

**CANADIAN BOTANICAL ASSOCIATION
ASSOCIATION BOTANIQUE DU CANADA**

Annual General Meeting 2016

Wednesday, May 18th, 2016, 1:30 pm to 3:30 pm (MacLaurin Auditorium A144), Victoria, BC

Recorded by Deborah Metsger

46 members present

Frédérique Guinel, Michele Piercey-Normore, Yolande Dalpé, Felix Baerlocher, Warren Cardinal-McTeague, Hugo Cota-Sánchez, André Arsenault, Zoe Panchen, Wendy Anthony, Lyn Baldwin, Erica Wheeler, Santokh Singh, Iain G. Taylor, Christine Maxwell, Simon Chuong, Barb Moffatt, Kevin MacColl, Charlie Drabbant, Jacob Fletcher, Pauline Catling, Barbara Hawkins, Melanie Jones, Erin Feldman, Hugues Massicotte, Arunika Gunawardena, Tom Booth, Denis Barabé, Christian Lacroix, Luc Brouillet, Mohanad Zraik, Philip-Edouard Shay, Haoran Chen, Vladimir Kricsfalusy, Linda Tackaberry, Moira Galway, Nadia Cavallin, Larry Paterson, Linda Le Geyt, Shannon Berch, Christine Petersen, Geraldine Allen, John Markham, Deborah Metsger, Art Davis, and 3 delegates whose signatures were illegible.

1. Adoption of the Agenda.

John Markham announced the addition of a presentation by the Botanical Artists of Canada to the Agenda. He then asked for a motion to adopt the agenda for the 2016 Annual General Meeting of the Canadian Botanical Association.

Moved by Christine Petersen

Seconded by Shannon Berch

Carried unanimously

2. Presentation by Linda Le Geyt – Botanical Artists of Canada

The Botanical Artists of Canada (BAC) are very interested in collaborating with the Canadian Botanical Association to accomplish their goal of increasing their botanical knowledge and accuracy and to effectively fulfil their goal of promoting the artistic side of Botany and enhancing popular and scientific interest in the discipline. BAC feels that a partnership between the two organizations will help each one to better fulfill its mandate.

Suggested areas of collaboration

- 1) Reciprocal reference to the two organizations on their respective website.
- 2) Facilitate contact between CBA/ABC and BAC members. To this end, Linda provided a list of BAC members who want to work with the CBA. (Appendix 1, attached)
- 3) Access to members willing to do educational presentations
- 4) Joint conferences
- 5) Joint exhibitions
- 6) Establish regional hubs
- 7) Appoint someone from CBA/ABC as liaison with BAC

Lyn Baldwin agreed to serve as liaison

Discussion

Iain Taylor- Points of information - US Botanical Artists botanical garden association puts on great exhibitions and programs. The UBC botanical garden has an upcoming auction and sale of some very good botanical art.

John Markham thanked Linda for her presentation.

3. Approval of the Minutes of the Annual General Meeting, 2015.

There are no minutes available. John regrets to have misplaced these.

Moved by Pauline Catling

Seconded by Warren Cardinal-McTeague

Carried unanimously

4. Report of Directors (reports follow)

a. Vice President – Geraldine Allen

100 people registered for the Victoria meeting. The meeting is in the black thus far. Final accounting will be reported when all the bills are in. The organizing committee would like to thank everyone for coming to Victoria.

John Markham - Moved a vote of appreciation to the local organizing committee

Seconded by Hugues Massicotte

Carried unanimously

b. President – John Markham

i. Plant Canada

CBA gave Plant Canada \$900 to cover their costs in the past year. We need to be aware of their continuing demands so that the financial burden does not become too great.

Q- Santokh Singh – What benefits do we get from Plant Canada?

A- John Markham – lobbying? Not completely sure. They sit on a number of national committees. Also, Plant Canada is a member of the Plant Global Council, an international group.

Q- André Arsenault - Could more information on Plant Canada be circulated to the membership?

A- John Markham - Yes

Q- Hugues Massicotte- It would be helpful to do a cost benefit analysis over the next 2 years to see whether CBA's continued membership in Plant Canada seems to be worthwhile.

A- John Markham– Analysis could be done after next joint meeting in Guelph

ii. CBA Special Projects Fund

The board would like to create a new CBA Special Projects Fund that would issue grants using money that is generated in profit years. Grants are intended for student research, to support new research programs or for special projects.

Grants \$500-\$1000

Q- Erica Wheeler: Could the grants be for Collections projects? Research? Travel?

A- John Markham: Yes

C- Frédérique Guinel: They could also be used for teaching, ie. to develop a new course or tool.

C- Deb Metsger: Grants have been modelled on the ASPT student research grants
C- Pauline Catling: Recipients could be required to submit a report on their project to the CBA Bulletin.

Move to adopt the concept of Special Projects fund: Melanie Jones
Seconded: Frédérique Guinel
Carried unanimously

The board is now charged to develop a program and procedures for the grants.

c. President Elect - Art Davis

2016 Cinq-Mars competition included 12 student papers. This year's judges were:

Melanie Jones and Michele Piercey-Normore – Mycology section; André Arsenault – Ecology section; Frédérique Guinel – Development section; Art Davis – Teaching section; Deb Metsger – Systematics section.

Motion to thank the Cinq-Mars Judges.

Moved: Hugues Massicotte

Seconded: Luc Brouillet

Carried Unanimously

d. Treasurer's Report - Michele Piercey-Normore

With this year's Annual CBA Meeting in Victoria preceding the CBA's year-end of May 31, 2016, the report presented here cannot reflect the full 12 months of CBA's activities.

Q- Shannon Berch - What are unpaid members?

A- Michele - Students and people who are kept on list for 2 years after last dues payment

Q- Iain Taylor – It is problematic to not know whether or not one's membership has been received until the end of the year. CBA should be looking for a more up-to-date and prompt reporting system.

Q- André Arsenault - Is there a way that we can join / renew membership online?

A- John Markham – Yes – Online membership is a priority for the updated website.

Q- Hugues Masicotte - What are Review Engagement costs?

A- ???

Michele Piercey-Normore put forward a motion to use last year's firm for review of engagement costs

Moved: André Arsenault

Seconded: Pauline Catling

Carried: Unanimously

John Markham asked for a motion to accept the Treasurer's report

Moved: Lyn Baldwin

Seconded: Iain Taylor

Carried Unanimously

e. Bulletin report – None presented. Tyler was unable to attend

Comments: Iain Taylor has a concern about book review program – need botany books, not mammalogy and insects.

f. Secretary

Julia Nowak was unable to attend. Julia sent a request for members to recruit students to participate in the Planting Science Program.

g. Webmaster

Report was given by John Markham, because Daya Dayanandan was unable to attend this meeting. After 10 years as webmaster, Daya would like to step down.

For the past several years, CBA has been paying ~ \$200/ year for our website – can migrate to a cheaper site to save the Association some money.

h. Past-President Report – Frédérique Guinel

The CBA Bylaws will now be held in Library and Archives Canada (LAC) in Ottawa, as of the end of June. LAC are looking into electronic archiving of the continuance process. LAC are very impressed with the materials that we have amassed about the association. Anyone who has pictures or other materials that could be placed in the Archives, please contact Frédérique and she will make sure that they are deposited.

The Policy Manual of the Association has been entirely revised and it is kept by the President, who distributes it to any new member of the Board.

i. Election of New Board of Directors

Frédérique presented the following slate of officers to fill vacant positions on the board.

Student Director (1 year-term)

Dylan Ziegler – nominated by Frédérique Guinel

Dawn Wood – nominated by Pauline Catling

Neither student was present at this AGM meeting. John Markham put it to a coin toss -

tails won - Dylan Ziegler

Eastern Director – 2-year term

Nadia Cavallin – nominated by Deb Metsger

Voted and accepted unanimously

Western Director 2-year term

Rob Guy – nominated by Frédérique Guinel

Voted and accepted unanimously

Treasurer

Michele Piercey-Normore has agreed to stand a second 2-year term

Voted and accepted unanimously

Webmaster

Daya Dayanandan will be stepping down as webmaster. There are no nominees at this time. We need to put out a call to the general membership. We may need to pay for a firm to redesign the website, and then elect a new webmaster to take it over.

Vice President

Frédérique Guinel on behalf of Wilfrid Laurier University

Voted and accepted unanimously

President Elect

Julian Starr – nominated by Frédérique Guinel

Voted and accepted unanimously

President

Art Davis

Voted and accepted unanimously

Past President

John Markham

Voted and accepted unanimously

5. Upcoming Meetings

2017 – Wilfrid Laurier University, Waterloo, Ontario

Date: July 4 – July 8

Theme: “Hidden World of Plants”

(Frédérique Guinel – VP – Local organizing committee)

9 person committee including people from University of Waterloo

2018 – No location yet. Botanical Society of America (BSA) is meeting in Rochester, MN. CBA could meet with them.

Moira Galway– Suggested that we consider a joint meeting with Canadian Society of Plant Biologists (CSPB).

John – This is a possibility. Would need to find out where they are meeting. CBA will meet with them the following year with Plant Canada.

2019 – Plant Canada Guelph. The Canadian Weed Science Society (CWSS) is taking the lead to host this meeting.

2020 – No location yet. Possible joint meeting with Canadian Society for Ecology and Evolution (CSEE) (in Newfoundland?)

6. Reports of Section Heads (reports follow)

a. Ecology and Conservation - André Arsenault

- Pleased with standard of award submissions – helps students to stay connected and encourages their participation in CBA.
- Thank you to Jana Vamosi for a successful symposium *Plants on the Edge*

- Section discussed how to better present the position paper on transplantation and whether to do more position papers.
- Symposium ideas - Species Interactions and Best Practices in teaching
- Outreach – public lecture at next meeting
- Need to work to improve communications within the section and the society as a whole during the year
- Consider Twitter feed during and outside the meeting to increase real-time voices

b. Mycology – Hugues Massicotte and Shannon Berch, co-chairs

- Weresub lecture was a great success.
- Section is working on Weresub lecture and mycology for next year.
- Communication idea needs to be nurtured
- Selection of 2017 Cinq-Mars judge is in progress

c. Plant Development – Moira Galway, chair

- Little accomplished this year
- Great symposium organized by Simon Chuong
- Considering one keynote next year rather than a symposium. This would facilitate an increase in the number of contributed talks.
- Need to get more, younger people involved.
- 2017 Cinq-Mars Judge – Christian Lacroix
- Simon Chuong has taken over as the section Chair

d. Systematics and Phytogeography – Gerry Allen acting chair

- Encouraged everyone to think about the Porsild-Consaul award.
- Are considering a Symposium on Hybridization and Polyploidy for next year's CBA meeting at WLU.
Selection of Cinq-Mars judge - in progress

e. Teaching - Christine Petersen chair

- Teaching demonstration lab – best practices ideas – all areas.
Practical, cheap, involves the students. Have asked Arunika Gunawardena to give an opening talk, as the recipient of this year's Magister Award.
- Student art display – posters or unframed that could be mailed and judged.
Q- Linda Tackaberry– 3d as well?
A- Christine Petersen -Yes
C - André Arseneault - ala Karl Nicholas – people's choice award
- Request that \$500 go to national Science Fairs – make another donation for next year

Moved by Christine Petersen
Seconded by Art Davis

This motion is to be reviewed by special board conference call, after Treasurer's meeting

Q- Santokh Singh – Can CBA be part of provincial science fairs – most regions were quite receptive. Regional is another way to give profile to CBA. This is a form of outreach that goes across the country. Some of the regional mycology societies offer membership and field guide as a prize.

Q- Simon Chuong – Could we add a general outreach box for donations to the Membership application in order to raise more funds for initiatives like Science Fairs?

A- Frédérique Guinel – have to make sure that we don't take money away from travel awards

7. Iain and Sylvia Taylor Award for best poster – Christine Petersen, committee chair

Winner: Dylan Johnston, University of Saskatchewan

“Growth of the bifurcated floral nectar spur in *Impatiens hybrida* (Balsaminaceae)”

Honorable Mention: Lucas Hampel, Thompson Rivers University

“Plants, fungi and freeloaders: examining fungal species richness in *A. americanum* throughout the growing season.”

Honorable Mention: Kevin MacColl.

“An assessment of plant performance and mycorrhizal infectivity in soils collected from Baker Creek: a watershed impacted by Giant Mine.”

8. Lionel Cinq-Mars Award for best talk – Art Davis, committee chair

There were 12 student talks at this year's meeting, and these were of very high quality. The committee of judges agreed that there were 2 co-winners this year, with one Honourable Mention, as follows:

1st Place Yunfei Jiang, University of Saskatchewan

“Effect of ovule, pod and node position on patterns of seed formation in field pea plants exposed to heat stress.”

1st Place Marion Barbé, University Quebec

“Not always gone with the wind: Cryptogam dispersal by small mammals”

Honourable Mention: Zoe Panchen, Carleton University

“The blossoming of the Arctic: using historic records to predict the impact of climate change on Nunavut flowering and seed dispersal times.”

9. Hand off of the Presidency from John Markham to Art Davis

Art Davis - Thank you to John, Frédérique and the other Board members for all their work in the past year. “I am looking forward to working with Julian Starr and John Markham. We need to keep our membership strong, including our student members who should be encouraged to become members by their supervisors. Also, we need to continue to promote Botany in Canada. If institutions are feeling pressure about their herbaria, their field course locations and offerings, etc., please let him know because letters from the CBA can be helpful. Please let me know if the Association can assist in any of your causes. I will be happy to write and lend the Society's support.”

10. Other Business

Iain Taylor - 2018 is the 60th anniversary of Flora of North America. This should be acknowledged by CBA in some way.

- Also wanted to bring the new journal Facets for which he is an editor to the attention of the membership. Facets <http://www.facetsjournal.com/> is a new Canadian, interdisciplinary, fully open access journal.

Santokh Singh - May 18th is “Fascination of Plants Day” (FOPD). We should have some information about FOPD on our website. He will report back to the CBA on this item, through the Bulletin.

Movement to Adjourn Tom Booth
Meeting adjourned at 3:25 pm