

BVRTA Minutes for 2020-2021 AGM
January 21, 2021

Meeting was held on ZOOM Platform with five Members in Attendance. There were a limited number of BVRTA members indicating that they could do a ZOOM Platform Meeting when membership as a whole were approached via email by Elaine Thompson (BVRTA President) at an earlier date.

Thank you to both Sharon and Alison for taking the Minutes for today's Meeting.

Present: Elaine Thompson, Sharon Campbell, Karin Bachman, Cheryl Hofweber, Alison Candela

With small number present, it was determined that a quorum of support of at least 3 of 5 members present would be necessary to pass a motion.

A reminder to everyone that it is critical that you have the platform that you are using being set to Pacific Time if you are doing a local meeting. This is one of many the things that we have learned from each other over time.

Treasurer Report: Karin Bachman

Current Total Balance: \$1105.77

(310.00) was added to above total from BCRTA for the local \$5.00 membership dues paid by active members in our Local Association in November, 2020.

We currently have around 60 members in our Branch, many that have moved away from our region and have maintained local membership, one member that joined but taught in Burns Lake still residing in Decker Lake, and in addition the retired Hazelton educators in Hazelton that have joined our Association. We gained three new members this year as well. There are members in our Association that do not have email contact which necessitates mailing out information to them so that they are kept current or speaking to them by phone. A couple prefer PostScript and Connections only. The President has honoured that request.

Current Executive includes: Elaine Thompson: President, Donna Steeves: Vice-President, Alison Candela: Secretary, and Karin Bachman, Treasurer.

Donna Steeves gave notice of her resignation as Vice-President at our last in place meeting in February, 2020.

M/S Campbell/ Hofweber

That Donna Steeves' resignation be accepted with appreciation and thanks for her many years of service and her continued participation in our local Association. Carried

Elaine Thompson, Alison Candela and Karin Bachman are willing to continue in their current roles. The local membership will be informed that we are actively seeking a person from our local membership to fill the role that has been vacated by Donna. Should you be interested please let Elaine know at 250-847-3285 or pelainethompson@gmail.com as soon as possible.

M/S Thompson/Campbell

That the President position have a two- year limit, if so desired, and the Vice-President would then move forward in that role. The President would then hold the position of Past President and act as advisor for a new president. **We also currently need to have someone in our Membership volunteer to take the position of Vice-President so that the pattern of change continues.** In the future, this may also hold true for other executive positions. That is vital if our organization is going to thrive.

M/S Elaine/Karin

That the following policies be recorded and in place and continue to be our direction as we move forward:

1. In the past, our Bank Account is at the Bulkley Valley Credit Union with four appointed signatories, the Current Executive. The past standard is that we have needed two signatures for each cheque written. The individual receiving the cheque has not been able to sign a cheque made out to their name. A bill must be submitted to support the cheque being written.

Elaine M/S by Sharon:

1. As we currently require two executive member's signature on a cheque and move to remove the proviso that a member be able to sign as one of the signatories if cheque is made out in their name with a second member signature in place. Sharon is willing to be second signature when a second signature is necessary if an executive member is not available. A proof of purchase must still be in place. **This motion was accepted by all members at today's meeting.**
 - As we are a non-charitable organization we were notified in the past by the BCRTA that we can no longer donate to charities from BVRTA funds. We now give flowers, plants or books to members that may experience a health issue, a loss of a close family member, or in need of encouragement. The president has looked after this on our behalf.
2. It was decided by Members present that when we can have our meetings in a public venue again that we would continue the past practice of each member present:
 - a) bring a non-perishable food item to donate to a local Food Bank on behalf of the BVRTA.
 - b) bring a book to our "Bring a Book, Take a Book Exchange.

- c) A unanimous decision was that each member in place at a public BVRTA meeting would receive \$10.00 towards their lunch expenses while funds allow. If you order your lunch and then are unable to attend you must notify venue to cancel your lunch order as local RTA is not responsible for that cost.

Elaine reported that she will purchase a ZOOM License to continue our Zoom Gatherings. The focus may be formal and/or social. Karin suggested that we have a Zoom get together in February. Cheryl suggested that our Insurance Experiences might be a good topic for suggestion. This was supported by Members present.

An outdoor campfire gathering at Alison Candela's Lake Kathylyn Property when weather and health directives permit.

Elaine also reported about some of the many advantages we are able to access on the Free Advantage App available to both BCRTA and BCPVPA members. There are not many local ones available but we can go online to the ones that are there and use them that way. She does add that we should and do support local as much as we can as local business owners are our friends and neighbours. She does appreciate that online shopping is also an alternative.

She closed with the acknowledgement that although the BCRTA and the BVRTA are a non-partisan, if you choose and have not signed an online petition (Peter Julien), a Lower Mainland Federal NDP member currently has one available.

The address to go to this site is:

https://www.peterjulien.ca/pharmacare__petition

If you type into your search engine, his name and add pharmacare petition, it should come up if you are interested.

“This will be presented in Ottawa in February, 2021 as a Private Member's Bill C-213, An Act to enact the Canada Pharmacare Act. Bill C-213, ground breaking new federal legislation that will deliver better healthcare and improve the lives of millions of Canadians. If you signed one that was presented on our behalf by Nathan Cullen when he was our Federal Representative, you can sign this new one. The current petition is a new initiative and **you can sign it if you have not already signed Peter Julien's Pharmacare Petition**”. **Remember you can only sign once but family members can also sign if they so choose.**