



***The Canadian Addison Society
La Société Canadienne d'Addison***

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**Minutes of the Annual General Meeting
Saturday, September 25, 2021
Virtually via Cisco Webex**

The Canadian Addison Society Annual General Meeting was held Saturday, September 25, 2021. Due to the Covid 19 Pandemic, the meeting was held virtually via Cisco Webex, with 15 members attending.

The Annual General Meeting was called to order at 1:00 pm Eastern Daylight Time by Rick Burpee, Secretary-Treasurer.

Adoption of Minutes from the 2020 Annual General Meeting

The Minutes of the 2020 AGM were published in the Fall 2020 Newsletter and are posted on the website.

The motion to accept the minutes was duly nominated, seconded and approved by a show of hands.

Financial Report – Rick Burpee, Secretary-Treasurer

The Financial Reports for the Canadian Addison Society for the fiscal year 2020 were included in the AGM Meeting Package distributed on August 28, 2021.

As mentioned last year, one of the complications of owning shares in Brookfield is the accounting software we use (QuickBooks) does not handle unrealized gains/Losses in trading accounts, so I must be somewhat creative to handle this situation. It results in overstating income by \$530.79 in 2021. (An unrealized gain reflects the increase in market value of the security for the year.)

The Brookfield shares were donated to us by the estate of Donald Morgan. At the end of 2020 they had increased in value by \$3,261.28 since the time of donation in late 2018. As of last week they were roughly up by \$7,000 since the time of donation, effectively doubling in that time.

We started the year with two GICs from Equitable Bank. During 2020 they announced they were getting out of the direct client business, and both GICs were cashed out. They have been replaced by one GIC with TD Bank.

On a cash basis, income in 2020 was \$6,231.77. \$4,947.00 was from donations and \$1284.77 from membership fees (52 new members for 2020). Total membership at the end of 2020 was 352. We are now over 400.

Expenses in 2019 were \$11,929.43. This included a one-time contribution to the Canadian Society of Endocrinology and Metabolism of \$5000 to support their online workshops with physicians on the use of virtual consultations with patients. They also hosted a virtual event for Addison Society members earlier in the summer of 2020. We remain financially very sound with current assets of over \$80,000.

We have three major expense areas on an ongoing basis:

- Telephone (\$3200 per year, roughly evenly split between Bell Canada and i24, our 24-hour answering service)
- Insurance (\$1700 per year for both D&O Liability and General Liability)
- Newsletters (\$600-700 per issue).

President's Message

Hello and welcome everyone. It is good to finally have another year under our belt, with all the pandemic- driven unusual circumstances we have lived through. Hopefully, we are closer to the end of it rather than the beginning.

Today we will re-elect two Directors, as Rick will soon explain. We are most grateful to all Directors, in fact, every volunteer, for your service to the Society. Without the contribution of volunteer time and talent, the Society would simply cease to exist. A fact we all need to keep in mind.

Speaking of volunteers, you may not be aware that in our Constitution and By-Laws it states that no member can or will receive any remuneration for any work or service done or provided on behalf of the Society.

Constitution

6. NOT FOR PROFIT Says that...No member of the Society shall receive any of the income of the Society, (except of course for repayment of approved expenses), And that the activities of the Society shall be executed without a view to profit

By-Laws

9. REMUNERATION OF DIRECTORS Simply states that...The Directors shall receive noremuneration for acting as such.

As the Society and all its services operate on volunteer power alone, there is no staff. As a result, actual operating expenses are quite minimal as Rick's report reflects.

Many of you will be aware of the virtual support group meetings that have been occurring this year. Regional Representative and Board Member, Sheri Thiffault along with fellow Board Member Melanie Westover, have held a number of virtual meetings for the South-Central Ontario Support group, with good participation.

Last month we held the first virtual meeting in Atlantic Canada. While the participation was small, it is a start, and we will have more. Thanks to Melanie Westover and Lucilia Vicente for their assistance in staging this meeting.

David Sparks, Regional Representative in Eastern Ontario has advised he may try to pull together a Fall virtual meeting. And on it grows.

If you see a meeting scheduled that is out of your area, contact the Regional Rep of that area as members are free to attend any meeting of their choice across the country.

This year we were pleased to introduce the new '*Medical Information Card*' and hope that most members have either created one from the PDF provided in the Spring 2021 Newsletter and/or have requested a printed card or laminated version of the printed card as explained in the Newsletter.

This card was in development for a couple of years with all the contributing players and organizations we collaborated with to finalize the medical content. We are grateful to both organizations named on the card. They provide the credibility needed. Thanks also to our own Medical Advisor, Dr. Stan Van Uum.

Special thanks of course to our volunteer Researcher/Educator, Gino Innamorato who played a significant role assisting in the guidance of this project through the many development phases and approvals, to completion.

Finally, thanks to Lucilia Vicente who oversees distribution of the cards. Lucilia is also using her own laminating machine for those members requesting the laminated card.

It is just a little card but represents a great deal of work. Check the SPRING Newsletter for details on receiving a preprinted and/or laminated card.

On another important matter that will not go away, I feel the need to refresh everyone's memory that we are seriously seeking that one elusive member, with the management experience, available time, and willingness to serve, to take over the President's responsibilities. As I have told the Board, I am more than ready for my second retirement from this position. If you are that suitable candidate, or know the right candidate, please connect with me directly.

In addition to a new President, we are seeking Regional Representatives to establish new member support groups in a number of areas in Canada. Please refer to the Newsletter you received last week.

Speaking of our Newsletter, I am pleased to advise that we have a new Newsletter Editor, as of just this past week. Member Jacqueline Maerz from Alberta will be immediately embarking on this important volunteer role. Project one is to develop the Fall edition.

We wish you good luck Jacqueline and thank you for stepping forward.

We also have a new webmaster, in Alex Leuschner. We must express our most sincere thanks to past webmaster, Jeff Wilson, for his time and talent during the period he acted as our webmaster, some on a volunteer basis. Thank you, Jeff, you did a wonderful job for us, and it is all appreciated. And welcome Alex, we wish for a positive long-term relationship.

I hope this brief summary gives you a flavour of what has been going on behind the scenes during this ongoing pandemic period. We have not been idle. Volunteers are making things happen every day, for all of us.

Be assured, there are always new important items on the planning table or in the works. Items that are affordable for the Society and of value to members.

Some are in motion and others will proceed when we have the human resources to make them happen. Once they are implemented, please give them your full support.

Thank you all.

Good health, stay safe

Harold Smith
President

Election of Directors and Officers

The Notice of Meeting indicated two Director positions were up for election. The proposed slate consisted of two Directors eligible for term renewal:

Roger Steinmann (3 years)
Gerry Ott (3 years)

A motion to approve the slate as proposed by the Board of Directors was duly proposed, seconded, and approved by a show of hands.

Officers: President – Harold Smith (1 year)
 Vice – President – Derek Burpee (1 year)

Directors: Harold Smith (1 year)
 Derek Burpee (1 year)
 Derek Clarke (2 years)
 Gerry Ott (3 years)
 Nicki Clarke (2 years)
 Shari Thiffault (1 year)
 Roger Steinmann (3 years)
 Holly McLean (2 years)
 Melanie Westover (2 years)

Rick Burpee remains as Secretary-Treasurer to complete the suite of Officers.

New Business

While there was no new business to discuss, there was good discussion on Covid 19 vaccinations and the potential need for a booster (one member already received one on advice from her endocrinologist), and perhaps seeking input from members on endocrinologists they would recommend, as we get several requests each year on the topic.

Meeting Termination

The meeting was terminated at 1:50 EDT.
