

Draft Minutes of the SWCC 47th Annual General Meeting | April 14, 2018

SFU Harbour Centre | 515 West Hastings St. | Vancouver, BC V6B 5K3

Present: Brian Owens, Douglas Keddy, Marg Sheridan, Michelle Riedlinger, Natasha Waxman, Mico Tatalovic, Alexandra Venter, Sean Rushton, Michael Dwyer, Alexandra Kasper, Chapin Korosec, Emily Chung, Jamison Findlay, Jay Whetter, Jennifer Gagne, Kyle Fillo, Terry Lavender, Ivan Semeniuk, Burke Cullin, Jennifer Boon, Eric Jancui, Catherine Crawford Brown, Amanda Bakkum, Pamela Zevit, Lee Woojoong, Melissa Larrabee, Alison McAfee, Chantal Mustoe, Stephanie Novakowski, Kevin Rey, Elizabeth Vickers Drennan, Aulakh Suraj, Carol Anne Black, Alina Fisher, Carolyn Brown, Vance Williams, Rachel Witt, Donna Fleury, Tim Lougheed - Chair, Janice Benthin - Recorder

Agenda:

Approval of the minutes of the 2017 AGM

Financial Statements and Budget

Member volunteers for the nomination committee for 2019 election

Ethics Committee: Ivan Semeniuk

2019 SWCC conference: Jay Whetter

2018 conference feedback: Chapin Korosec, Alexandra Kasper

5:15pm: Call to order Tim Lougheed

Motion: To approve the minutes of the Sept 15, 2017 AGM in Ottawa, Ontario. Moved by Michelle Riedlinger. Seconded by Natasha Waxman. Carried

Treasurer Jennifer Gagne presented the Financial Statements and Budget as prepared by Andy Visser de Vries

There was some discussion about if the in-kind portion of the budget was represented on both sides of the revenue/expenses, whether SWCC had a savings account for excess funds, and if the proposed 2018/19 budget was realistic.

Motion: To accept the financial statements and 2018/2019 budget. Moved by Marg Sheridan. Seconded by Douglas Keddy. Carried

Nomination Committee for 2019 election: Michael Dwyer and Jennifer Gagne volunteered to be on the committee. Tim Lougheed as Past President will be the chair of that committee.

Ethics Committee:

Ivan presented the approach of engaging with our new broader membership by identifying key common interests. Works with words. Science specific. Connects to Canada. And that this conversation should happen in the interests of the broader interests of the public. Self-regulation was implicit because it was part of the package of being journalists.

An ethics committee that is being formed would eventually be a permanent standing committee to make sure that the organization and members abide by the stated values.

The process of the ethics committee would be:

1. Formation of a working group
2. definition of goals and roles
3. consultation process with the board, members, and also external consultation
4. developing the model
5. formal feedback from the entire membership
6. board approval
7. form the standing committee

Also they will encourage involvement from the members with emails, asking people to copy the office with their responses.

2019 Conference: Winnipeg

Jay made a presentation about the 2019 conference in Winnipeg. An organizing committee has been formed. There are around 10 members and it includes; Scott Young, Bryce Hoye, Gordon Leathers, Jeremiah Yarmie.

Venues and tours will include; Polar Bears, Canadian Human Rights Museum, National Microbiology Lab, Experimental Lakes. The Children's Theatre which has 300 seats will be available for sessions.

2018 Conference Feedback

Chapin Korosec and Alexandra Kasper, co-chairs of the 2018 organizing committee presented feedback and recommendations for future SWCC conferences including; formalize the conference procedures and processes so that it can be handed over to the next conference more efficiently. The conference chair should sit in on all SWCC board meetings and report directly to the board. Conference chairs should be asked to read and uphold the SWCC statement of values.

The board thanked the 2018 conference committee co-chairs Chapin and Alexandra for their feedback.

The board also thanked the core organizing committee; Chapin Korosec, Alexandra Kasper, Shelley McIvor, Michelle Riedlinger, Tim Lougheed and Janice Benthin for their stellar contribution to a such a successful conference.

Douglas Keddy

Tim Lougheed introduced Douglas Keddy as the new president of SWCC and handed over the reins to him.

Next Annual Conference and Meeting: Winnipeg, MB May 23-25, 2019

Meeting Adjourned 6:18