



Meeting Minutes

BCIA Victoria and Island Branch Annual General Meeting

Sunday, October 27, 2024

Tigh-Na-Mara Resort and Spa, 1155 Resort Dr, Parksville, BC V9P 2E3

1. Introduction and Opening Ceremony

Natasha Cowie, PAg, Branch President, welcomed all to the meeting.

2. Meeting called to Order and Territorial Acknowledgment

Natasha Cowie, PAg, called the meeting to order and acknowledged that the meeting is being held on the unceded territory of the Snaw-Naw-As and Qualicum peoples and extended our appreciation for the territory.

3. Confirmation of proper notice and quorum

Natasha Cowie, PAg, confirmed that proper notice was given, and proper quorum was met. Branch membership is 382 and 55 people were confirmed at the registration table. Meeting called to order at 10:13am.

4. Motion to Adopt 2024 AGM Agenda

- Natasha Cowie, PAg, asked if there were any proposed amendments to the agenda, none were noted.
- Motion to adopt the agenda: Laura Hooper, PAg; seconded: Russ Horton, PAg.
- Adopted and motion to approve 2024 AGM meeting agenda was carried.

5. Motion to Adopt 2023 Branch AGM Minutes

- Natasha Cowie, PAg, asked if there were any concerns with the 2023 minutes, none noted.
- Motion to adopt the 2023 AGM minutes: Andrea Stevenson, AAg; seconded: Sabina Donnelly, PAg.
- Adopted and motion to approve 2023 AGM meeting minutes was carried.

6. 2024 Branch Executive Reports

- Thank you to the 2024 Executive Committee, BCIA staff, and District 3 Councillors.
- The President's Report, Articling Report, and Treasurer Report were received at the meeting and are summarized below:
 - a) President's Report presented by Natasha Cowie, PAg:
 - Thanked the BCIA headquarters staff for their support of the branch executive and thanked the executive for their work.
 - Total BCIA membership increased to 2209 from 2042.
 - Summarized the branch's registrants: 382 members (17.3% of total BCIA members), which includes 238 Professional Agrologists (PAg), 2 Limited License Agrologist (LLAg), 2

Technical Agrologist (TA), 46 Articling Agrologists (AAg) and Articling Technical Agrologists (ATAg), 56 Retired Agrologists, 24 Agrologists on leave, and 14 Student Agrologists.

- Three goals from the Branch Exec in 2024: volunteering, PD events and organizing the AGM.
 - Giving Back to Our Community – Volunteering.
 - Island Agricultural Show at the Cowichan Exhibition Centre (third year supporting this).
 - Vancouver Island Science Fair.
 - PD Events and Social Events.
 - 5 Reading Club events.
 - 7 In-person PD events and 2 more upcoming planned events ranging from farm tours, to treatment plant tours to restoration project site tours.
- b) Articling Program Coordinator's Report presented by Natasha Cowie, PAg:
 - As of October 3, 2024, there are 39 AAg, 7 ATAg, 17 new PAg, TAg and LAg.
 - 14 student members with 5 new student members since the 2023 AGM.
 - Articling members encouraged to reach out to branch for support in articling process.
- c) Professional Development Coordinator's Report presented by Natasha Cowie, PAg:
 - 14 events organized and 12 delivered to date.
 - 5 reading book club events, 7 in person tours, 2 more planned for October and November.
 - Thank you to Jasmine Wong, BCIA PD Coordinator, for your help with these PD events.
 - Always looking for ideas and events.
- d) Treasurer's Report presented by Natalie Tashe, PAg:
 - 2024 allocation was \$5,160 with the 2023 carry-over of \$726, resulted in a total budget of \$5,886.
 - Planned the 2024 budget on \$8,012 (includes revenue).
 - Reviewed 2024 expenses and revenues and noted some changes will occur as AGM numbers are updated and reflected in the budget.
 - Reviewed 2025 budget proposal. Predicted carryover of \$1748.40, predicted allocation of \$5,160 from branch.
 - Budgeted items: community fairs, science fair sponsorship, supplies, credit card/bank fees, PD events, and AGM.
- e) Executive Reports
 - Motion to accept that the 2024 Executive Report have now been received by the registrants: Hayley Tumas, AAg; seconded: Melina Sorenson, PAg.
 - Motion to accept the 2024 Executive Reports was carried.

7. 2024 Provincial Report – BCIA

Update by Jennfier Lawrence, new BCIA CEO/Registrar.

- Welcome to the new role. Thank you to interim CEO Jane Turner and Ryan Brady for support during this transition period. Appreciation for the staff at head office.

BCIA Head Office Updates:

- Strategic Plan work by the Board is eminent, and 2025 budget planning is underway.
- Compliance with regulation is the key focus. Reviewing where we are succeeding and where we need to improve.

- Looking to hire a second deputy registrar that is a professional agrologist.
- Continuing to focus on cultural safety and the journey to reconciliation.
- 2025 fee increase to accommodate rising costs, updating resources to meet compliance requirements, support registrants and address complaints.

8. Motions from the membership

- Natasha Cowie, PAg, asked if there are any motions from the membership. None were received.

9. Election of Branch Executive Members

- Natasha Cowie, PAg, explained the voting process and noted the following registrants were willing to stand for the following executive positions and asked if any registrants would like to nominate from the floor. Three nominations were received ahead of time. Reviewed open positions and position duties.
- The following positions won by acclamation: Director North, Director South, President Elect, Secretary and Treasurer. The following members were elected by nominations from the floor: Articling Program Coordinator, Director At Large and PD Coordinator.
- The following registrants were elected as the 2024-25 executive:
 - o Articling Program Coordinator: Kylie Adebar, AAg
 - o Director At Large: Natalie Tashe PAg
 - o Director North: Andrea Shaw, PAg
 - o Director South: Jack Common, PAg
 - o President Elect: Jelle Faber, AAg
 - o President: Bryan Vroom, PAg
 - o Professional Development Coordinator (1 of 2): Laura Hooper, PAg (2nd year of term)
 - o Professional Development Coordinator (2 of 2): Anna Stemberger, PAg (1st year of term)
 - o Secretary: Lynn Pinnell, PAg
 - o Treasurer: Melina Sorensen, PAg
- Victoria and Islands Branch has the following District 3 Councillors: Warren Mills, PAg, Yasemin Parkinson, PAg and Kirk Phair, PAg

10. Awards and Presentations

- a) Branch recognition award was awarded to Justin Straker, PAg, for his dedication to moving the field of agrology in the area of land restoration forward and his many years of work in agrology
- b) The following members were recognized for 25 years of membership: Conrad Berube, PAg, Pamela Dykstra, PAg, and Douglas Higginson, PAg(Retired).
- c) The following members were recognized for 50 years or more of membership: Wendy Holm, PAg, Doug Berry, PAg (Retired), Rod Davis, PAg (Retired) and Ron Cera, PAg (Retired).
- d) The following members were recognized for acquiring TAg and LLaG status: Benjamin Routledge, LLaG, Michael Gallo, TAg, Raelani Kesler, TAg and Britney Myers, TAg.
- e) The following members were recognized for acquiring PAg status: Chris Ayles, PAg, Jason Collier, PAg, Jack Common, PAg, Jonathan Degner, PAg, Jane Hamilton, PAg, Sarah Hardy, PAg, Graham Henderson, PAg, Kaylin Henry, PAg, Eric Moses, PAg, Lisa Nordin, PAg, Margaret Anne Rose, PAg, Melina Sorensen, PAg, and Kamy Wong, PAg.
- f) The following AAgS and ATaGS introduced themselves: Timothy Asaah Fomunyan, AAg, Anne Aubin, AAg, Jay Baker-French, AAg, Nathan Campbell, ATaG, Ashley Davidson, AAg, Shaye Donald, AAg, Melanie Dyson, AAg, Griffin Fisk, AAg, Jennifer Hall, AAg, Patrick Jolliffe, ATaG, Aruna Kanugala, AAg, Stormy Kirkland, AAg, Alexander Kramer, AAg, Matthew Kyriakides, AAg,

Katherine Leece, AAg, Andrea Panich, AAg, Ingrid Sorensen, AAg, Brandon Tolfo, AAg, Hayley Tumas, AAg, Matthew Van Osch, ATAg, Bryan Wattie, AAg, and Michelle Wauchope-Thompson, AAg.

11. Welcome to the New Branch President

Natasha Cowie, PAg, finished her term as president and passed the 'Golden Hoe'; to the newly invested president Bryan Vroom, PAg.

12. New Business

No new business.

13. Adjournment

- Nathan Campbell, ATAg, moved to adjourn the meeting. Seconded by James Sherwood, PAg, and the motion was carried.