



Canadian Academy of Health Sciences
Académie canadienne des sciences de la santé

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

Monday, June 19, 2023 from 1:00 pm - 2:30 pm ET
Webinar

DRAFT MINUTES

Fellows in Attendance

Paul Allison	Gil Kaplan	Kim Raine
Robert Armstrong	Susan Kirkland	Vivian Ramsden
Herman Barkema	Marlys Koschinsky	Marie-France Raynault
Cecilia Benoit	Gilles Lavigne	Carol L. Richards
Hélène Boisjoly	Alain Lesage	Bernard Robaire
Joan Bottorff	Mindy Levin	Susan Rvachew
R. Nicholas Carleton	Ann Macaulay	Chris Simpson
John Challis	Ian MacDonald	Ingrid Sketris
James (Jay) Cross	Annette Majnemer	Harvey Skinner
Anne Croy	Darcy Marciniuk	Eldon Smith
Jacalyn Duffin	Errol Marliss	Dawn Stacey
Allison Eddy	Thomas Marrie	Antonio Strafella
Elham Emami	Linda McGillis Hall	Martin Taylor
Ivan Fantus	Kathy McGilton	Bernard Thébaud
Marvin Fritzler	Lynn McIntyre	Sally Thorne
Tamas Fulop	John McLaughlin	Cecile Tremblay
Lise Gauvin	Graydon Meneilly	Colleen Varcoe
Carolyn Gotay	Thomas Michalak	Bilkis Vissandjee
Janice Graham	Sylvie Nadeau	Sunita Vohra
Jean Gray	Sioban Nelson	Cheryl Waldner
Sepali Guruge	David Olson	Xiaolin Wei
Gloria Gutman	Anita Palepu	Richard Weisel
Carol Herbert	Grace Parraga	Catharine Whiteside
David Hodgins	Kathy Pichora-Fuller	Michael Wolfson
Catherine Hudon	Constantin Polychronakos	Trevor Young
Lois Jackson	Dorothy Pringle	

Guest:

The Honourable Dr. Carolyn Bennett, PC, MP, Minister of Mental Health and Addictions and Associate Minister of Health

CAHS Resources:

- CEO – Serge Buy, non-voting;
- Recording Secretary – Kayla Bimm, non-voting
- Webinar Administrator – Christine Helm, non-voting

1. Land Acknowledgement

A land acknowledgement was observed. Dr. Cross also observed that this date is celebrated as Juneteenth.

2. Welcome and Remembrance

Dr. James Cross welcomed the Fellows to the 2023 CAHS AGM.

Dr. Cross proceeded to ask for a moment of silence for Fellows that have passed away in the year since the last annual general meeting, including:

- Dr. John Bienenstock
- Dr. Martin Hollenberg
- Dr. Bernard Langer
- Dr. Regina Browne

3. Guest Speaker

Dr. Cross welcomed and introduced The Honourable Dr. Carolyn Bennett, PC, MP, Minister of Mental Health and Addictions and Associate Minister of Health, as guest speaker.

Dr. Bennett made a speech to Fellows of CAHS.

Dr. Cross thanked Dr. Bennett and invited Fellows to ask questions.

4. Approval of the Agenda

Dr. Cross asked for approval of the Agenda.

Dr. Sally Thorne moved, seconded by Dr. Carol Herbert, the following resolution:

“That the Agenda be approved as presented.”

Carried unanimously

5. Adoption of the Minutes from the last Annual General Meeting

Dr. David Hodgins moved, seconded by Dr. Jean Gray and duly carried, the following resolution:

“That the Minutes of the May 12, 2022 Annual General Meeting be approved as presented.”

Carried unanimously

6. Report from the President

Dr. Cross reported on the activities of the past year.

Events, Assessments and Reports

CAHS held its first post pandemic, in-person events in 2022.

The 2022 Forum, and a CAHS Board meeting, were held in Montreal. Dr. Nick Carleton, Dr. Joy MacDermid and Dr. Alain Brunet were thanked for their leadership in that process. New Fellows from 2020, 2021 and 2022 were inducted at this event, as well as other events in Ottawa, and Vancouver.

Throughout the year, Fellows and Board members were able to meet various government stakeholders such as:

- Former Prime Minister the Right Honourable Paul Martin, PC
- The Honourable Senator Stan Kutcher
- The Minister of Health the Honourable Jean-Yves Duclos, PC, MP
- Dr. Stephen Lucas, Deputy Minister at Health Canada
- Jean-Sébastien Bock, Director of Policy to Health Minister Jean-Yves Duclos
- Shaili Patel, Director of Policy to the Mental Health and Addictions Minister Carolyn Bennett

The 2023 Forum, Gun Violence as a Public Health Issue, will take place this fall. All Fellows are encouraged to register. The format of this year's Forum has changed. The Forum will now be two days long and will feature panel discussions focused on calls to action. The named Lectures are no longer part of the Forum, to ensure they have their own visibility. The Paul Armstrong Lecture will now be a part of the AGM.

CAHS announced that it had resigned its membership in the Council of Canadian Academies and focused on other collaborations with organizations such as the Royal Society of Canada. In fact, CAHS is working with the Royal Society of Canada on a Policy Brief entitled 'Canada's role in Global Health'.

CAHS released the report from the Health Human Resources panel in April. Co-Chairs Dr. Marcia Anderson, Dr. Ivy Bourgeault, Dr. Luigi Lepanto, Dr. Chris Simpson and Project Director Sonya Kupka were all thanked for their work.

CAHS will undertake two assessments in 2023, a first for CAHS as they will happen simultaneously.

Fellowship

CAHS continues to have some Fellows with outstanding dues. Fellows were asked to please consider reaching out to make payments on unpaid dues.

Prior to the call for Fellowship nominations in January, the Fellowship Committee, led by Dr. Zubin Austin, made changes in the way the process for the review of nominations is done. A

recent meeting of reviewers indicated that the changes were positive and useful. Dr. Austin was thanked for his work on this committee.

Strategic Plan

CAHS adopted a strategic plan in August 2022. The strategic plan established 4 priority areas:

- Representation in the Academy,
- Engagement of fellows, stakeholders and partners,
- Sustainability of our operations
- Increasing our Impact.

Equity, Diversity and Inclusion

In 2022 CAHS formed a taskforce on Inclusion, Diversity, Equity and Accessibility, led by Dr. Colleen Varcoe. The taskforce worked with external consultants to develop an environmental scan, framework and scorecard for assessing progress. We have now formed a more permanent committee, as per the recommendations of the scan.

In 2022, committed to fully functioning as a bilingual organization.

7. Report from the Chief Executive Officer

Serge Buy reported on the activities of the past year.

Activities focused on the implementation of the strategic plan, support for the assessments and increased engagement of Fellows.

8. Financial Report

Dr. Colleen Varcoe reported on CAHS Financials from January 1, 2021 to December 31, 2022.

In 2021, CAHS budgeted \$100,00 towards the creation of the strategic plan and the EDI framework. This would potentially mean a deficit of \$80,000.

There were two unanticipated expenses in 2022: \$22,000 in maternity benefits for a CAHS assessment employee and the two additional Induction events held in late 2022.

The auditor has written off some of the unpaid Fellowship dues and shifted some CAHS revenue into 2023.

CAHS ended 2022 with a deficit of \$36,000 – better than expected.

It is noted that a full comparison with 2021 is not possible, as the 2021 numbers cover a period of 9 months.

Dr. Sepali Guruge moved, seconded by Dr. Annette Majnemer and duly carried, the following resolution:

“That the Audited Financial Statements be approved as presented.”

Carried

Dr. Colleen Varcoe moved, seconded by Dr. Marlys Koschinsky and duly carried, the following resolution:

“That the accounting firm of Nephin Winter Bingley be appointed as auditors for the fiscal year 2023.”

Carried

9. Report from the Chair of the Scientific Affairs Committee

Dr. Sioban Nelson reported on the Scientific Affairs Committee activities.

In 2022, the committee was restructured to increase flexibility and increased the oversight role the committee had on the Academy. The membership of the committee was changed to bring diverse perspectives and backgrounds. The terms of committee members range from 1 – 3 years to enable change while retaining history.

The committee reviewed the HHR reports first draft and provided feedback. The committee then reviewed the final report to ensure the panel responded to the sponsors requirements.

The committee is now focused on the two new assessments CAHS will undertake. The committee is discussing potential panel members and Chairs.

With the announcement of the Policy Brief with RSC, it is apparent that CAHS can take on a range of projects, not just assessments.

10. Report from the Chair of the Governance Committee

Dr. Majnemer reported on the activities of the Governance Committee.

Initially, there was a Finance and Governance Committee. With an increased focus on governance, the committee was split in two and the governance committee was created and a terms of reference was developed.

The first task of this committee was to create an organizational chart to reflect the governance of the Academy.

CAHS undertook a Board performance survey in 2022. The results were positive overall.

As per the strategic plan, CAHS wanted to increase the diversity of the Academy’s Board leadership. Several underrepresented groups were identified on the Board, including geographical representation, francophones, and racialized individuals.

This year, CAHS updated the election process, to enable more participation by Fellows. This was done by changing the scheduling of the election and then proceeding with an electronic ballot and voting. Eight Fellows put themselves forward as candidates this year.

Dr. Majnemer announced the incoming Executive and the new members of the Board:

President-Elect: Dr. Trevor Young

Treasurer: Dr. Gilles Lavigne

Board Secretary: Dr. Jan Sargeant

Dentistry Director: Dr. Elham Emami

Medicine Director: Dr. Cecile Tremblay

Veterinary Sciences Director: Dr. Herman Barkema

Director-at-Large: Dr. Elizabeth Borycki

11. Leadership Recognition

Dr. Cross recognized the contributions of Dr. Annette Majnemer, Dr. Colleen Varcoe and Dr. Sioban Nelson who after years of service on the CAHS Board will, as of August 31st, retire from the Board.

12. Concluding remarks

Dr. Cross indicated that Academy work is more important now than ever before.

Dr. Cross thanked the CEO, Serge Buy, other staff, Board Members, and committee members for their service.

13. Adjournment

Dr. Cross thanked everyone for attending the AGM.

Dr. Annette Majnemer moved to adjourn the meeting.