



**Persons With AIDS Society of British Columbia
MINUTES
Annual General Meeting**

**held on August 18, 2007 at 11:00 am at
the Training Room, 1107 Seymour Street, Vancouver, BC**

1. Registration of Members and Proxy Voters

Meeting Chair:	Sheena Campbell
Number of Attendees:	39
Number of Proxies:	27
Number of Registered Voters:	66

2. Call To Order

The meeting was called to order at 11:00 am by Paul Lewand, Chair of the British Columbia Persons With AIDS Society (BCPWA). Paul welcomed the members attending the meeting and thanked them for their presence.

3. Reflecting and Remembering

One minute of silence was held to remember and give respect to those no longer with us.

4. Adoption of the Agenda

Moved by Neil S., seconded by Damien C.; BE IT RESOLVED THAT the agenda be adopted as presented.

CARRIED

5. Motion to Appoint the Independent Chair

Moved by Ken B., seconded by Keith M.; BE IT RESOLVED THAT Sheena Campbell be appointed the Independent Chair of the meeting.

CARRIED

The Independent Chair remarked on her role, the Rules of Order and her hopes for the meeting.

Moved by Brian M., seconded by Victor; BE IT RESOLVED THAT the BCTF Rules of Order Fourth Revision, August 1984, be the rules by which the meeting is conducted.

CARRIED

The Recording Secretary for the meeting, Alex Regier, was recognized.

6. **Motion to Approve the Minutes of the AGM of August 26, 2006**

The Board of Directors of BCPWA have given their approval to the Minutes and have presented them for the consideration of the membership.

**Moved by John B., seconded by Joe L.; BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Minutes of the August 26, 2006 Annual General Meeting be approved as presented.
CARRIED**

7. **Reports**

7.1 **Report from the Chair**

Paul Lewand, Chair of the Society, gave the following report on the work of BCPWA from April 1, 2006 to March 31, 2007:

The British Columbia Persons with AIDS Society has continued its good work over this past year. While maintaining our previous services, we have been involved, as we are every year, in a number of new initiatives and developments. BCPWA has worked hard to effect positive change and remain a leader in the evolving HIV/AIDS landscape and community in British Columbia.

Reaching our 20th Anniversary last year, we are stronger than ever before, but our services are still required as the fight against HIV/AIDS continues. As the entire field of HIV/AIDS continues to change around the world and here at home, your Society has remained invested in current issues provincially, nationally and internationally. To assist in our cutting-edge work, two staff positions which had been frozen in 2005/06 were once again filled. Our Positive Prevention Department re-opened with a Director in place and our Community Representation and Engagement (CRE) Standing Committee was re-invigorated with a Treatment Outreach/CRE Coordinator back in place.

In 2006/07, through hard work and good fortune, BCPWA won the British Columbia Association of Broadcasters (BCAB) Humanity Award which allowed us to launch a one-year province-wide public awareness campaign, featuring television and radio commercials, a website, and a toll-free information line. The campaign was focused on challenging individuals to change the way that they think about HIV/AIDS and addressed the social harms caused by HIV-related stigma. This hard-hitting campaign was successful, garnering both positive and negative feedback, and showing that people really did pay attention to what BCPWA had to say.

During 2006/07, the BC Centre for Excellence in HIV/AIDS unveiled an ambitious and somewhat controversial new approach to HIV treatment and prevention. BCPWA is working hard to make sure that any new programs implemented in the province relating to HIV/AIDS are beneficial to both positive people and to the general public.

There are also big changes on the way (in the near future, in fact) as to how all of our medical records will be stored and shared in British Columbia. While there are certainly

some positive benefits to this new “eHealth” system, there are also problems with it, and BCPWA is again working hard to try and steer the project in a direction that will make our medical interactions more effective, rather than less effective, for positive people and for others.

St Paul’s Hospital is certain to be undergoing major changes in the near future and, as St Paul’s has such a big influence on HIV care in the province, we are working with those who will be making the changes - whatever they may be - to make sure that we will not only continue to receive good care but that it remains the best care possible. BCPWA is committed to making sure that all positive people continue to be well-served by the Centre and to maintaining the good relations that exist between the Society and the Centre.

As usual there were challenges to running an organization serving a growing membership with limited resources, but we have come through another year stronger and even more committed. We have supported and empowered, and will continue to support and empower, our members and all HIV-positive British Columbians while being true to our consumer-based mandate and always acting with the highest moral and ethical standards.

A Report from the Chair can be found in the Society’s Annual Report, 2006-2007.

Moved by Damien C., seconded by Bernd C.; BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Report from the Chair be accepted.

CARRIED

7.2 Report from the Executive Director

Ross Harvey, Executive Director of the Society, confirmed that the period of time being discussed was that of April 1, 2006 to March 31, 2007.

Ross began by announcing that his 10-year anniversary with the Society occurred about a month and a half ago, and that over the past ten years he has gained more from the Society than anything that he has ever been able to offer it. Ross stated that he had been exposed to experiences through BCPWA that he would have found nowhere else, and that he had been taught the meanings of dignity, endurance and love that he could not have learned from anywhere else. He thanked BCPWA from the bottom of his heart for all that it had given him.

Ross noted that his 10 years with the Society mark half of the 20-year history of BCPWA, and that two publications on the Society’s history are available. The shorter document comes in hard copy and is freely available from the Society’s offices. The longer document is available on BCPWA’s website at www.bcpwa.org. These two documents contain a wealth of knowledge and describe the story of the unparalleled struggles and triumphs which comprise the story of the Society and offer a fabulous testament to BCPWA and all of its members, volunteers and staff, both past and present.

Ross noted that the past fiscal year showed a marked improvement over 2005/06, with a key highlight being the re-opening of the Positive Prevention Department. One of the

Department's most notable achievements this year has been the production of a break-through booklet resource which will soon be available for newly-diagnosed individuals. The booklets will be distributed at the point of diagnosis and will be extremely useful for continuing consultation by those newly-diagnosed with HIV.

Also in 2006/07, BCPWA led a coalition composed of the Oak Tree Clinic, the Positive Women's Network and the BC Centre for Excellence to victory in a battle with the province to have HIV-positive mothers provided with infant formula - a battle that had lasted for the past four years.

The 2006 AIDS WALK for LIFE was among the most successful WALKs ever, raising \$210,000 for the Society's Complementary Health Fund (CHF). This sum represents more than enough money for the CHF to continue to run for the next year. This year's WALK is also looking good and Ross encouraged everyone to sign up for the WALK and collect pledges.

Thanks principally to the work of the Board of Directors, BCPWA achieved a state of solid progress over 2006/07 and built a firm foundation on which to continue the good work. The Society is well-respected throughout BC and Canada for its knowledge, advice, talent and strong volunteer base. The story at the root of the Society is the story of the Society's volunteers who have built it, nurtured it, informed it, and caused it to be the beacon known everywhere for a better kind of health care advocacy. Volunteers are the real foundation of BCPWA and Ross gave congratulations to all who have built this very great organization.

A Report from the Executive Director may be found in the Annual Report, 2006-2007.

**Moved by Wayne C., seconded by Ken B.; BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Report from the Executive Director be accepted.
CARRIED**

8. Report from the Treasurer

Mahmoud Virani, the Society's Auditor, was unable to attend the meeting. Ken Buchanan, Treasurer of the Society, reviewed the Society's Financials for the 2006/07 fiscal year.

The Treasurer reported that the Society was running a small deficit of \$18,000 on the 2006/07 fiscal year, which is noted in the Auditor's Report. This is the fourth consecutive year of BCPWA running a deficit and it's a trend that the Society would like to end. In the past two years, the deficit has been principally due to the increased costs of monies owing to employees for holidays and overtime. This year, in order to reduce this burden, staff have been encouraged to use up the holidays and accrued overtime days off due to them. This action should reduce significantly the amount of monies owed to staff, thus reducing the overall deficit, and bringing the Society to a break-even point this fiscal year.

The Auditor's Report indicates that BCPWA conducts itself well financially and within acceptable standards, and that the Balance Sheet is in good shape. Funding from the Gaming Commission came in early during 2006/07, allowing the Society to conduct its business without

dipping into its operating loan, and it is hoped that this will happen again in 2007/08. All accounts receivable and liabilities are also current and expenses are under control.

After going through the Financial Statements in detail, the Treasurer fielded a question around the potential for raising the CHF ceiling due to extra monies being available for the year. The Treasurer noted that this option is being considered, but that the Society prefers not to have to raise and then lower the ceiling as funds fluctuate. With CHF funds at the level that they currently are, leaving the ceiling where it is ensures that CHF can be funded at the current level for some considerable time.

Moved by Brian M., seconded by Neil S.; BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Report from the Treasurer be accepted.

CARRIED

Motion to Accept the Audited Financial Statements

Moved by Ken B., seconded by Glyn T.; BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Audited Financial Statements and Annual Report, 2006-2007, be accepted as presented.

CARRIED

9. **Motion to Appoint the Auditor**

Moved by Ken B., seconded by Michael; BE IT RESOLVED THAT Mahmoud Virani Inc. be appointed as Auditor for the 2007/2008 fiscal year.

CARRIED

10. **Proposed Election Procedures**

10.1 **Motion to Adopt Procedures**

The Independent Chair ran through the Election Procedures proposed for the meeting.

Moved by David, seconded by David; BE IT RESOLVED THAT the election procedures, as presented, be adopted.

CARRIED

10.2 **Consent to Act as a Director**

The Independent Chair explained that the provincial *Business Corporations Act* establishes restrictions concerning eligibility to serve on the Boards of Directors of incorporated bodies, including societies incorporated under the *Society Act*. These restrictions apply to members of the BCPWA Board of Directors. Information on these restrictions is available at the meeting. Consent to Act as Director forms are to be signed by prospective Board Members before the election takes place.

10.3 **Director's Code of Conduct**

The Independent Chair explained that any member who is elected to the BCPWA Board of Directors must sign the Society's Board Member Code of Conduct declaration, which was adopted by the Board of Directors on March 19, 2003.

10.4 **Nomination of the Voting Committee**

The Independent Chair explained the role of the Voting Committee in counting votes from the floor where exact numbers of votes are required.

Moved by Bernd C., seconded by Ken B.; BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Voting Committee consist of Julia Smith, Ruth Marzetti and Alex Regier.

CARRIED

10.5 **Nomination of the Balloting Committee**

The Independent Chair explained the role of the Balloting Committee in counting the votes made for nominees to the Board and announcing the results.

Moved by Joe L., seconded by John B.; BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Balloting Committee consist entirely of non-voting associate members named as follows: May M., Vera G., Kasandra V., Terry S., Beryle C. and Holly G.

CARRIED

11. **Nominations from the Floor Open/Close**

The Independent Chair explained that there were currently seven vacant positions on the Board. Six of these were 2-year term positions and one was a 1-year term position (due to a Board Member who had received a 2-year term at the 2006 election resigning during the 2006/07 term). The individual who would serve the 1-year term position would be randomly chosen by the Independent Chair by drawing one of the names of those elected to the Board out of a hat. The question of why the vacant position on the Board was not simply filled during the term by appointing an appropriate individual to the Board was raised and it was confirmed that there had been no appropriate individual available at the time. It was also confirmed that the election of the Executive Committee and the Chairs of the Standing Committees would take place at the first Board Meeting after the AGM.

Moved by John B., seconded by Damien C.; BE IT RESOLVED THAT the name of the individual who will serve the 1-year term on the Board of Directors of BCPWA be chosen by being drawn randomly out of a hat by the Independent Chair from among the names of those elected to the Board.

CARRIED

The call for nominations from the floor was given by the Independent Chair.

The following candidates were duly nominated, and agreed to allow their names to stand for election:

John Bishop, Damien Callicott, Sandy Lambert, Brian McDonald, Keith Morris, Richard Theriault and Glyn Townson.

As seven nominees stood for the seven vacant positions on the Board, no election was required and the nominees were elected by acclamation.

12. **Announcement of the Board of Directors**

The following individuals were declared to be elected to the Board by acclamation:

John Bishop	2 year term
Damien Callicott	2 year term
Sandy Lambert	2 year term
Brian McDonald	2 year term
Keith Morris	1 year term
Richard Theriault	2 year term
Glyn Townson	2 year term

Ken Buchanan, Paul Lewand, Malsah and Neil Self were elected for 2-year terms at the Society's 2006 AGM and will remain Directors of the Board until the 2008 AGM.

13. **New Board Members' Statements**

Each new Board Member gave a short speech about themselves and what they hoped to bring to the Society.

14. **Resolutions**

14.1 **Special Resolutions**

There were no special resolutions submitted for consideration.

14.2 **Ordinary Resolutions**

There were no ordinary resolutions submitted for consideration.

15. **Thanks to AGM Volunteers and Independent Chair**


Sheena Campbell thanked the volunteers and offered congratulations on a job well done and the floor, led by Paul Lewand, thanked Sheena for once again ably chairing the AGM.

16. **Adjournment**

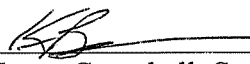
Moved by Wayne C., seconded by Paul B.; **BE IT RESOLVED THAT the meeting do now adjourn.**

CARRIED

The meeting adjourned at 12:05 pm.

PP 

Paul Lewand, Chair

W.C. 

Wayne Campbell, Secretary