

CAJ Annual General Meeting Minutes

Sunday June 12, 2021, 1:00 p.m. (ET)

Location: Zoom conference call

1. Call to order 1:06
2. Additions to the agenda.
3. Approval of agenda. Moved by Brent Jolly, seconded by Nebal Snan. Agenda approved.
4. Approval of [2020 AGM minutes](#). Moved by Paul Schneidereit, seconded by Jimmy Thompson. Minutes approved.
5. Chair's report (verbal)
 - a. The chair is pleased to report there is a near full board of directors; makes note of the Manitoba vacancy. If there is anyone on the call from Manitoba or knows a journalist in Manitoba, please share. The deadline is June 25.
 - i. Motion to accept the chairs report. Moved by Brent Jolly, seconded by Olivia Bowden. Motion carried.
6. [President's report](#)
 - a. Membership numbers are up from 600 last year to over 900. This is a testament to the many new and ongoing projects including the diversity survey and mentorship program. Notes the Manitoba mental health event and notes that mental health for journalists is an area the association would like to expand into next year.
 - i. Question from P. Schneidereit about the reason for setting a precedent in the RCMP injunction case (Fairy Creek) and a request for an update on the status of the file. B. Jolly given background, noting that the CAJ usually intervenes at the level of appeals. In this case, the board voted in favour of getting involved earlier. Reasons being that this is a pattern of behavior as seen by the RCMP in multiple instances (ie. Wet'suwet'en, Brake, Karl Dockstader) and the fact they keep coming back and not learning from these processes - this motivated the board to break precedent. As to the status: CAJ has submitted the notice to BC supreme court - RCMP has responded to initial outreach asking them if they would stop doing what they were doing; they dug their heels in. B. Jolly notes that it seems the RCMP wants press accreditation for journalists - which is not going to happen. As of yesterday, it is in the scheduling process. We are looking at July (10th or so) - that's when the pro-bono lawyer would have time to take it on.

Motion to accept the president's report - moved by Nebal Snan, seconded Jimmy Thompson. Report accepted.

7. [Treasurer's report](#)

a. [2020 year-end financial report](#)

i. P. Schneidereit notes that the mentorship program and high level of advocacy work had a positive impact on attracting members. Pleased to report that the rainy day fund as of now is fully funded (\$80K). 70K in the bank on top of that.

1. Question from B. Jolly as to why the fund was created. P. Schneidereit notes that following the financial crisis, in 2010, CAJ had less than 10K in the bank. Not looking good. When Hugo was president he recommended a fund -- to account for a year if the conference did not go well. Initially to be 60K - then the board decided to up with to 80K to reflect realistic OP expenses.

Motion to adopt the year end financial and the treasurer's report - moved by Olivia, Bowden, seconded by Jimmy Thompson.

Motion to re-appoint accounting firm: That CCI Accounting of Halifax, N.S, be re-appointed as the CAJ's accountants for 2021-2022.

Moved by Paul Schneidereit, seconded by Brent Jolly.

8. [CRO report](#)

Motion to accept the CRO report - moved by Hugo Rodrigues, seconded by Jimmy Thompson.

9. Other business. None arising.

10. Motion to adjourn Moved by Brent Jolly, seconded by Nebal Snan.

Meeting adjourned by 1:43