



**CANADIAN OPHTHALMOLOGICAL
SOCIETY SOCIÉTÉ CANADIENNE
D'OPHTALMOLOGIE**

**Annual Business Meeting / Assemblée générale
annuelle Chair / Présidente : Yvonne M. Buys,
MD, FRCSC**

**June 27, 2020 / Le 27 juin 2020, 1100 – 1200
(EDT/HAE)**

Zoom Meeting

MINUTES/PROCÈS-VERBAL

1. Call to Order / Ouverture

Dr. Yvonne Buys called the meeting to order at 1100 ET.

2. Approval of the Agenda / Adoption de l'ordre du jour

As there were no changes to the agenda, a **MOTION** to accept the agenda was **MOVED** by Dr. Lorne Bellan; **SECONDED** by Dr. Vivian Yin. **ALL IN FAVOUR**

3. Approval of the Minutes of the Annual Business Meeting of June 14 2019 / Approbation du procès-verbal de l'Assemblée générale du 14 juin 2019

As there were no corrections to the June 14, 2019 Minutes a **MOTION** to approve the Minutes was **MOVED** by Dr. Catherine Birt; **SECONDED** by Dr. Mona Harissi-Dagher. **ALL IN FAVOUR.**

4. Treasurer's Report / Rapport du trésorier – Ravi Dookeran, MD, FRCSC

Dr. Ravi Dookeran welcomed Stephanie Courneyea from McCay Duff LLP who presented the Audited Financial Statements to 31 December 2019, which were approved by the COS Board in April 2020.

▪ Audited Financial Statements to 31 December 2019

S. Courneyea explained that the first few pages of the Financial Statements are the auditor's report. In this report the auditor's opinion is expressed. Consistent with previous years, the auditor's opinion is qualified due to the inability to verify the completeness of royalty revenues for the *Canadian Journal of Ophthalmology*. This qualification is common with Not-for-profit organizations. Other than that matter, the financial statements present fairly in all material respects the financial position of the society as of December 31, 2019. The auditor's report also outlines management and Board of Directors responsibilities for these statements, as well as the auditor's responsibilities.

S. Courneyea reviewed the Statement of Financial Position which outlines the assets and liabilities at December 31. The total assets were \$5.2 million (up from \$4.6 million in 2018). The liabilities remained consistent at \$1.6 million. The COS started the year with a balance in member equity of \$3 million and added to that revenues of \$533,000 to end the year with a balance of \$3.5 million in member equity.

S. Courneyea reviewed the statement of operations which captures the Society's activities for the year. Revenues totaled \$3.3 million (up from \$3 million) and expenses totaled \$2.8 million (up from \$2.7 million); for total net revenues for the year of \$533,000 up from \$341,000.

The Statement of Cash Flows, which shows the sources and uses of cash, was reviewed by S. Courneyea as well.

Lastly, the notes to the Financial Statements were reviewed with no significant changes from previous years. The notes describe the organization, outline the significant accounting policies, what is included in different revenue, what is included in different contributions and how the balance changed from the beginning to the end of the year, a breakdown of the funds held in trust, and a breakdown of the financial resource management revenue which totaled \$280,000 up from a loss of \$1600. This swing is entirely related to the unrealized gains on the investments which totaled \$177,000 up from a loss of \$83,000. This is due to a better market performance in 2019 as compared to 2018. Other notes describe the relationship to the Foundation, and a new note which relates to the uncertainty related to COVID-19 and its potential impact on the society.

Dr. Dookeran proposed a **MOTION** for the re-appointment of McCay Duff & Co. LLP as COS auditors for the fiscal year 2020. **MOVED** by Dr. Robert Schertzer; **SECONDED** by Dr. Patricia Laughrea. **ALL IN FAVOUR**

5. Remembrance / En souvenir

A minute of silence was observed in remembrance of COS members who had passed away since the 2019 Annual Meeting and ophthalmologists globally who have died from COVID-19.

6. President's Report / Rapport de la présidente – Yvonne M. Buys, MD, FRCSC

Dr. Yvonne Buys delivered her report as President of the COS highlighting the appointment of Elisabeth Fowler as the new CEO and the impact of drug shortages and the COS' response (see 2019 Annual Report).

Dr Buys also addressed the impact COVID-19 has had on the COS, reassuring members that the COS remains strong and emphasized that COS met the challenge by being nimble, relevant, anticipatory, and responsive to the needs of members.

In response to COVID-19, COS collaborated with subspecialty societies and ACUPO to create many made-in-Canada COVID related guidance documents; relied on the Practice Resource Centre to house these documents; developed the "Path to a New Vision" webinar series which covered a variety of COVID related topics; with the support of two grants provided 1200 slit lamp breath shields at no cost to members; and pivoted to a virtual Annual Meeting.

7. Executive Director and CEO Report / Rapport de la directrice générale et chef de la direction – Elisabeth Fowler, MBA

Elisabeth Fowler presented her first report as Executive Director/CEO of COS (see 2019 Annual Report). She shared the vision for each of the five pillars of the COS Strategic plan for 2020-2025.

**8. Report from the Nominating Committee / Rapport du Comité des mises en candidature –
Guillermo Rocha, MD, FRCSC, FACS**

Dr. Guillermo Rocha, Chair of the Nominating Committee, presented his report. Dr. Rocha mentioned that the COS released a call for nominations in January for the position of Chair, Council on Continuing Professional Development.

As Dr. Colin Mann's 2nd term as Chair, Council on Continuing Professional Development; Chair Maintenance of Certification Committee expired in June 2020, the Nominating Committee proposed that Dr. Hady Saheb be elected to serve a three-year term as Chair, Council on Continuing Professional Development and Chair, Maintenance of Certification Committee.

Dr. Guillermo Rocha invited other nominations from the floor and, as there were no other nominations from the floor, Dr. Guillermo Rocha **MOTIONED** that Dr. Hady Saheb be elected as Chair, Council on Continuing Professional Development, Chair Maintenance of Certification for a three-year term - 2020-2023. **MOVED** by Dr. Vivian Yin, **SECONDED** by Dr. Bryan Arthurs. **ALL IN FAVOUR.**

Dr. Hady Saheb thanked the membership for the opportunity and invited members to contact him.

9. Awards / Prix et distinctions

Dr. Buys mentioned that the Lifetime Achievement Award for 2020 honouring Dr. Simon Holland would be formally presented at the 2021 Annual Meeting in Ottawa.

Dr. Buys recognized and recounted the accomplishments of Dr. Colin Mann, who is moving out of the role he has held for the last six years, as Chair, Council on Continuing Professional Development, Chair Maintenance of Certification Committee and will be assuming the position of COS President.

10. Other business / Varia

In response to a few questions Dr. Buys reported that the COS is working on plans to expand work in the area of universal pharma care.

Dr. Buys also acknowledged the appointment of Dr. Vivian Yin as the COS representative for the International Council on Ophthalmology (ICO).

Dr. Buys outlined the COS Board of Directors relationship with optometry. She explained that the COS has two meetings a year with the Canadian Association of Optometry, with the Executive Directors meeting monthly to discuss various issues. Both associations have the common goal of vision and eye health of Canadians and will be stronger if we work together. However, COS must decide the boundaries regarding scope of practice.

With regards to racial equality the COS does have a statement and a strong commitment to diversity and inclusivity.

13. Brief Address from the new President / Mot du nouveau président – Colin Mann, MD, FRCSC

Dr. Colin Mann provided a brief address to the membership, thanking Dr. Buys for her leadership, especially over the last four months and congratulating Dr. Saheb on his new position of Chair, Continuing Professional Development. He acknowledged the importance of working with the subspecialties, ACUPO, and the Royal College and hopes to continue to enhance the communications and cooperation with the subspecialty societies and partner organizations.

13. Adjournment / Levée de l'assemblée

There being no other business, Dr. Buys accepted a **MOTION** to adjourn the meeting at 11:54 am. **MOVED** by Dr. Mona Harissi-Dagher; **SECONDED** by Dr. Ralf Buhmann. **ALL IN FAVOUR.**