



BC Association of Homeopaths
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BCAH Board Meeting Wed September 20, 2023

Present: Marie Lamey, Nathalie Allen, Nicole Duelli, Heather Schofield (left 7:50 pm)

Absent: Lynn Mackay, Harkirat Kaur

Guest: Michelle Russell

1. Guest – Michelle Russell – website administrator - to discuss website options. Michelle: originally on the BCAH website we had a membership plugin with a lot of customizations for multiple locations but it has become too complicated. Wild Apricot which was mentioned has become expensive and doesn't have great customer service according to reviews (\$800 per year and we already have a website). The best option may be the same one that was built for Canadians for Homeopathy, it's a Memberpress application. If we apply as a non-profit status, it's half price and stays that way. Memberpress also ties directly into the existing directory and you can have multiple numbers of membership levels. It's quite a robust platform where you can add courses as well if you want. It will still allow you to have restricted content for members and an ability to do courses and course modules. We'd need it to do an early bird option while still being renewed at the year end mark and Michelle will make sure this is possible. She also suggested that we do this early on as she could potentially get busy and there may be some back and forth with the details. Memberpress may have a 30 day money back policy which would help us test the uploading feature. Nathalie shared her experience with the Naturopathic association.

2. Acceptance of meeting agenda – Marie moved to accept the agenda – all were in favour.

3. Acceptance of minutes from last meeting (Aug 23, 23) – Marie moved to accept the minutes with a few minor updates and all were in favour.

4. Board updates from Treasurer: our financial year ended in August and Nathalie is just double checking all the numbers but so far it's all good.

5. Committee updates – We've just received 25 responses so far. Marie will send out a reminder in a Mailchimp notice with the upcoming deadline. Nicole suggested we extend the deadline when the time comes but let's wait and see how many responses we get first.

6. CHA and CCFH updates; for CHA (i) Heather has the webinar draft on her to do list and now we need to take the next steps before contacting the insurance companies. As for the picture with Marie and Pierre Poilievre that will go out in a Mailchimp notice, and we will add a disclaimer, saying something like "Please note that this is not an endorsement for a political party." Thomas Mulcair – former NDP Leader - is also in support of natural health products and

suggested to the Quebec Coalition that Marie send a letter to BC NDP MP Don Davies regarding the HC Cost Recovery Proposal from the BCAA / CHA. As per the CHA meeting, the Manitoba association wants to keep on top of getting homeopathy on the radar of insurance company coverage. Marie is working on a checklist for the CHA Action plan for Insurance coverage. The disciplinary committee is a busy one in the naturopathic association, but we will need one if we want to be accepted by the insurance agencies. We may need to put this to a vote at an AGM. This would be worked on over the next. Even in creating the policies, we will need volunteers – it can't be the board taking this work on.

7. AGM – date and timeline for notices need to be set and sent to members as soon as possible, as we're already way behind in sending out notices and reminders for the AGM. Marie will send out an email with a tightened schedule to the Board. Heather gave some feedback on the Report but Marie had not heard from others. ALL to read through the Report and give Marie a go ahead – this will be urgent. Marie is updating the AGM agenda from last year.

8. Case Conference – we've had no volunteers so let's focus on the AGM for now and defer the case conference.

9. NHP cost recovery proposal – what has been done so far and what still needs to be done? We can keep circulating petitions. Marie got the notice about the meeting in Richmond with Pierre Poilievre scheduled for that afternoon at just 9:45 am that morning. The petition that he's started will go out into the Mailchimp newsletter for our members to sign. There were only 50-60 people there, mainly Caucasian and also some East Indian. He talked for 15 minutes – mainly political talk but he did acknowledge that the pharmaceutical companies are pushing Health Canada to crowd out NHPs. Marie also met Darrel Jones, the Save on foods CEO who is also the CEO of the Pattison Food Group which owns Choices and Pure Pharmacy, among others. He was there with 5 or 6 staff. Marie asked how are we going to know what happens with the Health Canada consultation but it will take months to process the feedback and put together a report or proposal. In the Mailchimp, she will also be asking members for their feedback if they haven't yet contacted their MPs. Marie will send Don Davies a letter from the Coalition as well.

10. BC HPOA discussion of next steps – no new news.

11. Item(s) from the list of other business below – nothing urgent.

12. Date for October 11 th and November 1 st as a pre-AGM meeting at 6:45pm.