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**BCITRA  
ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING  
MINUTES**

**DATE: Thursday June 9 2022 10:00am**

**LOCATION: On campus and Zoom**

**ATTENDING: 14 on campus, 9 on Zoom, 8 directors in all. Guests: Lisa Jung, Paul McCullough, Mark Costales**

<b>A</b>	<b>CALL TO ORDER:</b>
	President Donna Foster called the meeting to order at 10:05am, noting this was our first live and hybrid AGM ever.
<b>B</b>	<b>APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA:</b>
	Larry Dea moved, Gordon Storey seconded that the agenda be approved. Carried.
<b>C</b>	<b>ADOPTION OF THE MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING:</b>
	Frank Gruen moved, Shari Monsma seconded, that the minutes of our last AGM, held via Zoom on Wednesday March 17 2021 be adopted. Carried.
<b>D</b>	<b>INTRODUCTORY REMARKS:</b>
	<p>President Donna welcomed all members to our first 'hybrid' meeting, She noted that two founding members of our Association were attending via Zoom, Ernie Iannacone and Brian Gillespie. Ernie said a few words, and suggested a moment of silence to recognize our members who have passed away since the Association was founded over a quarter century ago. Brian congratulated everyone for continuing the work of the Association through the years.</p> <p>Donna welcomed the new executive director of the BCIT Alumni Association, and OUR key management contact, Lisa Jung. Lisa spoke for a few minutes about her arrival at BCIT, having previously worked with SFU. She noted our future depends on our students, and thanked our Association for our ongoing work which ultimately benefits them through our endowment. Lisa left the meeting early because her own Alumni Association AGM was scheduled for later the same day, and prep work awaited her.</p> <p>Donna thanked Randy Robinson for the work he was doing to manage the Zoom component of our meeting which allowed nine members who could not attend in person to participate in our meeting.</p>
<b>E</b>	<b>MOTION TO GRANT HONORARY MEMBERSHIP:</b>
	President Donna introduced the concept of offering an Honorary Membership in our Association to retiring BCIT president Kathy Kinloch, which requires membership approval. Gordon Farrell moved, Dawna Mackay seconded. Carried.
<b>F</b>	<b>EXECUTIVE BOARD REPORTS:</b>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b>1. TREASURER: Randy Robinson</b></li> </ul>
	Randy's report was as distributed. He noted we have presented \$9308 to the Endowment Fund this year, resulting in a balance of around \$85,000.

• **2. WEB: Shari Monsma**

Shari's report was as distributed. She acknowledge the great work done by Jacquie Champion prior to her departure for sunnier climes last fall, and reported on the new website and liaison work with BCIT's IT folks.

• **3. LINKAGES: Gordon Farrell**

Gordon's report was as distributed. He noted the benefits of connections with other groups and will continue his representation of our interests at that table. Frank Gruen asked if the ratios mentioned in the report could be changed. Gordon noted one of the benefits in our involvement is that more collaboration is occurring, which could result in more board representation. We've lost some benefits over the years, and there is hope these could be revived. Returns on investment are good and increase our 'funds', always to our benefit. Frank asked if trustees are paid, and Gordon didn't know but will enquire. Donna noted that the BCITRA started as the 'BCIT Pensioners Association'.

Some numbers on the Provincial Pension plans by 2020 Retiree Association:

	ABCCPPR	BCTRA	GERA	Municipal	Totals
Total	31,126	101,606	137,805	379,091	649,628
Actives	15,239	49,352	66,882	220,321	351,794
Inactives	6,951	12,451	19,967	47,219	86,588
Retirees	8,936	39,803	50,956	111,551	211,246
%Retirees trus. to total	28.7	39.2	37.0	29.4	32.5
#Of trustees/ Retiree	1/10	1/10	1/14	1/18 +	4 of 52

• **4. PRESIDENT: Donna Foster**

Donna noted the work of our board and the hopes for more activities for members as COVID becomes less of a problem. She reported on LPR...License Plate Recognition...coming to the Parking process at BCIT, as we continue to work toward securing close parking for BCITRA members who participate in activities on campus. Gordon noted there was an idea years ago to extend Skytrain from Brentwood to Metrotown, which would make access to BCIT much more convenient for all and relieve many parking challenges, but that never materialized. Donna also noted that she had small funds in hand to reimburse anyone who had paid for their parking for this meeting.

Donna nominated former BCIT president Brian Gillespie for an Honorary Membership in our Association, and Ernie Iannacone seconded. Carried.

**MOTION TO ACCEPT REPORTS:**

Bob Wagner moved, Karen Cresswell seconded, that our reports be accepted. Carried.

**G NOMINATION COMMITTEE REPORT/BOARD ELECTION: Gordon Farrell**

Gordon reported that all current Board members have agreed to continue as members. There were no further nominations. Gordon noted 'volunteers' were welcome to participate in various operations without becoming board members. New retiree Dawna MacKay noted her willingness to be a volunteer. After the required three calls for further nominations, Gordon moved the current members and our newest volunteer be accepted in their positions, Dawna seconded. Carried. He noted Judith Hall and Gina Ng will continue in their positions as volunteers.

**H GUEST SPEAKERS:**

• **Mark Costales, Johnson Insurance**

Mark noted Johnson Insurance's continued involvement with our members, and Randy reported that this had resulted in another \$778 for our endowment over the past year. While Mark operates out of the Langley office, he has worked mostly from home during COVID. He encouraged members to get

updated quotes on home insurance every few years, talked about travel insurance through MEDOC, and noted that they are very good, competitive, and comprehensive, stressing their unlimited coverage in Canada, and 17 day or 35 day plans when leaving Canada. Our feedback is welcome, COVID enhancements are coming, Johnson Insurance is now owned by INTACT, but nothing has changed operationally. Frank asked about 'stability' clauses and Mark noted that if nothing related to any health condition has changed in 90 days, all is fine. Frank asked if their home insurance covers log homes, and while it doesn't at this time, this may change in the future as they're evaluating the possibility.

- **Paul McCullough, BCIT VP Advancement**

Paul spoke to changes coming to BCIT. Kathy retires June 30th, and he has agreed to be interim president, likely until 2023 or so, while the selection process for a new president occurs. He remarked on BCIT's ability to keep things going over two years that no one anticipated. The nimble BCIT faculty went into a hybrid model immediately that COVID shutdowns occurred, and the Institute never shut down.

A massive re-imagining of the Burnaby campus has been moving forward that will take until at least 2027 to complete. When Paul was hired back to the campus by Kathy in 2014, they discussed the huge innovation that would be required to re-imagine the future for BCIT. About one million dollars had been raised that year, while other post-secondary institutions had raised been \$200 million and \$1.2 billion. BCIT then embarked on a plan to raise private dollars and leverage government involvement. By 2016, our goal was to raise \$50 million. That was then raised to a \$125 million target. That then became a \$450 million target. Health Sciences was first for redevelopment, Trades and Technology were next. The day-lighting of Guichon Creek was included. A fundamental concept was that the Burnaby campus needed an 'identity', and a 'dramatic front door'. A concept for a \$5.5 million 'plaza' was supported by a private donor, and this will serve to 'bring the community in', and should be completed this year, with students seeing it in the fall of 2022. Trades and technology support to the tune of \$22 million has been raised, 100% of the target.

The business community has been engaged, as they have been saying "We need people". Great dialogue has resulted in a focus on innovation, excellence, and people. As this work progressed, it was recognized that many current CEOs are graduates of BCIT, who recognize they are totally dependent on employees coming from BCIT. One CEO opined "BCIT grads are billable within three days".

As a result of all this work, some \$680 million has now been raised, and planning is now fully funded to 2027. The final total expected is between \$750 million and \$800 million. We will give BCIT the ability to stand shoulder to shoulder with any institution in the country. We are changing the message very effectively.

Frank Gruen said this message is similar to that from 1966, as many of those students went on to leadership positions in industry. Paul noted this describes what BCIT is all about. One million new jobs will be created in the next ten years. Up-skilling is key at BCIT.

One member noted that a UBC student has a 20% chance of successful placement, whereas BCIT boasts a 98% rate. 68% of BCIT students have an undergrad degree before they come here. Another mentioned his daughter is in a senior post secondary administration position where she puts all the background gained at BCIT to work today.

Ernie reinforced the recognition that employers know BCIT grads are 'job ready', and we can work on making that recognition wider known. Paul agreed we need to tell that story aggressively. Too often we hear phrases like "I had no idea BCIT did that", and we are working on being seen as a leader in all ways.

To a question regarding Trades and Training, Paul noted some \$160 million will go into new buildings in that area. Dawna noted the image that BCIT is just a trades school needs to be brought into the modern world. We applauded these moves, and the attitude that says "We won't stop, we're moving forward" with a superb result. We have been closing between \$2.5 million and \$3 million in support every week. Our 'value proposition' is now being recognized.

	Members were very pleased at this positive message received from Paul. And Donna mentioned our Honorary Membership for Kathy and Paul said she will be thrilled with that.
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Special presentation to Kathy Kinloch, per Bob Wagner</b></li> </ul>
	Bob reported on the Tuesday meeting between him, Donna, and BCIT president Kathy Kinloch as he presented our PLAQUE recognizing Kathy's years of professional and personal support for our Association. Kathy appreciated the gesture very much.
<b>I</b>	<b>OTHER BUSINESS:</b>
	No 'other business' to report.
<b>J</b>	<b>DOOR PRIZES:</b>
	Frank drew tickets from eligible participants for our door prizes, and several items such as a BCIT umbrella, gift cards, a water bottle, and external battery donated by Johnson Insurance were awarded.
<b>K</b>	<b>ADJOURNMENT:</b>
	Gordon moved adjournment, Ernie second, and we stood adjourned. Lunch followed.
	<b>NEXT REGULAR MEETING DATE AND TIME:</b>
	To be announced in 2023.