

Board of Directors:

Members of the Board of Directors for 2021-2022 were Marie Lamey, Lynn Mackay, Christy Zettl, Nicole Duelli, Heather Schofield and Karina Budhrani (until August 2022)

Report from the Board – Summary of Actions and Events:

The focus this past year has been on:

- ✓ Member meetings and Survey
- ✓ Member Complaint and Complaints Process
- ✓ Committee for Homeopathy as a Profession
- ✓ Regulatory Framework changes
- ✓ Canadian Homeopathic Association (CHA/AHC)
 - HC consultations and communications
 - Interprofessional Collaboration
- ✓ Canadian Coalition for Homeopathy (CCFH)
- ✓ Registry of Allied Animal Health Practitioners (RAAHP Canada)

Financial Summary:

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

Members:

Our membership numbers currently (as of October 29, 2022) stand at:

Registered	37
Resident	03
Associate	04
Non-practicing	02
Student	03
<hr/>	
TOTAL	49

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.

Member meetings and Survey

Three zoom meetings were organized with members to hear their concerns, issues and suggestions.

The main issues identified were:

- Board transparency
- Board Communication
- Member events/conferences
- Supporting new members/practitioners
- AGM planning and election of board members

The topics were put together in the form of a survey to gather responses from all the members and the results were shared. A copy of the survey results is attached to this report.

Number of members who participated in the meetings: 18

Number of members who replied to the survey: 28

Actions taken by the board:

- Board transparency:
 - The minutes of the board meetings are being added to the member section of the website starting in July 2022.
 - Dates are being planned for open board meetings for 2023
 - Prioritize succession planning for board positions
- Board Communications:
 - After the 2021 AGM three zoom meetings were organized with members (Dec 11, 2021, Feb 1, 2022 & March 2, 2022) to hear and compile their concerns, issues and suggestions.
 - A survey went out to members for feedback in May 2022
- Member events/conferences:
 - An online member meet & greet meeting was held on October 1, 2022
 - A one-day online case conference was organized for November 6, 2022
 - The need for a planning committee for events has been identified, including a hybrid case conference for 2023. Volunteers are needed.
- Supporting new members/practitioners:
 - New members were invited to the online member meet & greet meeting held on October 1st to introduce themselves and meet other members.

- AGM planning and election of board members:
 - An outline with a timeline for member notices of the AGM was established, as well as deadlines and instructions for member proposals for Special Resolutions and Nominations for Board members.
 - Mailchimp notices of the AGM, including call for Special Resolutions and board member nominations started in August (12 weeks before the AGM).
 - The online member meet & greet event on October 1st included an opportunity for members to meet prospective new board members.

The next surveys to go out to members will include one regarding Continuing Education and what should be accepted for credits and one from the Committee for Homeopathy as a Profession.

Member Complaint and Complaints Process

The number of complaints received by the board has increased in the last few years. And while many do not concern our members, some do and these need to be addressed by the board.

One particular complaint took months and as a result of this complaint the board:

- (i) Prepared a template/outline for a Practice Agreement for members to use to create one suited to their own practice which was emailed to members in July 2022 and will be added to the Member Handbook;
- (ii) Consulted our lawyer to review the Complaints Process and How to Make a Complaint documents and also to advise the board on our role and abilities to deal with complaints; and
- (iii) Made changes to the How to Make a Complaint document to include a statement that the BCAH has no ability to provide refunds or force members to provide refunds.

Committee for Homeopathy as a Profession

As a result of the changes to the Regulatory Framework for Health Professions in B.C., the board decided in May 2021 it would be prudent to form a Committee to investigate the possible impact that these changes would have on the profession of Homeopathy provincially. The board considered it essential to learn more about these changes and to explore the possible implications to practicing Homeopathy in BC.

This led to the formation of a committee of BCAH members that would examine the current state of Homeopathy as a profession in BC and explore options to advance the presence of Homeopathy as a profession moving forward.

The committee was formed and named The Committee for the Advancement of Homeopathy as a Profession. Since April 2022 the committee has met and will present its initial findings to date at this meeting.

Regulatory Framework changes

The changes to the Regulatory Framework for Health Professions in B.C. to date include the following:

- The amalgamation of the College of Podiatric Surgeons of BC (CPodSBC) with the College of Physicians and Surgeons of BC was completed on August 31, 2020.
- As of Sept. 1, 2020, the British Columbia College of Nursing Professionals (BCCNP) and the College of Midwives of British Columbia amalgamated to become the British Columbia College of Nurses and Midwives (BCCNM).
- As of September 1, 2022, the BC College of Oral Health Professionals (BCCOHP) is now serving as the regulator for 16,000 oral health professionals in BC, including certified dental assistants, dental hygienists, dental therapists, dental technicians, dentists and denturists. This newly-created organization results from the amalgamation of the College of Dental Hygienists of BC, College of Dental Surgeons of BC, College of Dental Technicians of BC and College of Denturists of BC.
- NOTE: There will be no changes to the College of Pharmacists of BC.

Still to come are the creation of a College of Allied Health Professions and a College of Complementary and Alternative Medicine and bring the remaining Regulatory Colleges under those two umbrellas.

On October 19th the Ministry of Health announced the new legislation for the Health Professions and Occupations Act, replacing the Health Professions Act. <https://news.gov.bc.ca/releases/2022HLTH0202-001566>

The board will be reviewing the new Act and consulting our lawyer to see how it may impact the profession of homeopathy in BC. We will schedule a meeting with members to review once we have more information.

Canadian Homeopathic Association/Association homéopathique canadienne: Government:

The CHA/AHC continues to be engaged with the NNHPD with respect to the Labelling Guidance proposed for the OTC self-care regulatory framework changes

with respect to homeopathic products. The most recent Stakeholder consultation was in July 2022 and our comments and feedback were sent within the week.

Other Health Professions:

The CHA board has identified and prioritized several other health professions to work with and educate about homeopathy. This is still in the initial planning stages with the groundwork being done before forming a Committee to help take on the tasks involved with this endeavor. This is expected to happen in the next few months.

CHConference:

Due to continued restrictions surrounding the pandemic in April of this year, the hybrid conference that was being planned had to be postponed yet again. Instead, the 2022 Canadian Homeopathic Conference was a virtual 3 day conference held in October.

The planning committee is already working on a hybrid conference for October 2023 in Ontario. The conference will accommodate in person attendance as well as virtual attendance.

There are plans to have different provinces, other than Ontario, host the conference in the future. If you are interested in helping organize the National Conference please let us know and we will connect you with the CHConference organizing committee.

Canadian Coalition for Homeopathy (CCFH):

Taken from the CCFH Annual Report:

Activities in the last year from September 2021 to September 2022 include the following:

a) Sharing and coordination of responses to Health Canada NHP Labelling Consultation

In September 2021 Health Canada held a consultation meeting with all stakeholders and invited feedback by September 24, 2021.

One of the benefits of a coalition is the ability to communicate and share ideas on important matters that affect all stakeholders of homeopathy, such as the changes to the labelling requirements on Natural Health Products. CHPA and CHA had responses prepared which were shared with others who were intending to submit by the deadline.

Sharing the responses prepared by each group allows the others to see what the common points are and to reiterate those points while maintaining their own unique viewpoint on the issue. This gives strength to the arguments as they come from differing organizations and set of stakeholders.

b) Finding support for Canadians for Homeopathy without the umbrella of HANS

In October 2021 the Health Action Network Society announced it would not continue as it had lost support and funding. HANS was the umbrella organization for 4HCanda (Canadians for Homeopathy).

The CCFH board agreed in March 2022 to fund Canadians for Homeopathy as the funding would most likely come from the same sources. The idea is to support the consumer organization until it becomes strong enough to support itself. An initial period of 2 years of funding at the budget they provided and then to reassess their needs and level of support, tapering off over a few years as they become self-sustaining.

A strong consumer organization can be very powerful when it is supported by the people they represent, namely consumers. The credibility of such an organization can be undermined if completely funded by industry and practitioners who make a living from homeopathy.

c) CBC Marketplace episode

In November 2021 CBC Marketplace aired another episode featuring homeopathy. Unlike in the past, this episode did not garner a huge amount of response from the public which is what feeds into the popularity of the story. It was decided to not 'feed the fire' and in response, a press release was prepared and signed by Paul of the Quebec Coalition and Marie of the Canadian Coalition. It was posted to the QCFH website only, as the CCFH website was not yet ready.

HANS, a victim of the CBC, created a petition with 4HCanda to "Stop using CBC as an attack on Natural Medicine". It was shared and circulated among members and social media sites.

Other topics for petitions were discussed, as well as connecting with the Canadian Pharmacists Association and the College of Pharmacists of Ontario as they were targeted in this MP episode.

Overall, with the creation of the coalition, we are now much more prepared to come together and respond to these types of situations. The first CBC Marketplace episode on homeopathy aired in January 2011. At that time we were all blindsided by what had happened. Now, we have a united voice as a coalition and are anticipating and expecting these attacks with solidarity and preparation.

d) Letter to Senator Kutcher and signature campaign

In February of 2022 we were advised that the skeptics were trying to gain favour with a particular Senator (Senator Kutcher) in order to influence the direction of the NHP labelling for homeopathic products.

A letter was prepared and signed by both coalitions (Paul & Marie), HRI (Rachel), 4HC (Liz) and HomeoPopuli, and it was sent to the Senator. A Google Doc with a call-to-action was also prepared. It was circulated by the coalition's organizations to gather as many signatures as possible from supporters such as consumers, researchers, academics, homeopaths, naturopaths, etc.

No further action was needed.

e) Opening a bank account, budgeting and funding

A BMO Bank account was opened in February 2022.

A draft budget was prepared, finalized and approved in August 2022.

Invoices for membership donations have been prepared and will be sent out before the end of the year with letters to all the member organizations, with the exception of Canadians for Homeopathy.

f) The creation of a website www.homeopathycoalition.ca

After some delays due to having to transfer the domain name from Stephen Malthouse and connecting with the QCFH for website hosting, the website was created which went live in May 2022.

g) Preparation for the CCFH introductory launch at CHConference

Due to the pandemic restrictions on travel and gatherings the CCFH Media Roundtable Event had to be postponed for this year. We are looking at dates for 2023. In the meantime, we have a presentation ready for the online Canadian Homeopathic Conference October 14-16 to formally announce the Canadian Coalition for Homeopathy.

RAAHP Canada:

In August 2022 the website for the Registry of Allied Animal Health Practitioners of Canada (RAAHP Canada) was launched. <https://raahp.com/home-page/>

The creation of this national organization speaks to the increased demand for Complimentary and Alternative Medicine and therapies for pets and animals. It will help provide another avenue and more opportunities to promote the benefits and use of homeopathy.

Our member, Andrea Ring continues to take the lead for Animal Homeopaths.

Miscellaneous:

Updates to: the Benefits of Membership document; the CEU document and webpage; and the Member Handbook.

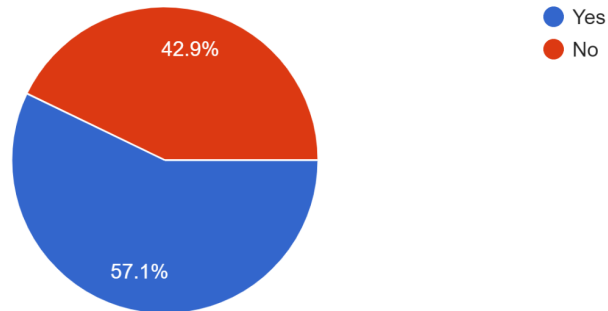
Contact us:

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.

Marie Lamey	<u>president.bcah@gmail.com</u>
Lynn Mackay	<u>vicepresident.bcah@gmail.com</u>
Christy Zettl	<u>bcah.treasurer@gmail.com</u>
Membership	<u>membership.bcah@gmail.com</u>
Nicole Duelli	<u>secretary.bcah@gmail.com</u>
Heather Schofield	<u>director1.bcah@gmail.com</u>

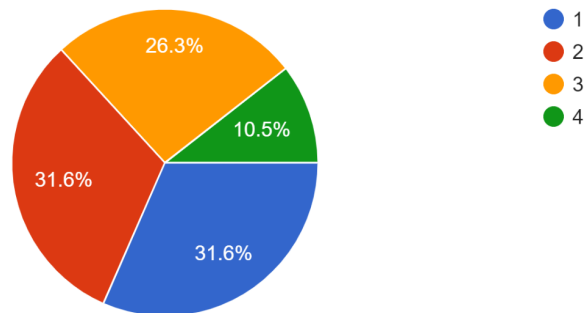
Open to members: A proposal was put forward to invite members to attend virtual board meetings throughout the year. Is this something you would be interested in?

28 responses



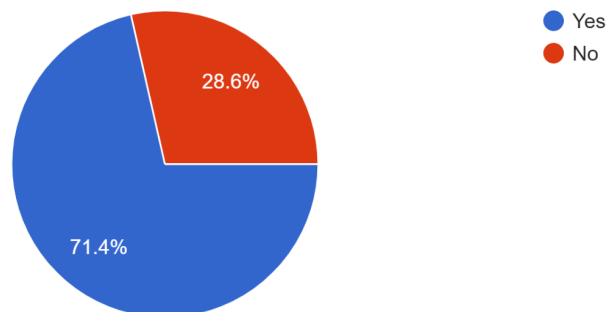
If yes, how many times would you attend?

19 responses



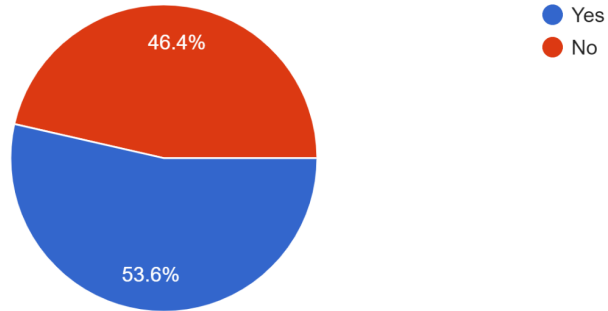
Meeting minutes posted for members to read: It was suggested that the monthly board meeting minutes should be available for all members to read. Is this something you are interested in?

28 responses



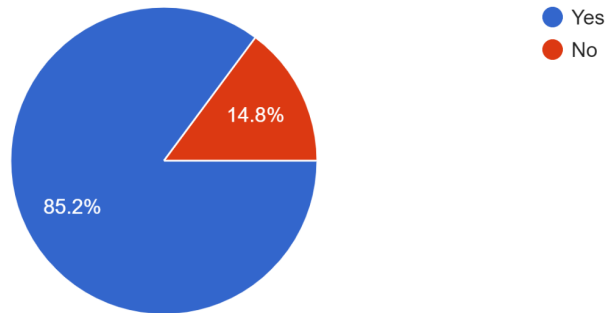
Would you attend an in person BCAH Conference?

28 responses



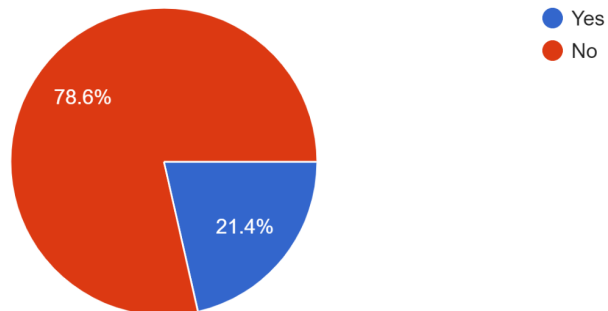
Would you attend a BCAH Zoom Conference?

27 responses



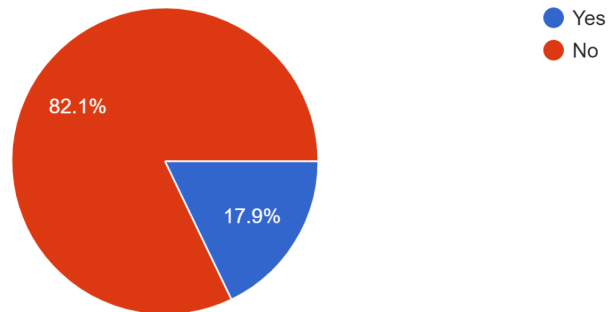
Are you interested in being a Presenter at a BCAH Conference?

28 responses



Organizing Committee: Are you able to volunteer to help organize events?

28 responses



If yes, then in what capacity? 6 responses

organizing and MC

Organize meetings in person

part timer

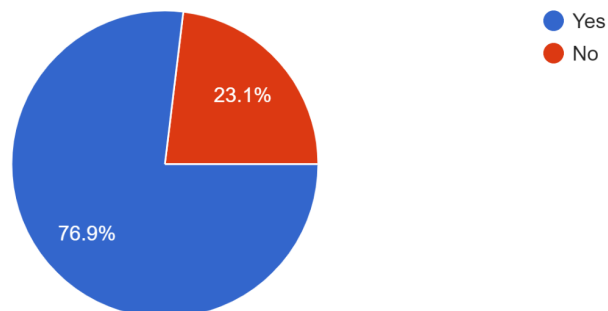
It depends on what kind of events and where

Port Moody

Few hours a day or two

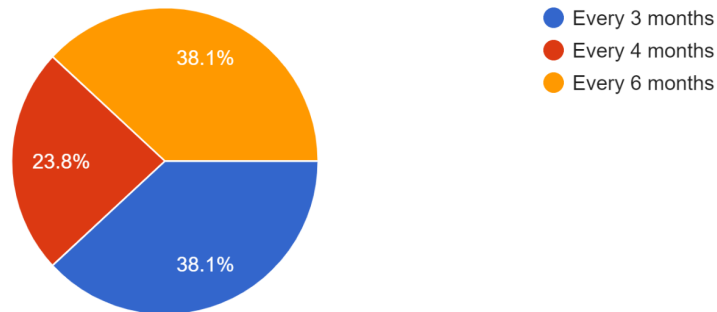
Member Meet ups: Would you be interested in attending regular meet and greet zoom sessions to learn about and connect with your colleagues and new members?

26 responses



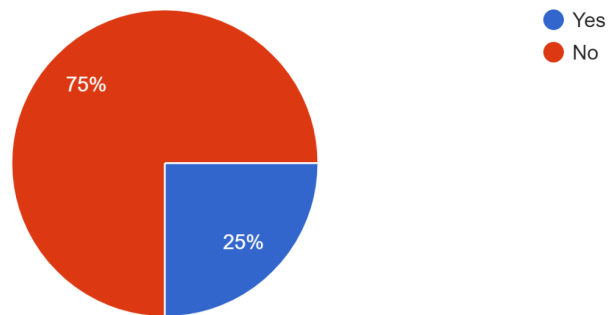
If yes, then how often?

21 responses



Marketing: It was suggested that new members starting their practice in B.C. could benefit from learning ways to market their practice and build th...is something you are interested in contributing to?

28 responses



If yes, in what way could you contribute? (monthly newsletter tip/webinar/providing resources/individual mentoring, other...)6 responses

How to expand into animal homeopathy

Providing resources

participating or facilitating breakout room conversations on this topic on zoom or in person if at AGM

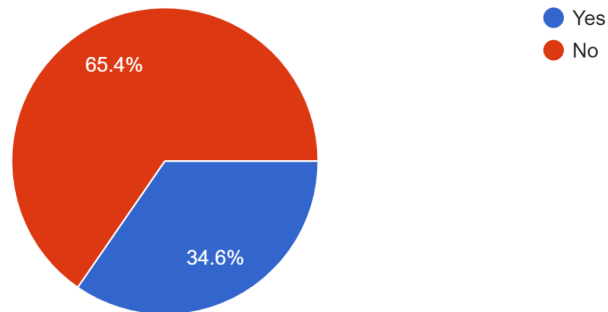
By providing New perspective how to take a case based on my 30 y of experience

Individual mentoring

Tips, resources

Is this something you are interested in learning or benefitting from?

26 responses



If yes, what would you find helpful? (monthly newsletter tip/webinar/providing resources/individual mentoring, other...)9 responses

Monthly newsletter

mostly from the point of view of fostering community ad supporting new homeopaths to learn about our professional standards and practice in BC

monthly news letter

newsletter, resources

Providing resources

tips, webinars, resources

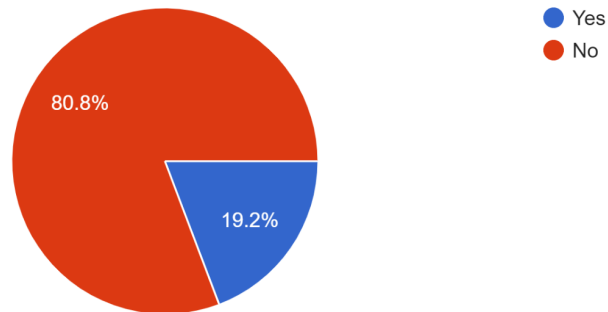
newsletter tip, webinar, resources

Providing resources

Newsletter or webinar

Mentoring: Is this something you are interested in providing?

26 responses



If yes, please describe what type of mentoring you would be willing to provide...5

responses

Oversight for animal cases

Using classical approaches to homeopathy, LM potencies, and networking

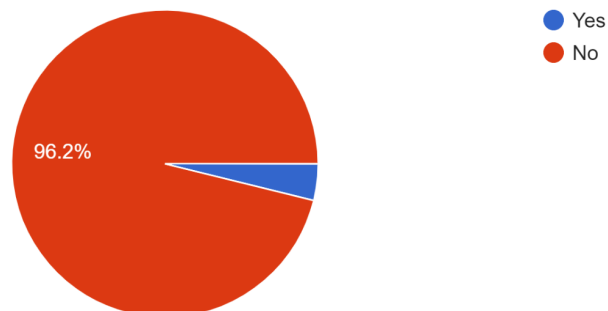
Yes, but not as a volunteer. I already mentor but at my regular fees.

Share my experience in how I am keeping a very busy practice despite everything

Building a mentoring relationship over a series of cases

Is this something you are interested in receiving?

26 responses

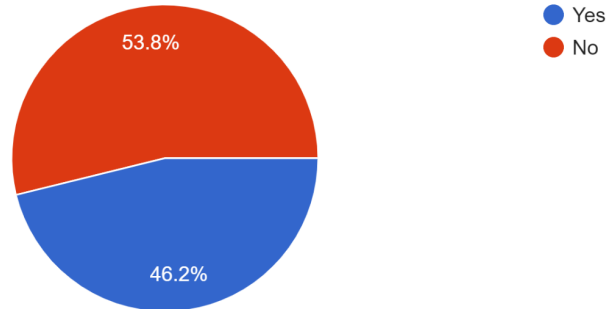


If yes, please describe what type of mentoring you would be willing to receive...1 response

How to begin practicing

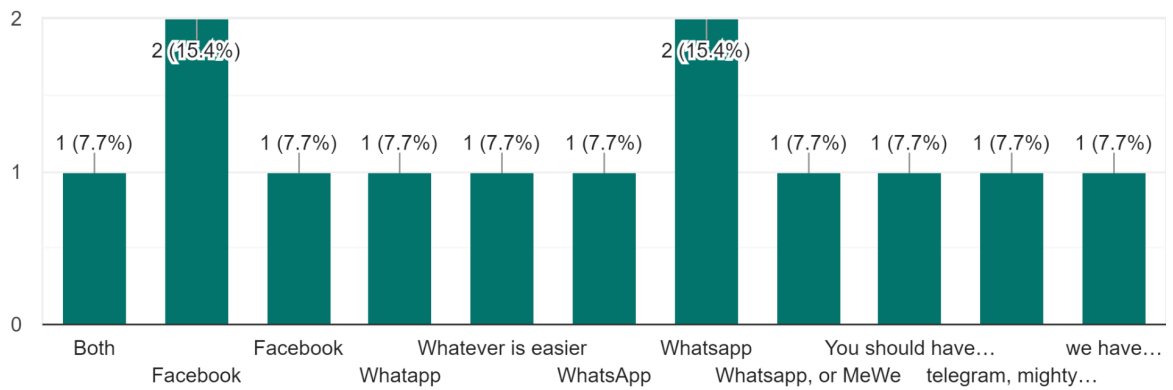
Social media groups: It was suggested that members could connect on social media. Is this something you are interested in?

26 responses



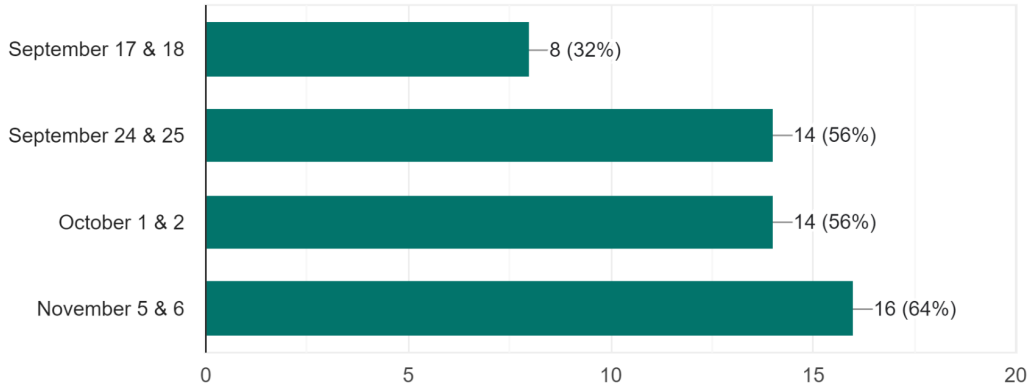
If yes, then on what platform? (Facebook, Whatsapp, etc...)

13 responses



Date of AGM: Going forward, the board is planning on scheduling a consistent date for the AGM each year. This will give members more advanced no...es for this year are (check all that work for you)

25 responses



Suggestions for other dates and comments...3 responses

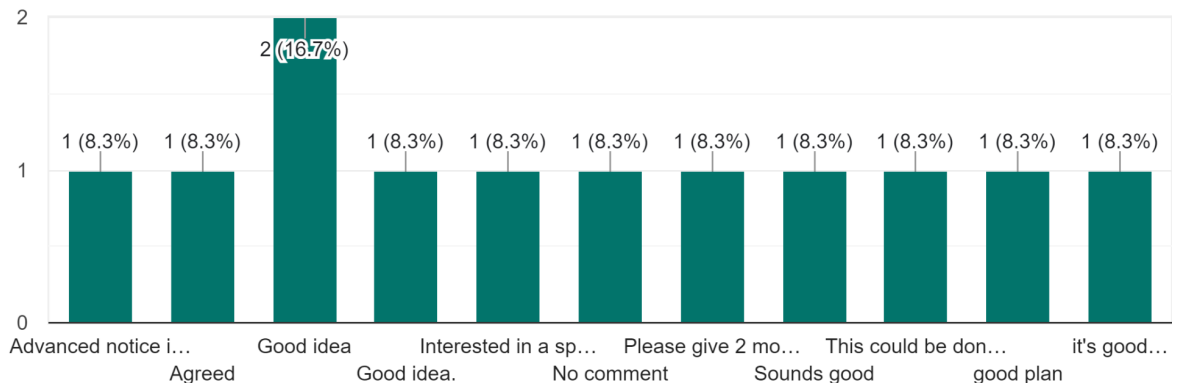
I don't know yet. I haven't received my teaching dates for 2022 /2023.

It may be difficult to be sure about the date, it will have to confirmed closer to the time

Oct would probably work best, but would make an attempt to attend on other dates.

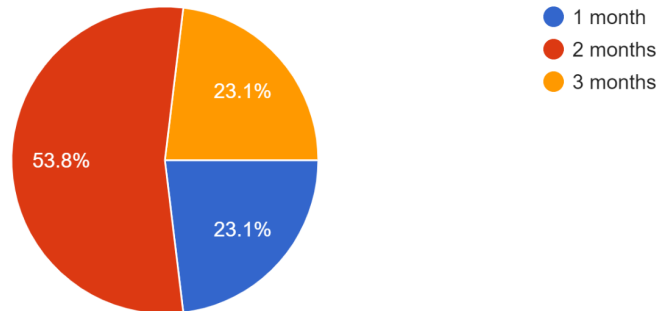
Special Resolutions: A Special Resolution must be voted on at an AGM and is required to change any existing bylaw. Going forward, the board is ...uctions for creating them. Suggestions/comments...

12 responses



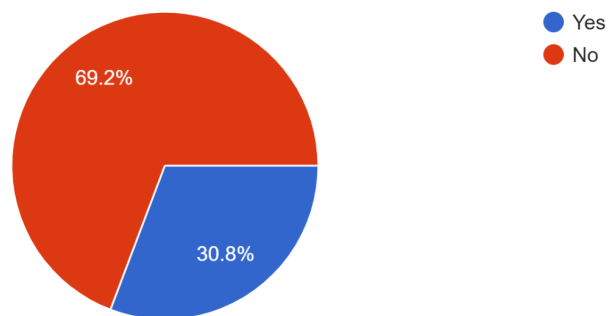
Election of Board Members: The term for a board position is 2 years. At the end of the term an election is held for the position. Going forward, t...ow much of an advanced notice do you think is fair?

26 responses



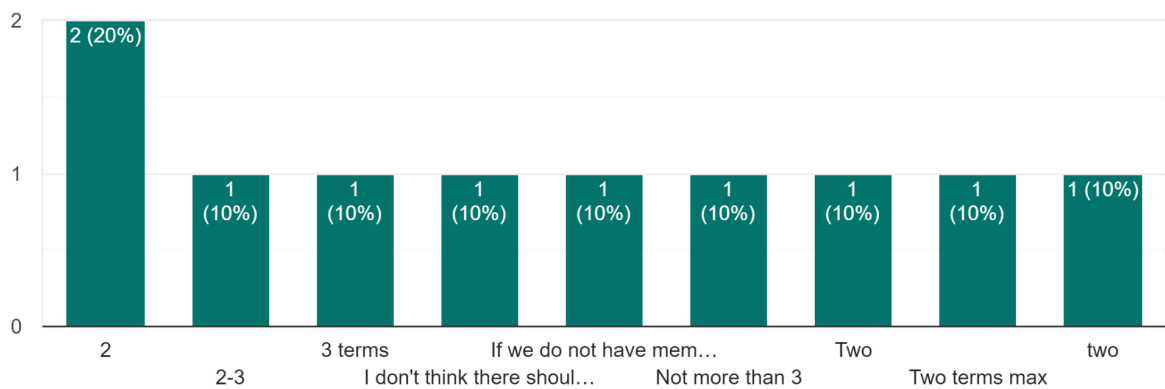
Do you feel that there should be a maximum number of terms a Board Member can serve?

26 responses



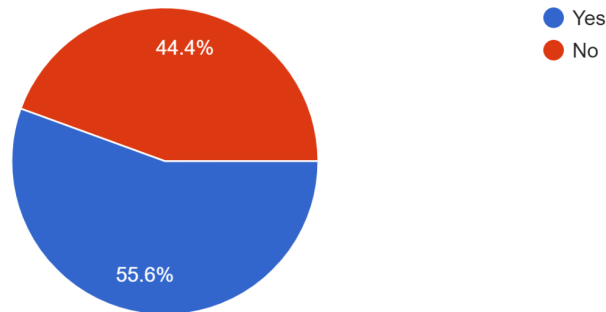
If you answered yes, in your opinion, what should be the maximum number of terms?

10 responses



Would you be interested in opportunities for a meet and greet with nominees for elections?

27 responses



Any other Suggestions/comments...8 responses

No

Our pool of potential volunteers to serve on the Board is very small, so if in the future there will be a maximum number of CONSECUTIVE terms one can serve, there should be the possibility to return after a 2-year hiatus. Also, this allows for experienced past Board Members to serve if there is a need for "help" when "something" happens...

maybe not just a meet and greet but an info profile with a set platform of questions for all candidates.

Thank you.

A bio in advance with an opportunity to connect in various ways eg zoom, phone, in person, one on one or group

I'm sorry I've put no to everything...my practice is winding down.

I would suggest that board membership not automatically be 2 years unless this is desired.

I would be interested in in person meetings for various things if they were held outside

Voting process: The zoom format for the AGM was certainly challenging and we did our best under the circumstances. The bylaws do not currently provide for proxies or electronic voting. This would require a Special Resolution. Suggestions/comments...13 responses

We should explore options for electronic voting procedures.

The person in charge of counting votes could be the only person to see the votes if the participants type their choice to her/him via the Zoom chat box (not to "Everone" but only to that person). This way, she/he would be the only witness of who voted for what, but could take a vow not to divulge any names, only the results. And if people distrust the results, it is possible to "Save the Chat" as a text file (download it) and have a record for verification if anyone requests it. This would insure some anonymity, though it is not perfect; one person will see the names of the voters... For proxies, it's usually simple: a person who cannot attend sends in their signed proxy stating who will be voting for them. A special resolution should be easy to come up with (could copy bylaws of other associations).

electronic voting is a good option if it doesn't create too much extra work. Not proxy.

We should add a Special Resolution. Zoom is here to stay!

Please allow voting by proxy

Electronic signature of voting format

I think for future consideration we should make electronic voting a reality for all.

Hopefully we will be able to meet in person.

We should have proxy voting for sure

I definitely would interested in exploring what the options are and the process around them.

I think electronic meetings are here to stay, so it would be prudent to have a back up plan for proxies, electronic voting and advance voting as well as a provision for secret ballot.

Electronic voting and proxies is a great idea!

Electronic voting would be a good idea

Thank you for participating in our member survey. Please let us know if you have any other comments or suggestions.....10 responses

None

Thank you for doing this and for donating all your free time to the profession!

Thanks for sending this.

Sorry, I am new to BCAH and still learning about the organization and its initiatives

Thank you. Congratulation to whom designed it.

I appreciate the survey. Will renew my membership as a result.

While it would be good to have advance info on candidates for board positions, I also don't want to eliminate the possibility of floor nominations. Is it possible to have both? It would mean that if there was advance voting, those advanced votes couldn't be changed. This needs more thought.

Regarding member meetings with the board, I do think it depends on the topics and necessity of the meeting rather than times of year. Also I would be happy to support the development of committees etc. when no longer on the board.

I said no to things I would have otherwise said maybe too. Add "maybe"

Sorry, I had forgotten about this survey and got your reminder while I was away from cell signal