

**IPAC – Southern Alberta**

**MINUTES**

**Date**: Wednesday, December 1, 2021

**Venue**: Virtual

**Time**: 1300 – 1400

**Present**: Andrew Lum, Jason Morris, Amy Tchir, Jennifer Happe, Jennifer McMullen, Josepj Kaunda, Kaether Decker, Kim Houde, Lorinda Stuber, Sandra Bolton, Shanthi Anchan, Cindy Frank, Munira Ahmed, Gord Platt, Lynn Curry, Olga Fernandes, Ashley Shackleford, Gwyneth Meyers, Hitesh Patel, Jennifer Ellison, Gaye Sydenham, Kristine Cannon, Dione Kolodka, Zaheeda Jessani.

**Apologies**: Rhonda Demarco.

The President, Kim, called meeting to order at 1303.

Jason introduced Dr. Jia Hu.

Dr. Hu gave a video speech entitled “19 to Zero: It’s never too late, until it is.” <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=cf-vA-dGrFI>

**President’s Report**

Jennifer Happe approved the minutes.

Request for nominations the Executive had been made in October. As at now, no submissions have been made. The current office will therefore remain in place, for review in September 2022.

2022 IPAC conference will be virtual. Requests for abstracts have been sent out. IPAC-SA funding is available. Also funding is available for those affiliated with AHS and are presenting an abstract. Please contact your Director if you qualify.

Jason

Link to Dr. Hu’s presentation Youtube presentation will go with the minutes. Anyone with education proposals is requested to submit them.

Dione

Invited proposal for Webmaster.

Kristine

Nothing to report for Treasury. There has not been much activity. Proposed that we should start advertising for conference funding.

Jennifer Ellison revisited the matter, from the previous meeting, of having too much money in our account, and we are non-profit organization. Enquired if there was any consideration for funding programs like IFIC etc., even though they may be outside IPAC proper.

Kim agrees. She gave the history that in the past, we had surpluses in the region of $20,000, as compared to the current $11,000. Because of these excess funds at that time, fundraising was put on hold. Our chapter hosted the Banff conference, and this comes with a financial obligation. We thus spent some of our money at that time, lowering the surpluses. We had also proposed an education day, which would have brought in additional income. But the advent of COVID-19 changed everything. A new cash influx came from annual registration by members.

Before COVID-19, we had wanted to do some philanthropy for IPAC in a developing country, IFIC etc. The chapter also supports chapters that don’t have sufficient funding to run some of their basic operations. This year, we should look at making a donation.

Kim asked if members have a preference on who/what to support. Jennifer McMullen suggested donating to vaccination campaigns; as many countries can’t afford vaccines.

Gwyneth gave some history: During CHICA, we were so low on funds, we couldn’t send our President for the national conference. We were therefore galvanized by this situation, which led to being flush with funds. Thus to spend some of this, we started sponsoring IFIC, and donating to developing countries to support IPC operations there. It will be helpful to find ways to do that. It helped us look outward, not just inward.

Kim said that one Ontario chapter supported an ICP in Cameroon, and won an award in 2018. Kim is to find out which chapter that was, and have someone present in a future meeting.

Jason: Rhonda is booked to talk in February.

Kim: Paul Webber has ICAN (Infection Control Africa Network). She had approached him in 2019 to link up IPAC-SA with the organization, but COVID-19 emerged and took over everything. She suggested that maybe it was time to start looking at non-COVID things. Anyone with ideas was asked to notify the Executive.

Jennifer Happe further suggested volunteer work, mentorship program, membership committees, environmental Hygiene, LTC, pediatrics etc. as areas that could benefit from our involvement.

Dione suggested local teaching initiatives, e.g. SIMS.

With no further discussion item, the president closed the meeting.

NOTE: Joseph had to leave early in the meeting, and these minutes have been reconstructed from audio-recording.