

Virtual Branch Annual General Meeting:

Minutes - November 10th, 2021

11 am PST; 12 pm MST

Chair: Natasha Neuman

Moderator: Robyn Hooper

Secretary: Cindy Hall

1. Call to Order and Opening Remarks – Natasha Neumann
 - a. AGM called to order at 11:02 am PST by Branch President Natasha Neumann. There were 27 attendees at meeting time including guests, branch executives and JP Ellson (BCIA CEO/Registrar). Quorum was met.
 - b. Review of AGM procedures and admin items.
 - c. Acknowledgement with gratitude that the Kootenay Boundary BCIA branch is in the territory of the Sinixt, Ktunaxa, Secwepemc, Sylix and Okanagan people.
 - d. Hannah McIntyre announced door prizes to be offered through Support Local BC throughout the AGM.
2. Approval of Agenda - Natasha Neumann
Motion to approve agenda moved by Natasha Neumann. Seconded by Shawna LaRade. 31 in favor. Moved.
3. Approval of 2020 Minutes - Natasha Neumann
No amendments. Motion to approve 2020 KB AGM minutes by Natasha Neumann; Seconded by Casandra Knooihuizen. 31 in favour. Moved.
4. Unfinished Business - Natasha Neumann
 - a. Two donations of \$300 were made to 4-H groups – one to the Boundary District and the other to the Cranbrook district.
5. Executive Reports (detailed reports provided in agenda package)
 - a. President's Report from Natasha Neumann. Highlights included:
 - Thank you and recognition to the 2021 Executive Committee.
 - 101 members in the Kootenay Boundary branch including articling and student members and noted our first agrologist technologist in the branch.
 - b. Professional Development Coordinators' Report – Hannah McIntyre
 - COVID restrictions limited opportunities but 2 webinars, 2 in-person events were completed. Plus a virtual PD event following AGM.
 - c. Articling Coordinator's Report – Ben Foulger
 - 13 A.Ag.s, 1 A.T.Ag's, and 2 student members in the branch; 3 new A.Ag.s in 2021.
 - 8 A.Ag.s completed the final requirements of the program and advance to P.Ag. status.
 - Ben is stepping down and will assist Shawna LaRade to transition into the role
 - d. Treasurer's Financial Report for 2021-2021 - Casandra Knooihuizen
 - \$3500 leftover carry-over \$2000 ~\$1600 will be returned to head office

despite efforts to spend the allotment. The impacts of COVID were a limiting factor as funds are typically used to subsidize PD events.

Question: What does the BCIA Head Office do with funds left over? Response: Funds go back into general revenue.

Motion to accept the 2021 Executive reports by Natasha Neumann. Seconded by Tyler Fortin. 34 in favour. Moved.

Door Prize: Andrea McCormick

6. BCIA 2021 Provincial Council Update – Todd Larsen (District 1 Councillor) and JP Ellson (CEO/Registrar) co-presented. Highlights included:

- Review of council members; Todd's term ends in June 2022; his position will be open.
- Enactment of the Provincial Governance Act (PGA) dominated the work of the council over the past year. Work resulted in a "Regulated Practice" and "Reserved Practice" definitions. The latter will come into effect Sept 1, 2022

Correction re. Council election: will be online in April and newly appointed councillors will take seats after AGM in June.

- Overview of the BCIA Practice Rights model, specific BCIA registrant, and Reserved Practice definition.
- Review of the process to implement the Practice Rights. Deadline for Councils final approval is Sept 1, 2022.
- Review of other work to support implementation (i.e., communication to educational institutions) and subsequent activities (i.e., development of special case practice right licences)
- Other items included budgeting (e.g., cost increase for 2022), professional development requirements and enforcement, and mandatory demographic survey (with dues)
- Upcoming events in 2022: AGM June 1, 2022, conference will be held separately May 4-6th, 2022 in Penticton.
- Noted that the BCIA's current Strategic Plan expires in 2022. Council will begin planning next steps to renew.

Comment: presentation was over time, members suggested that JP offer a PD event.

Action: *KB PD Coordinators to plan a PD session in 2022.*

Questions: Has the BCIA taken a stand on COVID vaccination? Response: the PGA prohibits the BCIA and members from advocating. However, as an employer there is control over the workplace and Head Office has adopted a vaccine policy.

Question: Regulator vs association...should Agrologist form an association to advocate for the profession? **Deferred: would be addressed if time permits at the end of the meeting. Moderator to request clarity of the question.**

Door Prize: Allana Oestreicha

7. Motions from the Membership – Call from the floor
- a. Shawna LaRade motioned that the Kootenay Boundary Branch donate \$150 to ʔaqamnik Elementary School and \$150 to Yaqaan Nuʔkiy School. Seconded by Myra Juckers. 34 in favour. Moved.
8. Election of Officers – Natasha Neumann/Todd Larsen (Intro)
- a. President – Robyn Hooper (acclaimed)
 - b. President Elect – Hanna McIntyre (acclaimed)

- c. Articling Coordinator – Shawna LaRade (acclaimed)
 - d. Councillor – Todd Larsen (term ends Spring 2022)
 - e. Professional Development Coordinators (2) – Moe Nadeau - West (acclaimed), Kenzie Lightburn - East, Juliet Craig - West (self-nominated)
 - f. Treasurer – Alexa Matthes (self-nominated)
 - g. Secretary – Jason House (self-nominated)
- Question: can we nominate from the floor
 - Robyn said hello as president
 - Todd Larsen motioned to accept the nominations for 2022 Officer positions as identified including the two self nominated PD coordinators. Seconded by Shawna. 30 voted in favor. Moved
- 9. Branch Recognition Awards – Natasha Neumann
 - a. Green Shoot Award: Kenzie Lightburn, A.T.Ag.
 - b. Willow Tree Award: Juliet Craig, P.Ag.
- Door Prize time: Isabelle LaRocque**
- c. Recognition of student members
- 10. Presentations – Ben Foulger
 - a. A.Ag. and A.T.Ag. Introductory Presentations: Katie Reid, Kenzie Lightburn, Shauna Black, Jon Degner, Tyler Fortin, Chad Loyek
 - b. Presentation of P.Ag Certificates and Reading of Oath
 - Congrats to 8 new P.Ag.s: Cori Barraclough, Erin Bates, Chris Garda, Scott Holmgren, Natalie Morrison, Darrin Nielsen, Taylor Strosher, Serina Swanson
 - Reading of Oath: Erin Bates, Scott Holmgren, Serina Swanson, and Natalie Morrison
- 11. New Business
 - a. None.
- 12. Announcements
 - a. Goat River South Channel Riparian and Wetland Restoration Webinar, following the AGM
 - b. Cont. of the 2021 BCIA Provincial Council Update:

Question: It's understood that as a regulator the BCIA enforces, but can agrologists form an association (e.g., College of Physicians) to advocate? **Response:** the BCIA is member of the Agrologists Agronomes Canada (ACC). Although it not currently functional, it been existences for 15years. The organization's challenge is that agrology is governed provincially not nationally, and the number of members varies by province – BCIA has the largest membership. In 2015, BCIA was exploring the ACC role in advocacy and pulled out. However, the BCIA returned in 2018 after the ACC met accountability and transparency requirement. Strategic planning is forthcoming for the ACC.
 - c. **Question:** Are there sub committees? **Response:** No, there are no ongoing projects.
 - d. **Question:** Are there current advocacy issues for the BCIA? **Response:** RP Biologists and RP Foresters are competing for members. Forestry relies on members to do advocacy. Throughout the PGA development and enactment process, the BCIA chose to stay on the highroad and was careful in choosing issues to challenge. The BCIA has been the most successful of the five regulators. There is no pressing advocacy issue at the moment.
- Door Prize: Cori Barraclough**
- e. In closing Natasha welcomed the incoming Executive.

13. Adjournment

- a. Natasha motioned to adjourn the meeting at 13:17 PST/14:17 MST. Seconded by Murray Watt. 29 in favor. Moved.