

Board of Directors

Members of the Board of Directors for 2012-2013 were Marie Lamey, Susan Forbes, Lucy De Pieri, Lynn Mackay, Christy Zettl and Sabrina Foldi.

Report from the Board – Summary of Actions and Events

The focus this year has been on

- ✓ Standards and Competencies
- ✓ Adobe forms
- ✓ Website
- ✓ Insurance Coverage for Members
- ✓ Member Handbook

Financial Summary

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

Members

Our membership numbers currently stand at:

Registered	38
Resident	14
Associate	10
Student	01
TOTAL	63

Standards of Practice Document:

After the AGM last year we sent the document out to the membership for feedback. Over the course of many months we received comments from 28/45 (62%) members; 13/45 (29%) did not reply; 4/45 (9%) responded with the intent to reply but did not provide comments by the deadline. [Note: the 6 board members were not counted in these numbers, as we drafted the document it is assumed that we agree to its contents.]

The final draft of the Standards of Practice document incorporating edits and changes from the membership was then sent to our lawyer, George Bryce, to review for accuracy and content. This final draft of the document (with some final edits) is presented at this AGM for vote by the members.

Occupational Title Protection:

Susan and Marie met with lawyer George Bryce regarding the process of applying for Occupational Title Protection. He provided some very useful information and was very clear about what we needed to have in place before submitting the application.

Things like updating our bylaws, creating a legal defense fund, having reasons as to why title protection for homeopaths would be justified – and providing examples and proof, having a minimum number of members that represent a certain percentage of the professional homeopaths in BC, and getting confirmation in writing from the Ministry of Health that our application for Designation is denied and off the table.

Mr. Bryce is respectful of our small numbers and our budget, so is willing to be available to us as his services are needed. He has revised the final draft of the Standards Document from the document that we provided to him, and that is the document we are presenting at the AGM.

Mr. Bryce also suggested we use a template for the Disciplinary Action, as this has all been done before and should be easily adapted for our use. This is what we will be working on in the upcoming year, as well as the rest of the requirements for the application.

Adobe Forms:

As voted on at the AGM last year we have paid for online adobe forms, and to date have created forms for;

- Case Conference registration
- Case Conference evaluation
- Membership renewal
- Events posting for website

In the near future we will be working on the following;

- New member application form
- A form to submit CEU's online which can be used throughout the year as events are attended
- Brochure order form
- T-shirt order form

The other purpose of these forms was to create forms for collecting testimonials through our website as well as a Homeopathy Research Form to collect data from the public on how homeopathy has possibly prevented surgeries, serious complications of disease, saved the medical system and insurance company's money.

Website:

As per the AGM last year, the picture on the homepage banner was changed from the image of the people in suits to a more suitable picture.

The newest addition to our website is an added section to the Events page for Public Events. Members can now have their public events posted on our website. This is an added benefit to membership with the BCSH, which we are always working on. Members simply need to submit the online form on the events page and an email goes directly to Sabrina who posts the events.

We are always working on adding new content and providing our members with the most benefits for their membership.

Bulletin Blog:

We have created a private blog with the sole purpose of replacing the Bulletin. This blog/journal type addition will be easier to manage and can have regular postings as articles are submitted. This is coming soon so keep an eye on your inbox.

Newsgroup:

The Newsgroup continues to provide the members with means of instant communication. It has been very active this year, with many people sharing and communicating thoughts and issues surrounding us as homeopaths, as well as providing much useful information and resources.

Mentorship Program:

Due to the number of hours that went into the Standards Document, this item was not addressed this year. It will be addressed in the upcoming year. If you would like to be included in the directory of mentors, please let us know. The directory will be posted in the members only section.

HANS:

We renewed our advertising with HANS again this year, as a means to increase the exposure of our membership directory to the public. As well, the board submits at least one article per year for their quarterly publication.

HANS is in the process of updating their benefits of membership as well, and is hosting a Natural Wellness Career Fair at the Vancouver Public Library on Saturday April 5th. The BCSH will share a table with the VHA at this event in order to promote our professional members as well as homeopathy as a profession. This way we can encourage more people to enroll in homeopathic education and increase our numbers in the profession.

Insurance Coverage for Member Services:

As per the AGM last year, a form letter was drafted by Christy for patients to submit to their extended medical providers in order to have the services provided by our members covered under their plan. This will be posted to the website in pdf form for members and patients to download.

We are also in the process of communicating with several insurance companies to have members of the BCSH set up as approved providers of homeopathy services. We will keep the membership posted on any news regarding this matter.

Member Handbook

This is a work in progress, and will be a resource for new and old members alike. It has become apparent that not all members are aware of all of the benefits of membership that the BCSH provides. This handbook will outline all of the resources available to members, such as the brochure, intake forms and newsgroup; explain things like the membership renewal process and setting up a business in BC. It should be completed soon and will be distributed to all members.

Contact us

Our continued focus is on membership and the visibility of our members to the public in order to increase growth in our practices and community. 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. Please volunteer your services if any of these projects described above are of interest to you.

Marie Lamey	marie.homeopath@gmail.com
Lucy de Pieri	lucydepieri@yahoo.com
Susan Forbes	susanforbes@shaw.ca
Lynn Mackay	lynnmackay@telus.net
Christy Zettl	bcs.membership@gmail.com
Sabrina Foldi	sabrinafoldi@hotmail.com