



**Meeting Minutes**  
**BCIA Victoria and Island Branch Annual General Meeting**  
Saturday, November 7, 2020  
Via Adobe Connect

**1. Introduce Adobe Connect platform**

Anette Thingsted, P.Ag., Branch President, reviewed the Adobe platform and requested the comment/question section be used for business questions only until after the meeting.

**2. Meeting called to order and Territorial Acknowledgement**

Anette Thingsted, P.Ag., called the meeting to order and acknowledged the First Nations in the area where she lives (Snaw-Naw-As and Snuneymuxw First Nations) as this meeting was held remotely.

**3. Confirmation of proper notice and quorum**

Anette Thingsted, P.Ag., confirmed that there was an official quorum of BCIA members present (112 attendees).

**4. Motion to Adopt 2020 AGM Agenda**

- Anette Thingsted, P.Ag., asked if there were any proposed amendments to the agenda, none noted.
- Motion to adopt the agenda: Anette Thingsted
- Seconded: Jeffrey Styles, PAg
- Adopted (97% of attendees) and motion to approve 2020 AGM meeting agenda carried

**5. Motion to Adopt 2019 Branch AGM Minutes**

- Anette Thingsted, P.Ag., asked if there were any concerns with the 2019 minutes, none noted.
- Motion to adopt the agenda: Anette Thingstead
- Seconded: Kiara Jack, PAg
- Adopted (82 % of attendees) and motion to approve 2019 AGM meeting minutes carried

**6. 2020 Branch Executive Reports**

- a) President's Report presented by Anette Thingsted, PAg.
- recognition of 2020 executive members
  - acknowledged challenges with COVID
  - overview of professional development
  - recognition of support from BCIA headquarters (particularly Bonnie Keleher)
  - mentioned a few positions are available on executive

- b) AAg Coordinator's Report presented by Gundeep Randhawa, PAg:
- 319 branch members of which 210 PAg.s., 34 AAg.s., 46 retired Agrologists, 19 agrologists on leave, 9 student Agrologists, and 3 ATAg.s
  - 2019-2020 there are 10 new AAg.s., 3 new ATAg.s., and 15 new PAg.s
  - RTAg.s can only mentor ATAg.s, PAg.s can mentor both AAg.s and ATAg.s
  - members can contact the articling coordinator if you require a list of potential mentors
  - articling webinars have been updated to include the technologist category
  - due to COVID the Ethics Workshop was held online
- c) Professional Development Coordinator's Report presented by Melissa Smith, AAg.
- October 26, 2019 – Climate Change and the Practice of Agrology
  - November 12, 2019 – Environmental Impacts of Cannabis Cultivation in BC webinar
  - January 30, 2020 Climate Based Seed Transfer in BC webinar
  - May 27, 2020 Agrologists at Work webinar
  - June 18, 2020 – Code of Practice for Agricultural Environmental Management webinar
  - June 23, 2020 from RPJim to RTAg – a Journey to Professional Designation webinar
  - October 16, 2020- Working Effectively with Indigenous Peoples course
  - Coming Soon – North Island Wildlife Centre virtual tour via webinar
- Daniel Lamhonwah, PAg, spoke about the enjoyment he received from being a PD coordinator and gave an overview of the position (he has completed his 2-year term)
- d) Treasurer's Report presented by Kate Bergen, PAg.:
- 2020 Allocation = \$7260
  - 2019 carry over = \$4419.45
  - Total 2020 budget: \$11679.45
  - Reviewed 2020 expenses and revenue
  - Reviewed 2021 projected expenses (\$7400)

## 7. 2020 Provincial Reports

Provincial Councillor BCIA Executive Updates presented by Councillor Kirk Phair, PAg.:

- Overview of the Council members in the province in each of the 3 Districts (VIB belongs to District 3 – Jane Kerner, PAg., Warren Mills, PAg., Kirk Phair, PAg.) and the Lay Councillors (Matthew Voell, Brock Endean, Aiden Wiechula, RPF)
- District 1 (2 Councillors) - Peace River, Cariboo Central Interior, Kootenay Boundary and Registrant at Large (those outside of BC), District 2 (2 Councillors) - Kamloops, Okanagan, and Fraser Valley, District 3 (3 Councillors) - Vancouver and Victoria & Islands.
- Kirk provided insight into the benefits of having Lay Councillors – they bring perspectives that may not have been identified or recognized previously especially outside the agricultural focus (Voell is a lawyer, Wiechula an RPF, and Endean is a community engagement facilitator)
- Five legislated committees (Nominations, Credentials, Audit and Review, Investigation, and Discipline) require 1 lay committee member for quorum.
- Urgent need for Lay Committee members
- *Professional Governance Act*

- Bylaw revisions, Indigenous Peoples Training Requirement, clarity coming for 'duty to report', definition to agrology adding key words (environmental, remediation, atmospheric)
- Reallocation for PD funds for the future – since the majority of the PD has been online due to COVID council recently passed a motion that instead of branches getting \$15/member it will be reduced to \$10/member to help cover online costs headquarters is incurring
- Public facing requirements – Public can look up members (now termed registrants)

#### **8. Motion to Adopt 2020 Executive Report**

- Motion to Adopt: Anette Thingsted, PAg.
- Seconded: Kiara Jack, PAg.
- Adopted (99% of attendees) and motion to approve 2020 executive report carried

#### **9. Election of Branch Executive Members**

- President: Thomas Elliot, PhD, PAg, P.Geo
- President Elect: Natalie Tashe, PAg., put her name forward and no other names put forward, Natalie acclaimed as President Elect
- North Island Director: Kiara Jack, PAg. to let her position stand
- South Island Director: Hanaa Saeed, PAg.
- Director at Large: Steve Stussi, PAg.
- Professional Development Coordinator (1 of 2): Melissa Smith, AAg. to let her position stand
- Treasurer: Kate Bergen, PAg. to let her position stand
- Secretary: Jenn Wilson, PAg.
- Articling Agrologist Coordinator: Stephanie James, PAg.
- Professional Development Coordinator (2 of 2): Bejay Mills, PAg., put his name forward and not other names were put forward, Bejay acclaimed as Professional Development Coordinator

#### **10. Motion to Accept 2021 Branch Executive Committee**

- Motion to Adopt: Anette Thingsted, PAg.
- Seconded: Thomas Elliot, PAg., PGeo.
- Adopted (97% of attendees) and motion to approve branch executive committee carried

#### **11. Remembrance of Adrian Semmelink**

Neil Turner, PAg., spoke about Adrian and his dedication to sustainable agriculture practices, his family and friends are establishing an award in his name to support students pursuing their Master's of PhD in UBC's Resources, Environment and Sustainability program.

#### **12. Awards and Presentations**

- a) 25-year membership recognitions – Terry Chow, PAg., Katherine O'Leary, PAg.
- b) AAg Introductory Presentations: Landon Benson, AAg., Erin Brown, AAg., Emily Carmichael, AAg., Emma Cunnin, AAg., Kathy Haesevoets, AAg., Britney Myers, AAg., Jasper Smith, AAg., Darren Stewart, AAg., Nhan (Young) Nguyen, AAg., Zeb Zebang Wei, AAg., Foster Richardson, AAg.
- c) Presentation of PAg Certificates/Taking the Oath: Leslie Berkes, PAg., Sabina Donnelly, PAg., Stephanie James, PAg., Jordan Kummerfield, PAg., Gundeep Randhawa, PAg., Jason Lion, PAg.

**13. Welcome to the New Branch President**

Anette Thingsted, PAg., completed as past president and passed the 'Golden Hoe' to newly invested president Thomas Elliot, PAg. P.Geo., the previous weekend.

**14. Adjournment**

- Motion to adjourn: Thomas Elliot, PAg, P.Geo.
- Seconded: Jeffrey Styles,
- Adopted (97% of attendees) and motion to adjourn carried at 12:13pm