

13th CWCA/ACCR AGM

Canadian Writing Centres Association/association Canadienne des centres de rédaction

May 29, 2020

Via video conference

- 1. Call to order – 12:18pm**
 - a. Admin via Fladd – about the processes of virtual AGM; tools, etc.
- 2. Adoption of the Agenda of the 13th Annual General Meeting**
 - a. Moved
 - b. Seconded
- 3. Adoption of the Minutes of the 12th Annual General Meeting** of the Canadian Writing Centres Association / Association Canadienne des Centres de Rédaction
 - a. Moved
 - b. Seconded
- 4. President's Report (Sarah King)**
 - a. King acknowledges and thanks the conference committee of 2019/20: Amanda Penny, Vidya Natarajan, Michelle Hartley, Clare Bermingham
 - b. King thanks the board members 2019/20: Sarah King, Clare Bermingham, Heather Fitzgerald, Jordana Garbati, Nadine Fladd, Brian Hotston, Stephanie Bell, Frédérique Offredi, Holly Salmon, Liv Marken
 - c. Recognized people who are leaving the board: Nadine Fladd, Liv Marken, Holly Salmon
 - d. Strategic planning process is still underway; goal is to determine how CWCA can better support CWCA/ACCR members; looking for input from members and future members
 - e. Advocacy – New position statement on writing centres has been drafted; discussion to follow; this will replace 2016 statement put out by CASDW; thanks to Brian Hotson, Stephanie Bell, Holly Salmon, Heather Fitzgerald, Amanda Marshall, Amanda Goldrick Jones
 - f. Launch of CWCR/ACCR blog in January 2020 – Led by Brian Hotson, Stephanie Bell, Liv Marken; blog documents scholarly work of diverse Canadian writing centre community; Sarah highlighted some of the blog posts; highlighted first virtual roundtable chat about online writing contexts
 - g. Recognition of the publication of the special issue of the CJSW/r; Editors are currently working on special issue from Vancouver-Emily Carr; no conference issue for 2020 because there's been no conference and there's a transition of editors of CJSW

- h. Continued collaboration with other organizations (i.e., IWCA, CASDW); IWCA's conference for Vancouver (first non-US conference) has been postponed to 2022; CWCA/ACCR will have a presence there (TBD)
 - i. Next year: finalizing position statement; continue with strategic planning, members are invited to respond to survey; continue to find opportunities for members to share stories/practices/etc.
 - j. Comment from Clare Bermingham – Thanks to Sarah for her leadership and vision during first year of her presidency; Clare recognized Sarah's calmness, patience, openness; highlighted all the projects that Sarah has worked on this year (e.g., Strategic planning, position statement)
- 5. Treasurer's Report (Garbati)**
- a. **Review of the 2019-20 fiscal year-end statements**
 - b. **Vote to waive requirement for audit by public accountant**
- 6. Regional Affiliates' Reports**
- a. **Atlantic Canadian Writing Centres Association (ACWCA)** – Brian Hotson – ACWCA has been inactive this year, hopeful for an activity of some kind in the next 6 months – perhaps virtually; looking forward to welcoming new members; AWELL conference (academic writing and English language learner) – ACWCA was a co-sponsor of this conference
 - b. **British Columbia Writing Centres Association (BCWCA)** – Heather Fitzgerald – planned gathering happened on March 6th, 2020 at Royal Roads (hosted by Theresa Bell); Royal Roads produced the Four Feathers Writing Guide (collaboration between Royal Roads and community Elders) to rethink writing through an Indigenous lens (link: <https://library.royalroads.ca/four-feathers-writing-guide>)
- 7. Business Arising (King)**
- a. **Position Statement on Writing Centres in Canada** – Brian introduced the position statement; he presented purpose of writing centres in Canada; shares position statement for discussion; looked at what is a writing centre, what does it mean to have a writing centre; foundational principles of writing centre; establishing and maintaining writing centres (mission, values – do these align with our institutions); writing tutor preparation, compensation, etc; good to have a unified voice as writing centres in Canada; the document creates our community; Brian requested feedback from members about this position statement; this should be considered a working document as things change over time; Link to Google feedback survey - <https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLScCVI8PHtVimWxqAOIo6v3D3jMkvo21u5SzIR570T-3jjDPqA/viewform> ; The CWCA/ACCR members were put into

breakout groups to discuss the existing statement draft and submit comments through the google doc; the discussion was then opened to the group – Lucie recommended to keep administrators in mind to speak in their language, to give them a global vision of our academic community – include funding, grants, journals, numbers of writing centres, etc.; Stephanie White – decolonization, anti-racism, indigenization to be integrated more; chat included discussion of writing centre physical spaces; Kathy Block – build connection between writing and learning

b. **Open forum for members**

8. Conference Update (Birmingham)

- a. Clare Bermingham provided an update: 2021 conference will be hosted in London, Ontario by King’s University College and Huron University College; theme and accepted proposals to carry over from 2020 conference; 2021 conference will separate from Congress location for one year (a trial to understand implications of the shift in location); remote locations to be available; date is TBD (likely May or June 2021)

9. New Business – no new business

10. Elections (King)

- a. Secretary – no nominations came through prior to the AGM; Hotson self-nominated during the AGM, introduced himself and background; **elected**
- b. Francophone representative – Frédérique Offredi acknowledged that she’s been getting to know how CWCA works and what the francophone writing centres look like; she wants to bring the results of some of her research to the board in the fall; **elected**
- c. Member-at-Large (x2) – three candidates; each elaborated on their statements; Jenna Goddard and Stephanie White – **elected**; discussion about having three members at large; board members did not object to having three members, so Holly Salmon was also **elected**
- d. Non-elections Note: Lucie thanked people who participated with IWCA; she will be the chair for Vancouver 2022; IWCA conference in Baltimore in 2021

11. Adjournment – Goddard motioned and Sheri seconded – meeting adjourned at 2:07 pm