

CANADIAN BOTANICAL ASSOCIATION

ASSOCIATION BOTANIQUE DU CANADA

Minutes of the Annual General Meeting 2013

Wednesday, June 5, 2013, 12:30 to 15:00 pm, Kamloops, BC

Those Present: Andre Arsenault, Lyn Baldwin, Denis Barabe, Shannon Berch, Rebecca Bowler, Gary Bradfield, Simon Chuong, Courtney Clayson, Hugo Cota-Sanchez, S. Dayanandan, Yolande Dalpe, Sabina Donnelly, Rodger Evans, Denver Falconer, Nicole Fenton, Art Fredeen, Kate Frego, Cynthia Ross Friedman, Moira Galway, Jean Gerrath, Lynn Gillespie, Carina Gutierrez-Flores, Robert Guy, Remi Hebert, Linda Jennings, James Jones, Bryce Kendrick, Kirsten Kilde, Wyatt Klopp, Christian Lacroix, Ken Marr, John Markham, Hugues Massicotte, Christine Maxwell, Irene McKechnie, John McNeill, Marian Munro, Christine Petersen, Sylvie Renault, Mandy Ross, Santokh Singh, Tyler Smith, Julian Starr, Kevin Stevens, Linda Tackaberry, Iain Taylor, Janet Taylor, Sylvia Taylor, Liette Vasseur, Charlotte Walinga, Geoffrey Wasteneys, Erica Wheeler, Jane Young, Erin Zimmerman.
President Frédérique Guinel was in the Chair.

Recognition: The President recognized Hugues Massicotte for his Faculty Award for Excellence in research.

- 1. Adoption of the Agenda.** The Agenda was adopted unanimously on a motion by Liette Vasseur, seconded by Christian Lacroix.
- 2. Minutes of the 2012 AGM.** Jane Young proposed to change the wording "Management contract is up to \$550/month" to "Management contract is up to \$550/year" in the Treasurer's Report 2012. The minutes were adopted with this change, on a motion by Janet Taylor, seconded by Rodger Evans.
- 3. Matters arising from the minutes.** Any matters would be covered in the President's report.
- 4. Reports of Officers**
 - a. President's report.**
 - i. Laurie Consaul legacy.** The President proposed that we change the Porsild award to the Porsild-Consaul award. She suggested the formation of a committee composed of Liette Vasseur, Lynn Gillespie, and Julian Starr to work on the description of this award.
Liette Vasseur moved that we approve (a) that the name of the Porsild award is changed to the Porsild-Consaul award (with an amount of \$1,000), (b) that a committee is struck to prepare the composition of the Porsild-Consaul award, and (c) that the President write a thank you letter to Mark Armstrong, the husband of the late Dr. Laurie Consaul. Seconded by Hugues Massicotte. Unanimous.

ii. Future Meetings.

2014. Montreal. The President announced the dates for the 50th Anniversary Meeting in 2014 (June 15 – 19). More details will be forthcoming over the coming year.

2015. Edmonton. The President mentioned that this would be a joint meeting of the Botanical Society of America and Plant Canada in Edmonton in 2015 (July 25 – 29). CBA is a part of the organizing committee, along with the Canadian Weed Science Society and the Canadian Society of Plant Biologists and the Botanical Society of America.

iii. Canadian Science Publishing (CSP). Last year we voted at the AGM to become a member of the CSP. The President reported that we have been accepted as a member of the CSP on May 9, 2013. The Canadian Science Publishing (CSP) has co-sponsored a symposium in Kamloops. The President will write a thank you letter to the CSP for the financial support.

iv. Continuance Process. The President requested Liette Vasseur to talk about the continuance process. Liette Vasseur gave a Powerpoint presentation explaining the process of transition towards the new Corporations Act. Liette reminded everyone that the new Corporations act was adopted by the Federal Government on October 2011. All non-profit and charitable organizations in Canada including CBA/ABC are required to have the continuance process finished by October 17, 2014. Liette mentioned that the continuance process involved completing two forms (form 4002 and 4031). The form 4002 covers the names of the Directors and the official address of the Association. The form 4031 deals with the number of directors, which in our case would be 3 (minimum) – 16 (maximum). It also deals with the classes of membership (voting and non-voting). For example, we have only the voting class of membership. Liette explained that before the new act, we used to have the patent letters also known as the “statutes”, and the general by-laws. The general by-laws would now become the Administrative by-laws under the new act, and will become much simplified and shorter. All the awards, nominations and committees are now going to be in the Procedures Manual, and not in the by-laws. Liette explained that it would be more expensive and more procedural to make changes in the Administrative by-laws compared to the Procedures Manual. Liette suggested that we would need a stronger policies and procedures manual for operations. Liette Vasseur then talked about the timeline for the continuance process. All members of the CBA/ABC in good standing will be contacted by email for comments on the by-laws, followed by revisions, if needed. On September 15th, 2013, there will be an electronic voting for a month. Liette reminded everyone that 2/3rd of the membership need to vote in favour. The voting form can be sent to Vanda Wutzke by email, fax or regular mail. Marian proposed that we thank Liette Vasseur and the sub-committee members for their hard work.

Iain Taylor and Sylvia Taylor asked if the continuance process for the non-profit and charitable organizations is the same. Liette said that the process was similar.

v. Letter to the Governor-General: The President informed the membership that the Governor-General would not be able to be our patron any more. Sylvia Taylor suggested that we should wait for the Governor General's response. Julian Starr suggested that we should have patronage of someone in academia rather than the Governor general. Bryce Kendrick said that we should disassociate the CBA from the royal patronage. Geoff Wasteney was of the view that the Governor General is apolitical. Kirstin Kilde suggested that we should have a patron who would actually do something for the Association. Moira Galway suggested that we should make sure that we have a patron who does not disgrace the Association. The President concluded that she would wait for the reply from the Governor-General's office.

vi. Archives:

The President reported that she wrote a letter to Erich Haber, who has been dealing with the Library and Archives of Canada (LAC). Erich was notified by NAC that they would not accept any longer CBA materials because of cutbacks. Frederique and Erich would follow this matter further.

b. Past President's report.

Hugues Massicotte thanked the members (Cynthia Ross-Friedman, Art Fredeen, Moira Galway, the student reps) who have completed their term. Hugues Massicotte announced that the following had agreed to serve on the Board.

Julian Starr has agreed to continue as chair of the Systematics and Phytogeography section.

Christine Petersen will take over as chair of the Teaching section.

Andre Arsenault will act as a co-chair (with Liette Vasseur) of the Ecology and Conservation section.

Hugues Massicotte moved that we accept the nominations.

Cynthia Ross-Friedman as the Western Director and Andre Arsenault as the Eastern Director. Liette, seconded by Sylvia Taylor. Unanimous.

Student reps: James Jones and Irene McKechnie (East). Kirsten Kilde, Mandy Ross (West): Christine Maxwell, Jane Young seconded it. Unanimous.

Tyler Smith will replace Christine Maxwell as Bulletin Editor. Janet Taylor, Marian seconded it. Unanimous.

Anne Bruneau has been nominated as VP. Liette Vasseur, Daya seconded it. Unanimous.

c. President-Elect.

John Markham is looking forward to work with everyone.

d. Vice-President.

Cynthia Ross-Friedman thanked the local organizing committee members and everyone who helped with organizing the conference. Finances for the conference looks okay.

Liette moved (Sylvia seconded) that we thank Cindy and her team for a wonderful organization of the conference. Unanimous.

e. Secretary's report.

Last year, we proposed to give a teaching prize at the Montreal meeting in 2015. Please give your comments to Christine.

Motion: Santokh moved that we approve the teaching award. Kate Frego, Lyn Baldwin seconded it. Unanimous.

- f. Treasurer's report.** Jane Young presented her report to the members (see attached), and briefly reviewed the current financial status of the Association.
Motion: Two auditors were nominated and elected to review the financial records, Nicole Fenton and Lyn Baldwin. Moved by Frederique Guinel. Marian Munro, Hughes Massicotte seconded it. Unanimous.
Motion: Frederique moved to keep Vanda for one year. Sylvia Taylor, Lyn Baldwin seconded it. Unanimous.
Motion: Frederique moved to send a plaque to Mel Fisher, who helped with the Association's finances. Christine Maxwell, Andre Arsenault seconded it. Unanimous.
Motion: Frederique moved to send \$4,000 to Montreal for the 2014 meeting. Linda Tackaberry, Iain Taylor seconded it. Unanimous.
- g. Bulletin Editor's report.** Christine Maxwell reminded everyone that the deadline for the September Bulletin was August 2013 (first week). She welcomes articles and especially would like to receive articles and profiles from student members of the Association. Liette proposed to thank Christine for the great job she has done as the bulletin editor.
- h. Webmaster's report.** Daya reported that the website was functioning smoothly. As a follow-up to the executive conference call on 29th January 2013, Frédérique confirmed the membership of the ad-hoc advisory committee on updating the CBA-ABC website for the 50th anniversary meeting in Montreal. The members of the committee include Mihai Costea, Daya Dayanandan, James Jones, Santokh Singh, and Michael Wright. Rodger Evans suggested that we should have blogs and Facebook site on the website. Martin Dube has put together a CD which could be put on the website. Iain Taylor suggested that we should be careful about the privacy aspects of the information we put on the website. Christine Maxwell said that it would be difficult to make the bulletin public on the website unless we change the wording on the website because only the members would have the access to the online bulletin.

5. Section Reports.

Ecology and Conservation. Liette Vasseur.

It has been a very busy year for the section. There were letters to write, especially in regards of the review of Species at Risk act, the designation of the Area of Special Conservation Concern. Liette thanked all the members of the section who have contributed to make this year a very active one. We have a winner and two honourable mentions for the Rowe award. Liette thanked John Markham and Luise Hermanutz for helping in judging the papers.

The Ecology and Conservation Section is organizing a symposium "Seeing the forests for the bryophytes: bryophyte diversity and ecosystem function within managed forest" (Organizers: Nicole Fenton and Lyn Baldwin).

After a successful symposium and discussion in Columbus, OH, it was decided that a special issue would be proposed for publication in Botany on this topic.

From the discussions at the 2012 meeting and the publication of the special issue, it was decided to continue with the revision of the position paper on transplanted plant species at risk. This position paper was written in the 1980's and it was felt that with the additional research done and

published, we were in better position to have a look at what we had written and determine the potential revisions.

Teaching. Santokh Singh

The members of the teaching section had proposed establishing a CBA/ABC teaching award, with the first award being given at the 2014 meeting in Montreal. We had a teaching symposium with four excellent invited speakers this year in Kamloops. The teaching section is planning a teaching symposium at the Montreal meeting.

Development. Moira Galway.

The Section had discussed having a symposium at the 2014 meeting, on the lines of "Plant Development: Past, Present and Future". There were two submissions for the Taylor Steeves Award for the best student paper in plant development, structure or morphology. David Garbary and Vipen Sawhney kindly agreed to be the judges. By unanimous decision, a winner was selected.

Systematics and Phytogeography. Paul Catling, Julian Starr.

Julian Starr reported that there was no submission for the Porsild award this year. We plan to have a symposium dealing with Biological historical aspects for the next year.

Mycology. Hugues Massicotte, Shannon Berch.

Hugues Massicotte mentioned that the Weresub lecture was the highlight at the Kamloops meeting. We are discussing ideas for the Mycology symposia for the next two meetings. We invite ideas for the symposium.

6. AOB.

Iain Taylor mentioned that he and Sylvia Taylor have been invited to give a talk on the 50 years history of the CBA at the Montreal meeting next year.

Tyler Smith suggested that we should look into the possibility of having an open access to our bulletins.

James Jones suggested that the student members should be given more responsibilities at the conference, e.g. junior chairs of the Sections.

Geoff Wasteneys suggested that the CBA has a category of non-tenured faculty as members.

Frédérique Guinel thanked Cynthia Ross-Friedman and Christine Petersen for organizing the Kamloops meeting, to the symposia organizers, speakers, field trip organizers, and all the judges.

7. Adjournment. The meeting adjourned at 2.49pm, on a motion by Marian Munro.

Respectfully submitted,
Santokh Singh