

Board of Directors:

Members of the Board of Directors for 2019-2020 were Marie Lamey, Lynn Mackay, Sonya McLeod, Tina Spathis and Christy Zettl

Report from the Board – Summary of Actions and Events:

The focus this past year and a half has been on:

- ✓ Canadian Homeopathic Association Meetings (and Conference – cancelled due to Covid-19)
- ✓ Canadian Stakeholder Meetings – now Canadian Coalition for Homeopathy (CCFH)
- ✓ 4HCanada/HANS
- ✓ BCAA
- ✓ HC consultations and communications
- ✓ Member communications re coronavirus
- ✓ Regulatory Framework changes

Financial Summary:

A summary of the Society’s finances is appended to this report.

Members:

Our membership numbers currently (as of September 15, 2020) stand at:

Registered	40
Resident	06
Associate	06
Non-practicing	02
Student	00
TOTAL	54

Please help us increase our community by encouraging your colleagues to renew their membership on time or to join our Association if they are currently not a member.

Canadian Homeopathic Association Meetings:

In June 2018 the Canadian Homeopathic Association / Association homéopathique canadienne became a legal entity as a Federal Corporation. It represented the collaboration and unification between five provincial associations:

- ❖ BC Association of Homeopaths (BCAH)
- ❖ Alberta Homeopathic Association (AHA)
- ❖ Manitoba Homeopathic Association (MHA)
- ❖ Ontario Homeopathic Medical Association (OHMA) and
- ❖ Syndicat Professionnel des Homéopathes du Québec (SPHQ)

The corporate bylaws were completed in June 2020 and filed with Corporations Canada.

The positions of Treasurer and Secretary were elected in February from the Alberta Homeopathic Association (Kirsten Petersen) and the Manitoba Homeopathic Association (Paula Jeffrey) respectively.

In May 2020 an invitation to join the CHA/AHC was extended to the Maritime Society of Homeopaths which they accepted. And in July 2020 the Directors of the CHA/AHC voted to add the Maritime Society of Homeopaths as a new member. This brings the number of provinces involved in this collaboration of professional homeopathic associations to six (6).

The CHA is also communicating with homeopaths in Saskatchewan to encourage them to join either MHA or AHA until they can form an association in their own province. The CHA is committed to provide any assistance they may need in the future to make this happen.

New additions to the website include the CHA position statement on Homeopathy and the Coronavirus, as well as a section for correcting misinformation (coming soon). This will serve as a resource to expose and correct articles in the media that perpetuate false information about homeopathy.

CHConference:

At our last AGM, Anke Zimmerman volunteered to join the planning committee for the Canadian Homeopathic Conference along with volunteers from the other CHA member organizations. The planning was going well up until April, when the pandemic changed everything. Sadly, the conference had to be cancelled but will return once the world has returned to a time when such an event is possible.

The CHA board has created a 5 year strategic plan which will address 5 different areas of focus: Media, Consumers, Government, Research and Other Health Professions. Some of these will be worked on in conjunction with other groups such as 4HCanada and the CCFH...

Canadian Stakeholder Meetings – now the Canadian Coalition for Homeopathy (CCFH):

The steering committee for the CCFH is comprised of the group of people and organizations that formed the Canadian Stakeholder Meetings in the spring of 2019. An invitation was sent to almost all stakeholder groups /organizations

/schools, etc. to be a part of the coalition. Some accepted the invitation and the coalition is now set to move forward.

The main focus of this group will be:

Mission of the Canadian Coalition for Homeopathy

To create a strong and unified voice for the promotion of homeopathy and for freedom of choice in healthcare.

Objectives

- Inform and guide media, healthcare practitioners, consumers groups, patients, caregivers and government agencies on benefits and merits of homeopathy.
- Rectify incorrect information on homeopathy by providing evidence-based information.
- Communicate homeopathy's value and how it acts as a complementary component of today's healthcare
- Defend the opportunity for Canadians to choose homeopathy and have access to licensed homeopathic medicines.

The CCFH is using the QCFH (Quebec Coalition for Homeopathy) as a guide and template going forward and will be looking at ways to share resources and to connect with them for future projects.

HANS / 4HCanada:

The Health Action Network Society is a registered Charity organization and was chosen to be the umbrella group for 4HCanada. Several years ago HANS lost its government funding and now relies solely on the support of its donors to continue its work. Please consider a one-time donation or setting up a monthly donation of \$10 per month to support this organization and their effort to educate more consumers about homeopathy.

Some of their activities include:

- A comprehensive website with many resources for consumers, including a practitioner directory
- Webinars for consumers
- Social media
- Newly added Book Club

Nicole Duelli has been part of the 4HCanada board since it started and has been very active in educating the public about homeopathy. Thank you Nicole!

Most recently HANS has created another consumer group called Canadians for Chiropractic whose profession is also a target for the skeptics and needs a consumer voice to make a difference, as does homeopathy. Change can only

come from public demand and support of these groups is crucial to our future. The message is Freedom of Choice.

We support the good work that these organizations are doing and will continue to work with them for the good of homeopathy and its successful future in Canada.

BCAOA:

The BC Animal Owners Association has been a champion for animal owners' access to Complementary and Alternative Medicine and to establish a regulatory College for these practitioners, the College of Animal Health Practitioners (CAHP). Our member, Andrea Ring, has been instrumental in these efforts and in preparing an excellent document on behalf of BCAH for submission to the Ministry of Agriculture.

We will continue to provide Andrea and the BCAOA any assistance they may require to make the CAHP a reality. An update from Andrea is attached as Appendix A.

Health Canada consultations and communications:

The Canadian Homeopathic Association, as well as the provincial Associations that comprise it, are recognized stakeholders with Health Canada when it comes to homeopathic remedies.

In June 2020 after an article appeared in Quebec implying that homeopathy was on Health Canada's list of fake cures for Covid-19, Paul Labreche, president of SPHQ, initiated a letter to Manon Bombardier, Director General of the NNHPD to inform her of this mis-information perpetuated by the skeptics and provide her with the CHA/AHC position statement on coronavirus. Her reply was encouraging and included the following statement:

"We appreciate the cooperation demonstrated by your association and the Canadian homeopathic products industry in the context of Health Canada's initiatives to protect the health and safety of Canadians, which remains our priority. The Natural and Non-Prescription Health Products Directorate supports this mandate through our regulatory role, including for homeopathic products which we want to maintain access to in Canada."

With regards to the OTC self-care regulatory framework changes, at this point there is no question about stopping the availability of HM or not regulating HM anymore because some (skeptics) believe they shouldn't be. However, HC says that they must be transparent on many levels so that Canadians know exactly what they buy. They need to address the fact that they are a «science-based body» and that some products like HM are not based on modern scientific evidence. This is a criticism they had to deal with in the media and they want to remedy this. So, HC see this mostly as a communication endeavour. This means working on 3 levels:

- clear labelling that inform the consumer about the traditional proof behind HM
- clear update and information on HC website about HM
- modern scientific evidence asked for claims on symptoms that present a risk

Two work sessions are going to be held in the next few months, from there a document will be prepared with all the changes proposed and submitted beginning of 2021. We will continue to be involved in the consultations going forward.

Member communication re coronavirus:

This has been an unprecedented time in our lives, not to mention uncharted territory for us as practitioners and as an organization.

The CHA board collaborated on a position statement that was posted on the website and that each organization could use as a reference; five provincial organizations, one message. The link is on the homepage of the BCAH website.

We sent communications to members about ways to modify their practice to comply with the requirements during the lockdown, and ways to adjust how they interacted with patients after the re-opening.

These included cautionary messages to avoid being targeted by the skeptics and the media who were quick to jump on anyone making claims surrounding anything to do with the coronavirus.

We hope you found the communications helpful and timely. Please share your thoughts with us if you think we could improve on these types of communications in the future.

Regulatory Framework changes:

As a result of the Cayton Report (December 2018), the Ministry of Health formed a Steering Committee on Modernization of Health Professional Regulation. This prompted proposed changes outlined in the report “Modernizing the provincial health profession regulatory framework: A paper for consultation”. In January 2020, the BCAH board responded to the questions posed as part of the consultation process.

After reviewing the feedback from the consultation, the Steering Committee released its recommendations in August, to move forward in making changes to the provincial health profession regulatory framework.

The BCAH board will investigate the impact that these changes may have on the future of homeopathy as a distinct profession in B.C. over the next year as these changes are implemented with the existing regulatory Colleges.

Contact us:

If you have any suggestions for the Board, or feedback, please feel free to contact us. We can only do so much so any help is greatly appreciated.

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BC ASSOCIATION OF
HOMEOPATHS

BALANCE SHEET - 31st August 2020

Assets

Cash (Bank of Montreal and Paypal)	\$ 19,137.32
Petty Cash	\$ -
Accounts Receivable	\$ 128.00
Prepaid Expenses	\$ -
Net Fixed Assets	\$ -
Inventory Assets	\$ 122.32

Total Assets **\$ 19,387.64**

Liabilities

Accounts Payable	\$ -
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Total Liabilities **\$ -**

Equity

Retained Earnings	\$ 19,387.64
Current Earnings	\$ -

Total Equity **\$ 19,387.64**

Total Liabilities and Equity **\$ 19,387.64**



BC ASSOCIATION OF
HOMEOPATHS

CASH FLOW REPORT
1st September 2019 to 31st August 2020

Inflows

Membership Fees	\$ 5,395.00
Case Conference Registrations	\$ 1,847.50
Brochures (Sales)	\$ 52.50
T-Shirts (Sales)	
Other Income	
Total Inflows	\$ 7,295.00

Outflows

Bank and Paypal Fees	\$ 229.92
Brochures (Cost of Goods)	\$ -
Case Conference	\$ 1,612.72
Legal Fees	\$ -
Membership and Association Fees	\$ 300.00
Membership Fee Refund	\$ 101.00
Office Expenses	\$ 527.08
Other Expense	\$ -
Professional Fees	\$ -
Promotion Expenses	\$ -
Travel Expenses	\$ -
T-shirts (Cost of Goods)	\$ -
Website Expenses	\$ 766.58
Inventory Write Down	\$ 300.42
Total Outflows	\$ 3,537.30
Net change in Cash	\$ 3,757.70

APPENDIX A

BCAOA BCAH report Andrea Ring DCH

September 22, 2020

This note is to update everyone regarding the work the BC Animal Owners Association and our group, along with other non-veterinary practitioner groups have been doing in our efforts to gain the right to practice on animals without supervision of a veterinarian in BC.

The last time I updated you was at the case conference in October of 2019 where I presented the BCAH proposed Animal Division regulation document (25 pgs) along with the proposed College of Animal Health Professions of BC (CAHPBC) regulatory documents which includes our proposal along with the proposals of the other practitioner groups (Chiropractors, Massage therapists, Herbalists, Physiotherapists and Rehabilitation, Chinese Medicine and Acupuncturists and Equine Farriery).

We were making good headway with the BC Agriculture Ministry up until February of this year when the then Acting Deputy Minister of Agriculture James Mack had promised to contact the College of Veterinarians and move ahead with a meeting between our groups and gauge the CVBC receptiveness to this idea. Mr. Mack had previously asked the CVBC to raise the matter at its board meeting in January. In his discussion with the CVBC prior to our phone meeting with him in March he had asked if the matter had been looked at and while it did come up the CVBC board had put it off to the next meeting. To date none of the minutes from the CVBC board meetings have dealt with it.

The phone meeting we had with Mr. Mack in March was not very productive as the government was bogged down with Covid concerns and the legislature was not sitting. He stated clearly that they are unlikely to have the time nor motivation to deal with our proposal until things settle down but in a previous meeting he stated that we should “keep the governments feet to the fire” on this issue, that it would be ourselves who move it forward, not the government. We decided to let things calm down for a while with Covid and re-approach matters in 2-3 months. During this time there have been two significant changes, a change of the guard at the Ministry of Agriculture and at the CVBC. At the agriculture ministry - James Mack was transferred to environment and the Deputy Minister Wes Shoemaker (with whom we had a fair bit of correspondence as well) retired. The new Deputy Minister is Tom Ethier and Jennifer McGuire is assistant Deputy. At the CVBC there is a new registrar and new board members. With regards to the Ag Ministry, we feel like it's almost back to square one having to re-approach the new appointees with our proposals and during our last BCAOA / group phone meeting on September 9th, we had some exciting news out of Ontario, where the Ontario College of Veterinarians was re-categorizing modalities into 1. Treatments only a vet can do 2. Treatments that need vet supervision and 3. Treatments that anyone can do. It opened up discussion about whether the BC government is motivated to make changes here with regards to the treatment and care of animals as they have been showing us that it's not a priority. Instead of continuing to hammer away at things with the BC Ag Ministry, we thought we should take our battle nation-wide, reaching out to practitioner groups across the country to start a coast to coast groundswell of support in changing the laws. The more groups and the more people we have behind us (both professional practitioners and members of

the public / animal owners and guardians), the stronger the mandate will be to force lawmakers to enact change.

I am currently looking for some help in reaching out to other homeopathic groups in the rest of Canada to gauge support and to gain momentum, pool resources and get more practitioners and groups interested in moving this agenda forward. I would also like to poll the BCAH membership to find out how many homeopaths would like to be working with animals and perhaps get involved in this process.

The BCAOA is continuing to build support, broaden its members via social media, do letter writing campaigns to the BC government and MLA's and we have an entire public awareness campaign ready to go when the timing is right. Other than the months of July and August, we have been continuing our monthly phone meetings with the next one scheduled for October 7th at 7pm.

Many thanks and warm regards to all

Andrea