



Public Health Association of British Columbia

Annual General Meeting

Thursday, November 29, 2007
The Empire Landmark Hotel, 1400 Robson Street, Vancouver, BC

The Annual General Meeting of the Public Health Association of British Columbia (PHABC) was held in Vancouver, commencing at 8:45 am and concluded at 10:35 am, with approximately 80 people in attendance.

1. **Welcome and Call to Order** – President Shannon Turner called the meeting to order at 8:45 am with welcoming and thanking all who attend, especially the volunteers.
2. **Approval of Agenda** – *Motion from Dr. Rootman, seconded by Margaret Hillson to “approve as circulated”.* Carried.
3. **Approval of Minutes from Last Year** – *Motion from Barbara Crocker, seconded by Dr. Stanwick to “approve the 2006 AGM minutes as circulated”.* Carried.
4. **Reports**

4.1 President, Shannon Turner

Shannon provided highlights of the 3 year Public Health Agency of Canada's contribution agreement towards “Building Capacity”. The President thanked Joanne Bays (NHA) and Caryl Harper (VIHA) for their contributions to the new BCHLA Access to Vegetables and Fruit contract. She noted that it took courage from the Advisory Committee to challenge BCHLA on the Food Box program model. This new program will bring local farmers together with school salad bar programs. Shannon noted that Dr. Irv Rootman was the recipient of an IUHPE award for his contribution on the Community Involvement Committee and thanked him for his commitment to the conference as a whole. The President identified the humble beginnings of the BC Coalition for Public Health in the 21st Century, a small group organizations whose task is to develop a strategy on public health in BC. The branding has been done and the next step is to broaden the participation to include practitioners, the College of Registered Nurses of BC. Shannon noted the contributions of Steve Pedersen, the Coordinator for the Building Capacity work. He has now moved to Alberta and noted that she is considering this “an expansion” of BC! Steve still continues to work on several PHABC projects. The President acknowledges Katherine Whitworth for her dedication to the Association in running the office and presents her with a bouquet. In closing, Shannon provided highlights of her participation in Prevention of Violence Canada as Co-chair with Lori Synder MacGregor of the Region of Waterloo Public Health.

4.2 – Financial Report, Norm Peters

Due to prior obligations, the Treasurer presented his reports via teleconference. Norm indicated that PHABC was in healthy condition and several projects due to start shortly (PHAC – Core Competencies and BCHLA – Access to Vegetable and Fruit). The Association has been carrying all of the operation costs since March. *Motion by Norm Peters, seconded by Dr. Blatherwick to “adopt the 2005/2006 Financial Statement as circulated”.* Carried. *Motion by Sandra McKenzie, seconded by Elaine Berthelet to “adopt the 2006/2007 Financial Statement as circulated”.* Carried. The Treasurer also reported that the Association will be moving to an automated accounting process, be looking at investment opportunities and strategies and also fair business policies around contracts. The Finance Committee is seeking new members. Please contact Katherine at staff@phabc.org if you would like to volunteer.

4.3 – Membership, Barbara Crocker

Barbara reported the committee has been busy preparing a work and strategic plans for 2008 – 2011. The membership has grown by 12% over 2006. The committee is looking at how to move forward to strengthen the Association. *Moved by Barbara Crocker, seconded by Ted Bruce “to adopt the Membership report as presented”.* Carried. The President thanked Barbara for her efforts in bringing the strategic plan forward for the new Board to ratify.

4.4 Communications, Deb Leach

Deb thanked our web administrator John Dalgity for all his dedication. The web site is raising our profile and the use of the site has doubled over the previous year. Approximately 85% of the members are registered to use the site. In the last year the web site has hosted 3 individual conference registration processes. Currently, there are 16 different “on-line communities” using the site. The Committee would like to work towards new panels for the display model. *Moved by Dr. Rootman, seconded by Margaret Broughton to “adopt the Communications report as presented”.* Carried. The President noted that the “6% Solution” was the first time in our history that the Association did an advertorial in the Vancouver Sun and Province.

4.5 Policy, Research and Evaluation Committee, Dr. Ron Dovell

Ron noted the committee had a new name and that they will be looking at their TOR. The Association will be looking at best practices and identifying gaps on overall research for upstream evidence. This is a huge job ahead and research is required to back the “6% Solution”. Ron indicated that by creating partnerships, this will add to capacity to do the research. The larger streams cannot move quickly enough to support community-based research projects. The Policy, Research and Evaluation Committee can emerge as a major thrust. *Moved by Dr. Dovell, seconded by James Leslie to “adopt the Policy, Research and Evaluation report as presented.”* Carried. The President noted that research and evidence are key.

5. President introduces the Board of Directors

Shannon introduces the new President, Ted Bruce. Ted is a statesman in the health profession and has a strong advocacy record and this will harmonize our efforts. He has a strong connection to HA's and is fully supported by the Board. Dr. Irv Rootman has provided an enormous contribution as Vice President and is a research genius! Dr. Marjorie MacDonald and Paulette Lacroix are the Co-Chairs for today's AGM. Many thanks to Sandra McKenzie and Elaine Berthelet on their work towards bringing our Constitution and Bylaws into the 21st century. Mike Pennock is unable to attend today and is currently working on the Gross International Happiness Project. The President calls upon the following new Board members in attendance today. Maureen Rowlands hails from the Heart and Stroke Foundation and has a health promotion background. Katrina Ludwig is located in Prince George as a social worker and also an associate researcher/coordinator for the National Consortium on Aboriginal and Rural Public Health Education. Dr. Patricia O'Hagan is currently developing courses for on-line learning and also best practices for foreign trained physicians. Recently involved in eating disorder course for practitioners. Currently working in Population Health at VCH, Darryl Quantz has been engaged in public/community health for approximately 10 years and has a particular interest policy and advocacy. The President thanked all the Board members in attendance and noted that this is the largest ever Board.

Ted thanks Shannon for the fabulous job she has done as President in bringing public health renewal to the forefront.

Door prize winners: Deb Leach, Margaret Hillson, Ron Dovell and Margaret Broughton selected from the wide assortment of prizes.

6. Resolution 2007:01 on Dental Health

Dr. Stanwick is pleased to address the Association in Dr. Nelson Ames' absence. This is a very important subject that the Health Officers' Council has endorsed. *Moved by Shannon Turner, seconded by Dr. Blatherwick to "adopt Resolution 2007:01 on Dental Health as presented". Carried.*

7. New Business

7.1 Constitution and Bylaws Committee, Sandra McKenzie

Sandy noted the Board requested a review as the document is outdated. The committee has met to review and suggested changes. This has been a journey. Consultation with PHABC's lawyer, the membership, the Society Registrar will be forthcoming in the new year. It is hoped that a revision will be presented at the 2008 AGM.

7.2 Capacity Building Working Group, Dr. Irv Rootman

Irv noted the idea to set up the group came out of last year's conference planning. This is an important area for the Association and with Dr. Nancy Hall and Paulette Lacroix, they have been working on a 4 year plan. New members are welcome to expand the possibilities.

8. Recognition of 2007 Award Winners

8.1 “The Dr. John Blatherwick Lecture”

Shannon noted all future PHABC conference keynote addresses will carry this distinction. Dr. Blatherwick is honoured for his profound service to public health in British Columbia.

8.2 The Phyllis M. Baird Award for Public Health Nursing

Marjorie MacDonald announces Robert Stam as the winner and thanks him for his generosity of time, commitment of spirit and endless hours of advocating for children and families has empowered those families and helped improve their journey through life.

8.3 The Sharon Martin Award for Community Development

Ted Bruce announces VANDU Women Care Team as the winner and thanks them for contributing new knowledge on primary health care experiences of women who use drugs and promoting health and well being and leadership capacity to women who use drugs.

8.4 The Award of Merit

Betsy MacKenzie is unable to attend today, however Shannon wanted to thank her for taking the risk and believing in PHABC and working tirelessly to reestablish us as a credible organization.

8.5 The President’s Award

Shannon announces Dr. Irving Rootman as this year’s recipient. She thanks him for his dedication, vision and commitment to rebuilding the Public Health Association of BC.

Dr. Rootman took time to thank Shannon Turner for her incredible contribution to the Association over the last 4 years. On behalf of all the members, Dr. Rootman presented a gift to her and he looks forward to continuing the work in her new capacity as Past President.

Closing Remarks

The President encourages all the members to continue to advocate and harmonize our efforts and is appreciative of all the quality partnerships she has formed over her 4 years.

Meeting adjourns at 10:35 am.

A series of guest speakers presented on “Public Health Voices: Report on Challenges and Opportunities”.