREA.ca). Pat will follow up with Josie Byington to sort out and hopefully get a past chair email address for Peter.

**Transportation:** This position is currently on hiatus until we have need of.

**COSCO (Council of Seniors Citizens' Organizations of BC):** provided by Pat

Cheam View Branch 2000, is an affiliate with the Council of Senior Citizens Organizations (COSCO). Before COVID-19, COSCO met monthly (2<sup>nd</sup> Friday) at the Hastings Community Centre, Vancouver, however, currently, meetings are being held virtually. See Link to COSCO ([coscobc.org](http://coscobc.org)) on our website.

## COSCO DELEGATES MEETING REPORT

Patrick Harkness – BCGREA Br. 2000 Liaison

The meeting was held on March 11, 2022 at 10:00 am

Guest speaker, **Fred Girling** gave a presentation on Hospital Pay Parking.

1. It all began in 2017, in Victoria, with a lobby to Minister of Health Dix. His initial response was not sympathetic. He asked do you want new MRIs or free hospital parking. MLA Garry Begg introduced us to an expert on the issue who developed a website – [www.hospitalpayparking.ca](http://www.hospitalpayparking.ca)
2. Fred urged COSCO members to sign and send the petition letter to Premier Horgan. A version was presented for anyone's use or you could go onto the website noted and participate.

Stay On the Road Guide: A Practical Guide for Senior Drivers

This free workshop will be held via Zoom on: **Tuesday, February 22nd, 2022 at 1:00 pm.**

Health – Kathleen Jamieson's committee held their fourth webinar on Long-term Care with the collaboration of the National Pension Federation. 450 people signed up for it.

Housing – Barry Jones reported on Chilliwack's new housing initiative, **the Paramount Project.**

It will have 66 housing units, 58 for seniors and 8 for young adults. It will have innovative aspects to allow for residential and community spaces. Units will be studio and 1 & 2 bedrooms with 13 units' wheel chair friendly. Construction to be completed by 2024.

Education – **Passing the Torch** - Building and Strengthening Leadership Online Workshop

First sessions for Executive and Delegates were held on March 9 & 10,

Next sessions March 29 & 30, 9:45 am to 12:15 pm each day. [Meeting Registration - Zoom](#)

Next Delegates meeting – April 8th at 10:00 am via zoom.

**Communications/Web Branch Administrators:** provided by Rick and Pat

- Pat coordinated Campaigner training with Bill Meyers for himself, Rick and Dawn via zoom. The way Bill explained the Campaigner software step by step was very helpful. Although none of us have used Campaigner yet, we really should do some practise. For any real membership distribution, Bill asked us to do a test first and send it to him for review, prior to final posting. Campaigner appears to be a good method to reach out to members. However it's important not to overwhelm members with emails. There is a way for members to adjust their profiles to specify emails they want to receive but we don't want them to entirely delete themselves from the system. Dawn mentioned that since the training she was getting campaigner notification of other BCGREA branch mail outs. Rick and Pat said they were as well. Something to check in with Josie or Bill about. Most branches are relying on Josie for Campaigner distribution of notifications to Branch members. We're one of the few branches willing to take on the Campaigner direct usage and not rely on provincial to do so.

- Pat will follow up with Josie and get Rick his own provincial email address for communication which will then be updated to Branch 2000's website.

**Guest Speakers:** provided by Delores Absent

**Directors/Past Chairs:** provided by Peter

- Peter provided copy of the BGREA history he had to Pat. Interesting note that Cheam View, Branch 2000 was the last branch created.
- Peter will contact Chuck at Cantons to investigate the possibility and costs of Canton hosting a luncheon meeting for Branch 2000 for the month of May, possibly June. There may be staffing issues and cost increases.

## 5. Old Business:

- See Treasurer, Communications, Past Chair reports and others above.
- Business Card Update will be required when we return to any in person meetings, such as the April Director's meeting, general luncheon even branch executive. Lunch location hasn't yet been confirmed. Pat will check with Provincial to see if they provide Provincial executive with business cards for the April Director's meeting.

## 6. New Business:

- An in person, Provincial Directors meeting is planned for April 27th, 2022 in Prince George. Pat plans to attend as Provincial 2<sup>nd</sup> vice President. Gord is not planning on attending. For the spring director's meeting both Pat and one representative from Branch 2000 would have their travel expenses paid for by Provincial. Members were requested to advise Provincial secretary by March 10 of their planned attendance.
- In light of the Ukraine Russia war and sanctions against Russia, question if Pension Corp. investments have any Russian entities. Would need to investigate but presume there wouldn't be a large percentage in any of the Pension Corp. portfolios.

## 7. Meeting adjourned at 3:25 pm.

**Next scheduled executive meeting to be held Friday April 15, 2022, at 2 pm via zoom.**