



# **MINUTES OF THE 2021 BRITISH COLUMBIA HISTORICAL FEDERATION ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING**

Saturday, June 05, 2021 9:00 a.m. - 10:00 a.m. Online via Zoom.

## **1. Welcome**

President Shannon Bettles called the meeting to order at 9:00 a.m. and welcomed attendees. Director Emma Quan provided the territory acknowledgment.

## **2. In Memoriam**

Attendees watched a slide show honouring BCHF members who passed away in the last year. We remember Elizabeth Hyde (née Galbraith), Sheila Nichols, Helen Louise Shore, Ken Waldon, and Ian Waddell.

## **3. Recognition of Societies Represented**

The following societies were present at the meeting:

- Aldergrove Heritage Society
- Arrow Lakes Historical Society
- BC Dairy Historical Society
- BC Forest History Association
- BC History of Nursing Society
- BC Historical Federation
- Bulkley Valley Museum
- Fraser Valley Heritage Railway Society
- Langley Heritage Society
- Nanaimo Historical Society
- Point Ellice House Museum
- Vancouver Island Local History Society
- Royal BC Museum
- Surrey Historical Society

- Touchstones Nelson Museum of Art and History
- Ts'elxwéyeqw Tribe Management
- VGH School of Nursing Alumnae Association
- Victoria Historical Society
- West Coast Ringette Historical Society

The following BCHF Council members were in attendance: Callie Anderson (Membership Chair), Shannon Bettles (President), Doug Brigham (Secretary), Rosa Flinton-Brown (Treasurer), Mark Forsythe (Second Vice President), Michael Gibbs (Director), Greg Nesteroff (Director), Emma Quan (Director), K. Jane Watt (Past-President).

#### 4. Recognition of 2020 Award Winner

Michael Layland expressed his sincere thanks to the Federation for the 2020 Lieutenant Governor's Award for Historical Writing.

#### 6. President's Report

Shannon expressed deep appreciation for all of the work that our member societies and the Federation have done this past year. She reminded attendees that we all have considerable work to do to advance the cause of reconciliation with our First Nations. She reflected on the many outstanding presentations we were so fortunate to see during this year's conference. She addressed the President's Report on page 3 of the BCHF Annual Report 2021.

#### 7. Establishment of Quorum

49 attendees were present at the meeting, of whom only 23 were voting delegates. The quorum for the AGM is 25.

**Motion to recess for 10 minutes to allow additional voting delegates to identify themselves to the Secretary.** Moved by Doug Brigham. Seconded by Mark Forsythe. Carried.

Two more voting delegates were identified and the meeting resumed.

The President left the meeting briefly. The Second Vice President assumed the chair during her absence. The President returned to the meeting.

**Motion to accept the minutes of the 2020 AGM as distributed.** Moved by Doug Brigham. Seconded by Callie Anderson. Carried, with one abstention.

The President rejoined the meeting.

#### 8. Treasurer's Report

Rosa spoke to the Treasurer's report on pages 23-28 of the BCHF Annual Report 2020, including financial statements for the year ended March 31, 2021: Statement of Financial Position, Statement of Changes in Net Assets, Statement of Operations and Notes to Financial Statements.

We have a small but healthy financial cushion this year, allowing us to support our member organizations across BC. Our net assets total \$124,134 (\$94,440 unrestricted and \$29,694 internally restricted), up approximately \$2,000 from last year.

Our financial results for the year ended March 31, 2021 show an excess of revenues over expenditures of \$4,295. In addition to those items already mentioned, the following items are notable.

We have reconsidered the cost structure for the BC History magazine. Our goal is to increase the amount we spend on the magazine by up to 20% for the next fiscal year. This will allow us to pay better rates to our design and editorial teams as well as pay our authors and columnists small honorariums in recognition of their contributions. Our expectation is that the Canadian Periodical Fund will continue to support our intention to move towards market salaries for our magazine team.

Our cost cutting measures for this fiscal year included saving money on travel, conference and the AGM due to the pandemic and temporarily suspending our donation matching commitment to the Centennial Legacy Fund. We cut our advertising budget, reallocating that money towards our membership database software and our web meeting applications to support our virtual organization.

We had two new spending items in 2021. We initiated a "Buy Local / Give Local" campaign in our Winter edition of the magazine, hoping to encourage magazine subscribers to support local museums and historical societies in their holiday purchases and donations. Also, we have committed funds toward a rebranding campaign to establish a new look for the BCHF as we enter our 100 year anniversary in 2022. Our organization can take on this next century with energy and enthusiasm and an updated look that will be meaningful and memorable in an increasingly digital world.

Thank you to all our supporters who donated to the Centennial Legacy Fund and the BCHF general fund this year. We received donations of \$5,632 for the CLF this year (more than double previous records) and \$1,434 to support the ongoing work of the BCHF. Thank you so much! The current balance in the Centennial Legacy Fund is \$9,472. The BCHF would love to grow the fund so we can afford to contribute to more incredible local history projects throughout the province. Please consider contributing online through the Canada Helps website or adding a little extra donation to your membership renewal.

In June we will participate again in The Great Canadian Giving Challenge, a national public contest to benefit Canadian charities. Every \$1.00 donated to a registered charity in June via Canada Helps, enters the charity to win an additional \$20,000 donation. Through these efforts, we raised \$2,305 for the Centennial Legacy Fund in 2020 and we want to exceed that in 2021.

We will continue using the Canada Helps platform for donations - donors instantly receive gift receipts and they can also choose to donate monthly and can make donations in a loved one's

name. Donors can select which fund(s) they would like to support. Our sincere thanks to the many people who have made donations this year to the BCHF.

**Motion to approve the Financial Statements as presented in the BCHF Annual Report 2021.** Moved by Michael Gibbs. Seconded by Michael Kluckner. Carried.

## 9. Committee Reports

Committee reports are available in the BCHF Annual Report 2021. The President expressed her special gratitude to all members of the committees.

**Motion to approve all Committee Reports as presented in the BCHF Annual Report 2021.** Moved by Michael Kluckner. Seconded by Mark Forsythe. Carried.

## 10. New Business

There were no new items of business raised.

## 11. Election of Officers and Directors

The following individuals stood for election to the BCHF Council:

- President: Shannon Bettles
- Second Vice President: Mark Forsythe
- Secretary: Doug Brigham
- Treasurer: Rosa Flinton-Brown
- Membership Chair: Callie Anderson
- Directors: Maurice Guibord, Anna Irwin, Refano Evan Lumempouw, Greg Nesteroff, Emma Quan, Kira Westby, Elwin Xie

The following individuals were appointed to the BCHF Council:

- Honorary President: Gary Mitchell
- Past President: K. Jane Watt

Thank you to Michael Gibbs, who has completed his Council terms.

**Motion to appoint the slate of nominees to the BCHF Council.** Moved by Kelly Black. Seconded by Ron Welwood. Carried.

## 12. Future Conferences

Given the uncertainty of the pandemic and the health restrictions, we have not yet selected a location for next year's conference. Any member organizations interested in hosting the conference should contact the President.

## 13. Member Society Updates

The following societies provided brief updates:

- BC History of Nursing Society (Nan Martin)
- Arrow Lakes Historical Society (Kyle Kusch)

## 12. Adjournment

**Motion to adjourn the meeting.** Moved by Doug Brigham. Seconded by Mark Forsythe. Carried.

The meeting was adjourned at 10:00 a.m.