



Meeting Minutes

BCIA Victoria and Island Branch Annual General Meeting

Sunday, October 1, 2023

Sea Cider Farm and Ciderhouse, 2487 Mt St Michael Road, Central Saanich, BC

1. Introduction and Opening Ceremony

Jennifer Wilson, PAg, Branch President, welcomed all to the meeting.

2. Meeting called to Order and Territorial Acknowledgment

Jennifer Wilson, PAg, called the meeting to order and acknowledged that we are on the territory of the W̱SÁNEĆ peoples and extended our appreciation for the territory.

3. Confirmation of proper notice and quorum

Jennifer Wilson, PAg, confirmed that proper notice was given, and proper quorum was met. Branch membership is 355 and 85 people were confirmed at the registration table.

4. Motion to Adopt 2023 AGM Agenda

- Jennifer Wilson, PAg, asked if there were any proposed amendments to the agenda, none were noted.
- Motion to adopt the agenda: Jeff Styles, PAg, seconded: Natasha Cowie, PAg.
- Adopted and motion to approve 2023 AGM meeting agenda was carried.

5. Motion to Adopt 2022 Branch AGM Minutes

- Jennifer Wilson, PAg, asked if there were any concerns with the 2022 minutes, none noted.
- Motion to adopt the 2022 AGM minutes: Jeff Styles, PAg; seconded: Melina Sorenson, PAg.
- Adopted and motion to approve 2022 AGM meeting minutes was carried.

6. 2022 Branch Executive Reports

- Thank you BCIA staff, District 3 Councillors and 2023 Executive.
- The President's Report, Articling Report, and Treasurer Report were received at the meeting and are summarized below:
 - a) President's Report presented by Jennifer Wilson, PAg:
 - Thanked the BCIA headquarters staff for their support of the branch executive and thanked the executive for their work.
 - Total BCIA membership increased to 2042 from 1855.
 - Summarized the branch's registrants: 355 members, which includes 217 Professional Agrologists (PAg), 1 Limited License Agrologist (LLAg), 1 Technical Agrologist (TAg), 37 Articling Agrologists (AAg) and Articling Technical Agrologists (ATAg), 58 Retired Agrologists, 30 Agrologists on leave, and 11 Student Agrologists.

- Three goals from the Branch Exec in 2023: giving back to our community, PD events and organizing the AGM.
 - Giving Back to Our Community
 - Island Agricultural Show at the Cowichan Exhibition Centre (second year supporting this)
 - VIU Science Fair
 - Invasive Species Removal at Swan Lake
 - PD Events and Social Events
 - Social Events: Ile Sauvage Brewing in September, upcoming Longwood Brewhouse in October
- b) Articling Program Coordinator's Report presented by Jennifer Wilson, PAg:
 - As of August 25, 2023, there are 29 AAGs, 8 ATAGs, 21 new PAg.
 - 11 student members with 6 new student members since the 2022 AGM.
 - Encourage registrants to act as mentors and Articling Program Coordinator matches mentees and mentors with similar educations, work experiences and professions.
- c) Professional Development Coordinator's Report presented by Alex Fillo, PAg and Beth Sobieszczyk, PAg:
 - 10 events organized and delivered.
 - 3 reading book club events, 2 webinars, 5 in person tours, 4 planned for October and November.
 - Thank you to Jasmine, BCIA PD Coordinator, and headquarters staff for their work and supporting PD events.
 - Always looking for ideas and events.
 - Upcoming PD events: Sea Cider Farm tour, Reading Club November and December, Nanaimo Food Share, Tour of Topsoil Urban, CRD wastewater treatment plant and/or landfill tour.
- d) Treasurer's Report presented by Natasha Cowie, PAg:
 - 2023 allocation was \$5,160 with the 2022 carry-over of \$1,452.90 resulted in a total budget of \$6,612.90.
 - Planned 2023 year based on budget of \$8952.
 - Reviewed 2022-23 expenses and revenues and noted some changes will occur as AGM numbers are updated and reflected in the budget.
 - Reviewed 2024 budget proposal. No amendments requested from members. Motion carried to approve 2024 budget.

7. 2023 Provincial Report – BCIA

Update by Jane Kerner, BCIA Interim CEO and Kirk Phair, district 3 Councillor and Provincial Treasurer:

- Recent staff changes in headquarters: Jasmine Wong PD Coordinator and new registrar to start on October 23, 2023.
- New registrar to focus on education components, duty to report, etc.
- Retreat for strategic planning last weekend for board and committees. Strategic Plan to be released in the new year for next 5-year period. The office open to accept feedback from members.
- The next AGM is being planned for May 2023 in Nanaimo in conjunction with the Land Summit.

- Duty to Report – members need to be aware of this as professionals. Webinars from BCIA and OPG (30 min) are very informative so highly recommend watching them.
- 2022 financial audit is coming to a close in late October, the board will review for 2 weeks and then it will be released for registrants for comment for two weeks.
- Volunteering opportunities at the branch level and the provincial level. Lots of opportunities with the right to practice and the right to title.

8. **Motions from the membership**

- Jennifer Wilson, PAg, asked if there are any motions from the membership. None were provided.

9. **Election of Branch Executive Members**

- Jennifer Wilson, PAg explained the voting process and noted the following registrants were willing to stand for the following executive positions and asked if any registrants would like to nominate from the floor. Two nominations were received ahead of time. Reviewed open positions and position duties.
- The following positions won by acclamation: Director at Large, South Island Director, North Island Director, President-Elect and Secretary.
- The following members were elected by nominations from the floor: Articling Program Coordinator and PD Coordinator.
- The following registrants were elected as the 2023-24 executive:
 - Articling Program Coordinator: Jelle Faber, AAg
 - Director At Large: Melina Sorensen, PAg
 - Director North: Thom O'Dell, PAg
 - Director South: Jeffrey Styles, PAg
 - President Elect: Bryon Vroom, PAg
 - President: Natasha Cowie, PAg
 - Professional Development Coordinator (1 of 2): Alex Fillo, PAg (2nd year of term)
 - Professional Development Coordinator (2 of 2): Laura Hooper, PAg (1st year of term)
 - Secretary: Lynn Pinnell, PAg
 - Treasurer: Natalie Tashe, PAg
- Victoria and Islands Branch has the following District 3 Councillors: Warren Mills, PAg; Yasemin Parkinson, PAg; Kirk Phair, PAg.

10. **Awards and Presentations**

- a) Branch recognition award was awarded to Jennifer Wilson, PAg, for volunteering for many years in various roles and her work in agrology.
- b) The following members were recognized for 25 years of membership: Sharon Erickson, PAg, Barbara Johnson, PAg, and Daniel Saliken, PAg.
- c) The following members were recognized for acquiring TAg and LLaG status: Ann Tuson, TAg, and Giles Stevenson, LLaG.
- d) The following AAgS introduced themselves: Eric Moses, AAg, Jack Common, AAg, Jelle Faber, AAg, Katherine Fulton, AAg, Kevin Pons, AAg, Kylie Adebar, AAg, Mohammed Rehan, AAg, Ramadeep Romana, AAg, Tanner Owca, AAg, Sarah Hardy, AAg, Francis Durnin-Vermette, AAg, Nicolas Bertoni, AAg.
- e) The following members took the oath during the AGM: Julie Budgen, PAg, Jonathon Jeffery, PAg, Jennifer Edwards, PAg, Jari Eikenaar, PAg, Alexander Fillo, PAg, Katherine Fulton, PAg, Samuel

Kent, PAg, Rebecca Ouellette, PAg, Scott Skagford, PAg, Kelly Tradewell, PAg and Giles Stevenson, LLaG.

11. Welcome to the New Branch President

Jennifer Wilson, PAg, finished her term as president and passed the 'Golden Hoe'; to the newly invested president Natasha Cowie, PAg. Natasha thanked Jennifer Wilson, PAg for all her contributions and the past executive for their work.

12. New Business

No new business.

13. Adjournment

- Natasha Cowie, PAg, moved to adjourn the meeting. Seconded by Laura Hooper, PAg, and the motion was carried.