Canadian Psychological Association
Section on Psychologists in Hospitals and Health Centres (PHHC)
AGM
August 18, 2020
Virtual Meeting – ZOOM

Present: Simone Kortstee (Chair), Stephanie Greenham (Chair-Elect), Sandra Clark (Member-at-Large), Cheryl Nekolaichuk (Member-at-Large), Vincent Santiago (Student Member), Amanda Pontefract (Secretary/Treasurer and Recorder), Sharon Jankey, Kerry Mothersill, Jeff Carter, Marcie Balch, Jaleh Shahin, Constance Oates, Lesley Ruttan

1. Approval of Agenda (Simone Kortstee)
   • Agenda approved as circulated

2. Approval of AGM Minutes, June 2, 2019 (Simone Kortstee)
   • Minutes approved as circulated

3. Chair’s Report (Simone Kortstee)
   • Stephanie Greenham stepping in as Chair
   • PHHC goals/projects for past year
   • Goal 1) to communicate with members who couldn’t attend convention
     o Google Group initiative (Stephanie Greenham)
     o Provides us with capacity for back and forth communication among members
     o Group members can post questions and respond to posts
     o Closed group; If you wish to join, contact Stephanie for a personal invite
     o Some initial success on Google Group related to COVID practice issues that arose
   • Goal 2) Robust 2020 Convention program
Program cancelled, along with in-person Convention

PHHC had arranged an invited speaker session-with Drs. Susan Farrell, VP, Patient Care Services and Community Mental Health, The Royal Ottawa Mental Health Centre and Sylvain Roy- past president of Ontario Psychological Association

“Getting ahead of the curve-evolving with psychology in hospitals and health centres”

Focus was to be on evolving roles of psychologists in hospitals and health centres, how to be actively engaged and at the table

Invited speakers were to be followed by a panel discussion

Intent is to bring it to next year’s event

We will also likely include virtual care challenges in next year’s presentation

PHHC members are welcomed to contribute to these initiatives

4. Secretary – Treasurer’s Report (Amanda Pontefract)

- Treasurer’s report, including, financial statement for 2019 and Budget up to June 2020 circulated, including anticipated budget, current state of budget, since Convention switched to virtual format
- Significant decrease in student memberships as of 2015; associated with introduction of $5 student fee
- The fee was introduced to demonstrate interest/commitment to the Section
- Unclear if $5 is a deterrent, and students should only join if genuinely interested
- Motion introduced by Vincent to remove student fee for this coming year- Seconded by Amanda and approved
- Ideas for spending our surplus encouraged (we have > $7,000)
- Members expressed interest in learning about how psychologists are working with COVID
- College and Provincial association held town halls in Alberta around practice issues with COVID that were very well attended-1,000 attended; taped and stored- accessed by over 2,000 individuals
- Proposal for PHHC to provide virtual town hall on how services have been delivered during COVID
- This would align with PHHC goals, which include support to our membership during COVID, and to strengthen our networks within PHHC section
- We could also allow for written materials to be shared
ACTION: Kerry Mothersill will canvas Alberta College re: costs, and platform
- PHHC could earmark some funds for sustainability, beyond COVID
- Motion passed to approve up to $1,000 towards cost of virtual town hall; these funds already earmarked for 2020 Convention

5. Communications Committee Report (Simone Kortstee)
- Discussed above (see 3., Chairs Report)

6. Leadership and Mentorship Committee Report (Simone Kortstee)
- Little activity in past year, will determine if there is future work to do
- Looking at developing a contact list/communication tool for professional leaders in Psychology
- CPA Professional Affairs Committee looking at hospitals and health centres who employ psychologists
- Amanda is a member of Professional Affairs Committee; she will inform them that PHHC will support/assist in writing letter

7. Student Representative’s Report (Vincent Santiago)
- There were 9 submissions, chose 3 of high quality for symposium; children’s mental health, online self management for young adults, CBT chronic pain intervention for individuals with severe burns
- 2 of student presenters not available to participate in virtual convention, thus symposium cancelled
- Submission process will be done again next year; presenters selected for this year encouraged to resubmit for 2021 Convention
- A note sent to PHHC student members to let them know we were thinking of them, especially students on internship or practicum placements
- Students encouraged to reach out with questions or concerns
- Motion passed to eliminate student Section dues this year (see 4.)

8. Emerging Issues (Simone Kortstee)
- COVID-19 and practice issues- plan for a town hall (see 4.)
- Training- practicum students not coming back everywhere

9. Proposed bylaw changes (Simone Kortstee)
- Some proposed by-law changes to terms of reference related to lengths of term for Chair, Chair-Elect, Past-Chair, and Student Representative were approved at 2017 AGM (Toronto); need to go to CPA Board
• Additional proposal is to add two Members-at-Large to share workload, engage more members in active way, better representation across regions
• We can do our best to fill positions, recognizing that we may not
• We need to focus on the proposed roles so that PHHC Members are clear on what they would do if they take on an PHHC Executive role
• Examples of potential roles include: Communication/newsletter; COVID; Leadership
• Motion passed to add 2 Members-at-Large

10. Election of New Executive Members (Simone Kortstee)
   • Amanda nominated to stay in her position as secretary/treasurer

11. Recognition of Outgoing Executive Members
   • Simone thanked for her contributions in role as PHHC Chair; she will now serve in role as Past-Chair

12. Any Other Business
   • PHHC Executive thanked for their work over the past year

13. Adjournment
   • Motion passed to adjourn meeting at 1:15 p.m.