



**BC HOCKEY
ANNUAL CONGRESS
Penticton Lakeside Resort, June 11, 2022**

Minutes of the BC Hockey Annual Congress (Annual General Meeting [AGM]) held June 11, 2022 in the East Ballroom at the Penticton Lakeside Resort, 21 Lakeshore Drive W, Penticton, BC.

CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order at 1:00 p.m.

CHAIRMAN BILL GREENE

Chair Bill Greene recognized and congratulated the BC Hockey Championship teams of the past year for their incredible achievements, and welcomed members to the 103rd AGM of BC Hockey.

The Chair presented Darryl Lerum with a token of appreciation from BC Hockey for his many years of service on the Board.

The Chair noted pleasure to have a number of special guests joining the AGM, and asked members to join him in welcoming Nick Mosky, legal counsel, Wadell Raponi, as well as volunteer Coordinators who Chair BC Hockey Program Advisory and Task Groups, also in attendance:

- Female Hockey, Jen Loewen
- Minor Hockey Discipline, Byron Rice
- Minor Hockey Operations, June McKenzie
- Indigenous Liaison, Ryneld Starr, Hazelton Minor Hockey Association.

The Chair led members in acknowledging the Appeal Committee, and extended appreciation to those individuals for their efforts on behalf of all members. The Appeal Committee consists of Andrew Pendray as Chair, along with members Mark Bakken, Jean-Benoit Deschamps, and Chad Rintoul.

The Nominating Committee this year was comprised of Grant Zimmerman, Chair, and members Harold Bloomenthal, Lynne Kiang, Terry Rolston, and Glynis Vennberg. Grant Zimmerman would be presenting during the elections later in the meeting.

The Chair noted that over the past few years, BC Hockey has demonstrated that it is most effective when working together, from the smallest to the largest associations in the province. There is nothing more important than grassroots hockey, and it is important to focus on being more inclusive and welcoming, and finding ways to grow the game, focusing on the youngest age groups, and welcoming Indigenous peoples and new Canadians. Hockey is part of the Canadian family. Hockey Canada trained and certified coaches are important, as is finding ways to make the entry level of hockey free, including equipment.

While some might believe there is too much focus on elite hockey, which is not so, it is a direct result of the work people have done to provide opportunities for youth at the local level. The Board will continue to remove barriers to players, and not continue down a path of over regulation, which fails those who want to play. Minor hockey associations do not own players, their parents do and we must collaborate to remove any obstacles. If we do not, we will lose any chance of keeping the game affordable and within the reach of the average family.



BC Hockey needs to be more vigilant to research opportunities for gaming grants and organizations that know and understand the value of youth in sports. We have an opportunity to share best practices. The answer in one minor association is not necessarily the answer for all, but it could work for another. What do we have to lose? The success of our local game is paramount to this approach. We do not know what we do not know, but by collaboration we have a much better chance. The game has changed significantly but fundamentally remains the same. The Chair offered congratulations to all members for their commitment to the youth and to our game.

The Chair thanked BC Hockey Board of Directors for a great year of service and recognized each individual and their service to BC Hockey over the course of the 2021-22 hockey season:

- Haleigh Callison
- Chuck Campbell
- Anita Cote
- Andrew Jakubeit
- Melanie Jue
- John MacMillan
- Neil McNabb
- Stephanie White.

The Chair thanked Melanie Jue, who was not seeking re-election and was not in attendance, for serving on the Board over the last several of years.

CREDENTIALS COMMITTEE WORK GROUP REPORT

CHUCK CAMPBELL – BC HOCKEY

Chuck Campbell thanked members of the Credentials Committee, and reviewed the membership credentials for the AGM as follows:

Minor and District Associations	333
Minor Leagues and Teams	325
Junior A Leagues and Teams	2
Directors	6

MOTION

It was MOVED (Andrew Jakubeit) and SECONDED (Neil McNabb)

To adopt the report of the BC Hockey Credentials Committee Work Group as presented.

CARRIED

FINANCIALS

CHUCK CAMPBELL

Chuck Campbell thanked members of the Finance Committee for their support and hard work over the past year. The last two years have been difficult, including for hockey, which was closed down and had other problems with players scrambling because of floods. The main goal throughout that time was to maintain BC Hockey’s stability and put it in a position to quickly and efficiently return to play when the circumstances warranted it.

BC Hockey has had an unusual year financially, but is in a better position than many organizations. Although a deficit of \$360,000 was expected, BC Hockey ended up with a surplus of close to \$1.5

million, which was not something that could have been foreseen at the time the budget was passed because there was no clear idea of the activity level over the year, or what would happen with respect to the grants BC Hockey might be eligible to receive. The VIA Sport organization made the decision at the start of the pandemic that when it provided relief funds, no organization would be penalized for wise financial management, which meant BC Hockey was eligible for grants. Because of this, BC Hockey received \$800,000 in government support. As well, because of the timing of COVID, most activity resumed, but there was substantial savings relating to Board and Committee travel. As a consequence, BC Hockey is nearly \$2 million further ahead than anticipated.

The Board has already taken some steps to feed the surplus back into programming and has announced: subsidizing of training costs for referees; lowering the registration fee for referees to \$5; providing a grant to each minor association; and not implementing a registration fee increase for this coming season, or for the next year or the year after. At the end of that time, the fees will likely go up \$2 to keep track with inflation.

The intention is to use the money that BC Hockey has to further programs in the next few years, and to deficit budget. To the extent BC Hockey has large surpluses, the ability to attract grant money is reduced, and as such, the plan is to use the money well to enhance our programs, and numbers, and diversity of those playing. Some of what we have achieved has been because of good luck, but otherwise the credit can be given to the Board, the Finance Committee, and the senior members of staff for the fine job they have done.

JEN CHEESEMAN – CHIEF FINANCIAL OFFICER

With reference to an overhead presentation titled “BC Hockey Financial Report Year Ending March 31, 2022”, Jen Cheeseman, Chief Financial Officer (CFO), highlighted:

- Wiseman and Mills completed the audit this year and provided an unqualified or clean audit report that the financial statements presented fairly in all material respects, the financial position of BC Hockey as at March 31, 2022
- The 2021-22 year was an interesting one and ended with a surplus of \$1.45 million; although we were able to operate, COVID restrictions were still in place for part of the year, which reduced our ability to operate at full capacity, due to restrictions on tournaments, social events, and travel
- With regard to the budgeted vs. actuals, BC Hockey had positive surprises in revenues, and then was unable to spend what was budgeted on the expense side, which resulted in expenses being under budget
- BC Hockey was fortunate to receive government funding through the Amateur Sport Fund, in the amount of \$800,000, and wage subsidies of \$64,000
- BC Hockey successfully completed its new website project, which went live at the end of February
- BC Hockey faced challenges in its BCEHL travelling leagues, both due to schedule changes through COVID and when highways washed out due to flooding; however, through reactive adjustments to the schedule, and some savings in championship travel, we were almost able to break even in this program overall
- The inability to travel as expected, both operationally and in governance areas, and the inability to have tournaments/jamborees, prevented BC Hockey from spending as planned, which added to the surplus
- The main items in the surplus are the \$800,000 grant received from the Amateur Sport Fund, the wage subsidy, and an additional amount received for Gaming Grant, as we received both 2021 and 2022 gaming grants in the 2022-year end
- BC Hockey’s inability to spend money as planned due to COVID restrictions led to savings of \$241,000 in Committee Meetings and Travel; Hockey Canada did not charge its usual



\$3/participant fee as a one-time member relief for COVID, which led to savings of \$171,000; and BC Hockey's inability to spend on planned in person events such as jamborees, and travel in programming led to \$114,000 in additional savings

- With regard to large variances in the Statement of Financial Position:
 - Cash has increased by \$1.8 million, mainly due to BC Hockey's \$1.4 million surplus
 - Prepaid expenses has decreased by \$445,000, due to the prior year having our BCEHL operate in phases as they were practice only; Phase 3 of the 2020-21 season ran into April of 2021, which had prepaid expenses and corresponding deferred revenues at last year's year-end of \$525,000; the phase structure was not used in the current year, and there was no prepaid expenses or revenue relating to BCEHL's regular season
 - Deferred Revenues only increased by \$31,000 – normally they would move in the same direction as prepaid expenses; however, this year it was not the case; although the prior year balance saw the deferred portion of Phase 3 BCEHL, the current year had all our ID camp and POE camps, that we ran in April of 2022; we were unable to run these camps in April 2021 due to COVID restrictions, and therefore there was no deferred revenue relating to those in the prior year
- The Statement of Operations and Schedule 1 showing revenue breakdown
- With regard to items that have large variances from prior year:
 - Overall Revenues have increased by \$5.24 million
 - Some Programs were not able to operate last year – they have revenue, and corresponding expenses this year, and are NIL last year; they include Tournaments, Championships, POE male and POE female (which is included in Elite Female); Regional Centres has small revenues and expenses in the prior year, and NIL in the current, as we ended that pilot project in May 2020
 - Hockey Canada (HC) fees and insurance has all increased significantly from prior year given that we reduced our fees by 50% last year to help our members during COVID; HC did the same for us, so there is a corresponding decrease on the expenses side, which is the HC insurance fees; HC assessments is NIL on the expense side, as they did not charge BC Hockey the \$3/participant fee this year
 - For grants, \$800,000 was received this year, which was NIL in the prior year; under COVID relief we received wage subsidy this year, but for only two periods as our revenues came back to pre-COVID levels; the year before our revenue was not back and we were able to claim all periods
- With regard to Leagues:
 - Elite Female includes female POE, and U18 BCEHL; the increase in revenue and corresponding expenses is due to POE operating this year, which it did not in the prior year, and increases in BCHEL programing
 - BCEHL U15, 17, and 18 saw increases in revenues of 61, 59, and 60%; these programs run on a break-even basis, so if costs increase, we increase what we charge the players; corresponding increases in expenses this year compared to last year of 63, 58, and 62%; the increases were due to travel costs of bussing and hotels for the teams; there was no travel in the prior year due to COVID; our Phase 3 from the 2020-21 year ran into April of 2021, so that portion of revenues and expenses are also reasons for the increases – they represent \$80,000 for female, and \$158 – 161,000 for the male leagues
- Officiating Revenues increased by \$314,000, compared to last year, this is due to last year's deferral of \$230,000 of revenue at year end that was to be used as credits in the current season for officials; we also received two years of gaming grant funding in the current year, and NIL in the prior – totalling \$10,000; meanwhile, expenses have increased by \$114,000, which is a consistent increase considering the credit adjustment in last year's amount of revenues



- With regard to the large surplus at year end, and what that means to us going forward:
 - In 2022 there was a \$1.4 million surplus, and for 2023, 2024, and 2025 year ends, deficits are budgeted
 - When we have surpluses they accumulate in Net Assets, while deficits reduce net assets
 - Since we have a large surplus, and a healthy internally restricted fund, we will be budgeting deficits over the next 3-5 years to draw down these surpluses
- The Board originally approved a deficit budget of \$391,000 in January 2022 for the 2022-23 season; however, once we had our finalized statements, the Board made the decision to increase the budgeted deficit to \$884,000
- BC Hockey plans to offer \$5 Officiating Clinics for the 2022-23 season, which will help recruit and keep officials we already have; this will cost \$320,000
- BC Hockey will also be giving MHAs a grant to be used on what they think is necessary, based on \$3/player from the 2021-22 season, rounded up to the nearest \$500; this will cost \$172,000
- The remainder of the deficit is made up of items that the Board has decided are a priority this year, which includes:
 - Increasing our communications, and the female model
 - A deficit of \$100,000 in BCEHL, which we plan to have over the next three years to keep the program as affordable as possible with rising costs
 - \$800,000 grant we received related to the BCEHL, a portion of which will be used within the league over the next few years
 - Remaining items are programs that traditionally run a deficit like the Annual Congress and Championships
- BC Hockey will continue to budget deficits until we have lowered the net assets, and then return back to a breakeven operation
- Bottom line is that BC Hockey is in excellence financial health, is one of the healthiest PSOs in BC, and is likely the healthiest branch under Hockey Canada; we will be using this surplus right away to support our members.

ANDREW JAKUBEIT – BC HOCKEY – RESOLUTIONS

Andrew Jakubeit informed there would be several motions and three resolutions considered at the meeting, and explained the process that would be followed for each: the motion/resolution would be introduced, moved, and seconded, there would be an opportunity for comment from staff, followed by an opportunity for membership to discuss the resolution before the vote. For the sake of efficiency, Adam Hayduk and Sherry Wakelin would be considered to have moved and seconded all motions and resolutions. For the resolutions, a 75% vote in favour was required, given that they affected the bylaws.

Voting would be done via a separate link received from Data on the Spot – the third-party election manager operating the voting via secure site.

MOTION

It was MOVED (Adam Hayduk) and SECONDED (Sherry Wakelin)

As per Bylaw 908, to approve the BC Hockey 2021-2022 audited financial statements as presented.

CARRIED



MOTION

It was MOVED (Adam Hayduk) and SECONDED (Sherry Wakelin)

Under Bylaw 903, to appoint Wiseman & Mills as the Auditors for BC Hockey for 2022-2023.

CARRIED

MOTION

It was MOVED (Adam Hayduk) and SECONDED (Sherry Wakelin)

To adopt the 102nd BC Hockey Annual General Meeting minutes as circulated.

CARRIED

MOTION

It was MOVED (Adam Hayduk) and SECONDED (Sherry Wakelin)

To adopt the Coordinator and Director reports from the 2021-2022 BC Hockey Annual Report.

CARRIED

MOTION

It was MOVED (Adam Hayduk) and SECONDED (Sherry Wakelin)

Under the requirement of the New Societies Act, to ratify the activities of the Board of Directors activities for 2022-2023.

CARRIED

NOTICES OF MOTION – RESOLUTIONS

RESOLUTION 2022-01

ANDREW JAKUBEIT

Andrew Jakubeit introduced the distributed Notice of Motion. The subject matter of the Resolution was to change the terms for Directors including the Chair, from two years to three years.

Q & A RE RESOLUTION 2022-01

Q: **Bill Greene:** I am speaking in favour of the Resolution. The Governance Committee spent considerable time reviewing this at the Board's request. The interest is to ensure the Board has consistency from year-to-year and can provide good leadership ongoing. I respectfully ask you to approve this Resolution.

Q: **James Rae, Pacific Coast Amateur Hockey Association:** Our Association is opposed to the institution of longer terms in the interest of additional renewal and support of diversity in those positions.

RESOLUTION 2022-01

It was MOVED (Adam Hayduk) and SECONDED (Sherry Wakelin)

To approve the changes to the Bylaws necessary to change the terms of Directors including the Chair, from two (2) years to three (3) years. The intention, if passed by the Voting Members, is that the terms of Directors including the Chair for 2022 shall be determined on the basis of Bylaw 523.2022.

DEFEATED

(169 in favour; 127 in opposition)

RESOLUTION 2022-02



Andrew Jakubeit introduced the distributed Notice of Motion. The subject matter of the Resolution was to approve those changes to BC Hockey's Bylaws and Regulations shown in the proposed amendments, with the goal of making BC Hockey's Bylaws and Regulations clearer, more consistent, and concise, and much easier to read and interpret.

Q & A RE RESOLUTION 2022-02

There were no questions/comments with regard to Resolution 2022-02.

RESOLUTION 2022-02

It was MOVED (Adam Hayduk) and SECONDED (Sherry Wakelin)

To approve those changes to BC Hockey's Bylaws and Regulations shown in the proposed amendments.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY
(302 in favour)

RESOLUTION 2022-03

Andrew Jakubeit introduced the distributed Notice of Motion. The subject matter of the Resolution was to continue the practice of approval for the annual Membership Fee increase over a three-year period starting in the 2023-2024 season. At the 2014 AGM, the membership approved a proposal to consider these annual increases in three-year cycles to eliminate uncertainty during the budget development process. The fifty-cent increase was proposed to assist with increasing operating costs due to inflation. The Board could waive these fees increases and had done so for the 2022-2023 season.

Q & A RE RESOLUTION 2022-03

There were no questions/comments with regard to Resolution 2022-03.

RESOLUTION 2022-03

It was MOVED (Adam Hayduk) and SECONDED (Sherry Wakelin)

To approve to continue the practice of approval for the annual Membership Fee increase over a three (3) year period starting in the 2023-2024 season, including Appendix A: Proposed Amendments to BC Hockey's Bylaws and Regulations.

CARRIED
(287 in favour; 9 in opposition)

ELECTION REPORT

BILL GREENE

The Chair honoured life member Frank Lento, noting the life members are the founding fathers and guiding lights to the organization.

GRANT ZIMMERMAN – CHAIR – NOMINATING COMMITTEE

Grant Zimmerman recognized members of the Nominating Committee: Harold Bloomenthal, Terry Rolston, and Lynne Kiang, for their contributions, with support from the CEO, Julie Dobel and others at the office. The Nominating Committee identifies who is leaving, and tries to fill any vacancies with good, capable people. Two people, Melanie Jue and Bill Greene were both leaving the Board. The Committee assessed the remaining Board directors to identify any gaps in experience, geographic representation, and diversity and were successful in finding two people to fill needs in the areas of legal representation, and the north. Once individuals were identified, a slate was put forward to the

membership for review and final nominations, and a final slate was agreed to. The following individuals were acclaimed to positions on the Board:

- Anita Cote
- Randy Henderson
- Steven Phipps.

Grant Zimmerman recognized outgoing Chair Bill Greene for being an incredibly passionate and great leader. Sadness was expressed to see the Chair leave the Board, and a round of applause ensued.

It was noted that there were two candidates for the position of Board Chair: Neil McNabb and Stephanie White. According to Regulation 10, each candidate was given an opportunity to provide a two minute address.

Neil McNabb asked for support for his run for the Chair and shared that he was currently retired, had spent 42 years in telecommunications, and lives in Cloverdale BC. He was involved with hockey all his life as a goalie in Saskatchewan, and in administration after that. As well, he was involved as a volunteer in various locations, and had held nearly every position in an association, in small towns, bigger cities and at the national level. He was involved with municipal ice allocation for Surrey, White Rock, and Delta as well, and shared that he brought a lot of district experience.

Neil McNabb acknowledged that 2022 was an unique year – shortened, with the COVID impact, and offered that in these challenges times, we need experienced leadership that understand the difficulties, and what is needed to meet the needs of players, coaches, and parents to ensure the return to hockey safely. If elected, his focus would be to listen to membership and ensure the Board, office, and membership are aligned to achieve amazing things.

Stephanie White expressed gratitude to sit on the Board since 2018 and to serve the membership and participants, noting that when she first joined, she was the only female on the Board. She thanked Bill Greene for his work, and for being a mentor to help her understand what the Board was trying to achieve and the goals for BC Hockey.

Stephanie White noted her pride in BC Hockey's work over the past few years. We have made significant changes and we are at a key junction and she shared that she wanted to be part of the change.

Stephanie White added that she had demonstrated she was a value based leader, a champion of gender equity, a disrupter, and a transformational leader. She indicated her interest to think about the future focus and what we want to consider BC Hockey to look like in the years to come, including how to get more families to join, how to create a space everyone feels welcome and safe, how to focus on skills and developing athletes over wins, and ensuring fun is a key ingredient by bringing smiles back to all participants' faces.

Stephanie White shared her interest to put BC Hockey in a position to be the best hockey experience in Canada, which involves all of us together, working collaboratively, walking, and working in alignment with focus on our purpose, process, and people. She noted her focus was on having the lens of the participants, and making decisions that support them to create the best hockey experience in Canada. She acknowledged the importance to lead, develop, and promote positive hockey experiences that would then lead to all of us being in hockey for a lifetime. She thanked everyone for their time and all they do to make BC Hockey the best in Canada.

It was noted that both Neil McNabb and Stephanie White had agreed to serve on the Board if not elected as Chair. Members were then invited to cast their vote for Chair of the Board.



Both candidates were acknowledged for putting their names forward, and were recognized as great candidates.

Stephanie White was acknowledged as the newly elected Chair of the BC Hockey Board of Directors.

Past Chair Bill Greene thanked BC Hockey staff, encouraged members to never lose sight of the importance of the local game, and to build its strength, and to recognize the ability to achieve anything in working together. The Past Chair thanked members for their support over the years, noting it was an honour and pleasure, and the highlight of his life to have served as the Chair.

Chair Stephanie White thanked members for their belief in her leadership, noting the Board would work hard to continue to push forward for the best hockey in this country being in BC. She noted much respect to Neil McNabb as a key contributor, adding that it was a respectful competition for the position of Board Chair, and that she had great respect for Neil McNabb. The Chair noted it had been great to get together and looked forward to continuing to meet, without barriers to block us from our good work. The Chair ended with note that “we will continue to listen and work with you, as the ‘big we’ of BC Hockey”.

CONCLUSION

The 2023 BC Hockey Annual General Meeting is scheduled to take place at the Penticton Lakeside Resort and Conference Centre, June 8-10, 2023.

MOTION

It was MOVED (Adam Hayduk) and SECONDED (Sherry Wakelin)

To now conclude the 103rd BC Hockey Annual General Meeting.

CARRIED
(Time 2:34 p.m.)