**MINUTES**

**ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING – CANADIAN SOCIETY FOR AESTHETIC PLASTIC SURGERY**

**Saturday, October 5th, 2019**

**Vancouver, BC**

**IN ATTENDANCE:** Dr. Mathew Mosher, Dr. Peter Lennox, Dr. Richard Bendor-Samuel, Dr. Scott Barr, Dr. Nancy Van Laeken, Dr. Earl Campbell, Dr. Phil Barnsley, Dr. Haemi Lee, Dr. Marilena Marignani, Dr. Peter Chang, Dr. Trefor Nodwell, Dr. Rob Shenker, Dr. Brent Howley, Dr. Bruno Mastropasqua, Dr. Hugh McLean, Dr. Geethan Chandran, Dr. Stan Valnicek, Dr. Ben Gelfant, Dr. Richard Robinson, Dr. Greg Waslen, Dr. Sandy Pritchard, Dr. Owen Reid, Dr. Brian Peterson, Dr. Eric Bensimon, Dr. Jamil Ahmad, Dr. Kirsten Westberg, Dr. Nick Carr, Dr. Richard Warren, Tara Hewitt

1. **Call to order by President** – Dr. Richard Bendor-Samuel
2. **Motion to approve agenda.**

Motion made by Dr. Peterson, seconded by Dr. Marignani. Motion passed.

1. **Business arising from the minutes of AGM 2018.**

* Fostered communication with CSPS
  + Communication with HC regarding implants – CSAPS and CSPS met on a number of occasions with Health Canada and discussed there needed to be logic behind decisions with respect to textured implants. We provided guidance through our societies and its members. Canada was at forefront of international discussions. HC is asking questions and asking for advice on setting up some form of registry. Who will pay for registry and who could run it. For now the Canadian Government has not offered to fund such a project. Working group of breast surgeons both in CSAPS and CSPS.
* HC wanted to pull PRP and stem cells off market – letter went out requesting no longer be used. Dr. Barr resolved issued in 24 hours. Letter went out with restrictions to be aware of but permitted continued use.
* This year’s meeting, raised pricing for exhibitors, still sold out. $1,000 extra raised per exhibit and increased Diamond sponsorship to $33,000. Raised non-member registration fees but not member fees. Adds some appeal to becoming member. 10 new members signed at some of which signed up at least partially because of this.
* CSAPS Symposium – Registration and attendance was a great success this year – look to do again next year in Toronto.
* Two female invited surgeons this year – continue to look for great surgeons in future.
* Gala – looking to make it fun. Looking for ways to increase participation – did survey to find out opinions. One thought is to alternate with formal venue one year and then something fun the next year to maintain some tradition yet still appeal to both older and younger members. Speakers from outside the profession are well received by several of the respondents of the surgery. Having it on Friday is not ideal – we lose Saturday night room rentals and CSAPS ends up paying penalty costs which can be substantial. Also easier to travel home on Saturday night from the east compared to flying west on account of time differences which do not affect travel in the opposite direction. Meeting space is free if you meet certain room numbers. After that, it’s a sliding scale for fees and percentage of rooms used of guarantee. Sometimes missing by 2-3 room nights costs thousands. This needs to be better managed by our hired meeting arrangers. Also need to keep exhibitors as well as they represent a lot of the rooms. Early check-outs aren’t known until the following day and this may be one reason that our managers are unable to prevent overage costs and penalties.
* $50 Gala fee is to encourage people to actually attend.
* Resident Bursary program – no response this year from Program Directors. They were all sent letters and contacted. Local residents come for free. Those from cities that never host a CSAPS meeting get a bursary on alternate years. Perhaps a better way to communicate? CSAPS cannot communicate directly with Residents. Bursary is paid out to program, and then rely on them to pay it to Resident. Perhaps have a phone call to program director? Dr. Barr will personally write letters to all Program Directors try encourage their residents to attend.
* Video Library – videos have been tagged from 2018 and are set to be uploaded. This year’s will be tagged by Parliamentarian and will go up faster. Do we need to maintain raw data from all years and libraries? Some videos don’t have audio – no point of sending moderator to provide commentary if there is no audio on video. The editing process is enormously challenging – getting speaker response and videos in a timely manner is difficult. Going to clarify the expectations going forward for the invited surgeons and the video editing responsibilities.. It’s a big time commitment to ask of guest speakers and we don’t want to deter them from coming.
* Next year Lucie Champagne will be taking over meeting planning duties from Dave Shaw
* David Shaw was thanked for the many years that he has provided expertise to CSAPS and it’s members.

1. **Motion to approve** **minutes of AGM 2018.**

Motion made by Dr. Gelfant, seconded by Dr. Ahmad. Motion passed.

1. **President’s Report** – Dr. Richard Bendor-Samuel:

It was great privilege and honour to represent this organization over the past number of years. I have met some wonderful people and I have had the distinct pleasure to have worked with an executive that was there to assist whenever asked.

This year was one that started off in a fashion that I could not have anticipated when I accepted the position on the CSAPS executive 5 years ago. It was a very busy year to say the least. There are pros and cons to being president in a year fraught by frequent crises but the pros outweighed the cons when I look back at the accomplishments that our Society achieved over the past twelve months.

I believe that CSAPS and CSPS have fostered a stronger relationship and in many ways a friendship which is appropriate as many of our members are also CSPS members. If we look across the border we see two plastic surgery societies becoming more divergent and competitive. Thankfully this is not the case in Canada. A special thank you goes out from me to Rob Harrop, whom I worked with many evenings and weekends to deal with breast implant related issues. Bing Gan has now taken over as CSPS president and has also been a great ally and he and Dr. Harrop will continue to work with Dr. Barr in the coming year.

Early in November of 2018 the consortium of journalists presented a series of news stories about implantable devices which included breast implants. As is often the case, news can be sensationalistic. The fall out of this consumed much of my time over the past year. Numerous meetings with Health Canada were held and I believe that Canada acted appropriately and as a leader on the world stage when dealing with the information presented to them with regards to textured breast implants. Together with Rob Harrop the president of CSPS and a working group of plastic surgeons from both societies we sent a number of letters to our membership and to Health Canada. I had numerous conferences with Health Canada advisory boards throughout this past twelve months. Health Canada listened to views that we offered and as a result we were able to maintain a logical response to the risk posed by textured implants. Canada acted ahead of the USA in the ban of Biocell Implants and CSAPS has fostered a good working relationship with Health Canada who is willing to work with us and listen to plastic surgeons as we move forward with the issue of BIA-ALCL and BII. Furthermore, Health Canada is open to discussing a registry and this will be something that will need to be acted upon over the next few years. Unfortunately, the next item of concern is Breast Implant Illness and we are working with Health Canada to try to make sense of this condition and to present it with scientific evidence and facts. I am grateful to Scott Barr who will take over as president and I know that he will continue to forge a positive pathway forward.

During this past year we also had to deal with Health Canada with respect to stem cells and Platelet Rich Plasma. A number of physicians in Canada received letters from HC warning of consequences if physicians continued to provide this service. Dr. Barr was instrumental in turning this issue around and the HC decision to ban PRP was promptly reversed. Everyone should have received a number of letters from our society pertaining to this and to breast implant issues.

During the past year the executive looked to improve our balance sheet and we made what was thought by some to be a rather bold move, significantly increasing exhibitor registration fees along with increasing non-member registration fees. We re-designed the physician fee structure for our annual meeting not with a goal of increasing revenue, rather to show the value that our society offers to members. Non-member registration fees were increased and a small fee was added for the Saturday dinner event. I am optimistic that our meeting registration will continue to grow as it did this year with the addition of ten new members. I am also optimistic that this year’s meeting will be in the black financially which is often difficult at the Vancouver meeting. We sold more exhibitor booths than we had available and one exhibitor hosted an excellent offsite cocktail party on the evening prior to the commencement of the CSAPS meeting.

This year we opted to have our second ISAPS symposium keeping the costs in check by using many of our CSAPS visiting surgeons present other topics that they don’t often speak on at the ISAPS symposium. The symposium was a great success and we more than doubled our previous ISAPS symposium registration number.

We had the most successful Women In Plastic Surgery session to date with a great presentation by Dr. Perry Gdalevitch and we had two exceptional female plastic surgeons demonstrate their surgical refinements on the podium at our CSAPS annual meeting. The Executive Committee is doing its best to improve the gender divide in our field. Dr. Cadena and Dr. Botti presented masterfully as did our other presenters. I am optimistic that CSAPS can encourage more female plastic surgeons to attend our meeting and join our society. The Executive plans to move forward with further initiatives in the coming years with the goal to decrease the gender divide. Dr. Barr has already taken steps towards this end at next year’s Toronto meeting.

This year, another goal of the executive was to try to increase the fun-factor at the CSAPS social events. We started this idea last year in Montreal and we again tried to entice everyone to come to the Saturday evening event which we have re-branded the CSAPS Gala. It was a great success and this could not have been possible without the aid of Lucie Champagne and her company who will also be running next year’s entire meeting. This year we placed a small charge on dinner tickets, not as a revenue source but rather as a means of trying to get people to commit to coming and not just ticking off the box at the time of registration. In past years we have had an enormous amount of food waste and added expenses as only about 60-70% of members and exhibitors attended even though they marked their intentions to attend at the time of registration. We are hopeful that this, along with choosing a menu item in advance will lessen food waste and help balance our books. The Saturday evening was fun for all that attended and the comments from exhibitors and members were all positive. The goal of this event is to try to entice younger members and attendees to consider CSAPS as a valuable and fun organization. We need to maintain our numbers and ideally grow them to remain viable.

Our resident bursary program is in its second year and was well utilized by plastic surgery programs last year but programs did not take advantage of it this year so we will try to improve this for next year by reaching out to the various University Program Directors.

Last year we completely moved over from our previous Apple based video library to one that is accessible on Android and Apple devices. The move has been positive and has saved the society a considerable amount of money with no downsides. I encourage everyone to take advantage of the library.

We continue to have a good working relationship with ASAPS and they continue to offer CSAPS the benefit of an annual ASAPS travelling professor. This years’ guest surgeon was Dr. Dan Del Vecchio. Our members also have the benefit of reduced rates on the Journal of Aesthetic Surgery and simplified applications for ASAPS membership.

My report would be remiss without thanking Tara who worked hard to keep up with the many changes that we asked of her this year. Change is never easy and I appreciate her hard work on behalf of the society. Lastly, I would like to thank Dave Shaw and Intravel, who for the past 17 years worked for CSAPS to provide the meeting structure and organization of our annual conferences. In 2018 we hired Champagne Events to aid in a small part of the meeting and this year we asked Lucie Champagne to take on a larger role. Next year will see Champagne Events manage the entire meeting. I sincerely hope that everyone has enjoyed the changes and will continue to see CSAPS as the best plastic surgery society to be a part of anywhere in the world.

1. **Vice-President’s Report** – Dr. Scott Barr

* The CSAPS 2020 meeting will be at Hotel X in 2020. CSAPS has secured a great rate. It is a new boutique hotel with lots of amenities.
* There is an excellent space for exhibitors – we will continue with the same rates but may increase the number of categories (with different rates and more benefits) as this year.
* If there are any ideas or Plastic surgeons the membership would like as speakers for next year we would be interested in the membership’s input. We have one speaker committed. Please pass any ideas on to Dr. Barr.
* We are looking at different options / timing for the cocktail party and the Gala event. We are also looking to provide an event that would be more appealing for senior members. We have looked at getting sponsorship for the social event on Friday sponsored, but there may be some issues.
* During the presentations, we are looking to provide an app / link through our attendees smart phones so attendees can text questions to the moderator of the session. Moderator could facilitate the order the questions are asked of the presenter and stop the interruptions during important sections of the surgical video.
* Another option we are looking at is a “Past Presidents” and senior members luncheon or Dinner after the cocktail party on the Friday evening. This would be nice to acknowledge all our past presidents.
* Format for next year – non-surgical symposium on the Thursday (appeals to younger surgeons and some of our older plastic surgeon’s staff members). We acknowledge that it may not appeal to everyone. Fri/Sat meeting will follow similar format to other meetings. Sunday hoping to do mentorship session again (if it is well received this year).
* We are also looking at other content for Sunday morning including possible training on the management of social media.
* We have committed to and are looking forward to a panel about issues facing female plastic surgeons.

1. **Secretary’s Report** – Dr. Mathew Mosher:

Candidate Associate Member applications received (approved by Board):

Dr. Marie Noland Halifax, NS Sponsors: Dr. Jamil Ahmad / Dr. Frank Lista

Dr. Vishal Sharma Ajax, ON Sponsors: Dr. Alex Golger / Dr. Asif Pirani

Dr. Jill Stone Kelowna, BC Sponsors: Dr. Brian Peterson / Dr. David Williamson

Full Member – application to be voted and approved by membership:

Dr. Frederic ArsenaultQuebec, QC Sponsors: Dr. Daniel Guberman / Dr. Eric Bensimon

Dr. Arie Benchetrit Pointe-Claire, QC Sponsors: Dr. Mathew Mosher / Dr. Eric Bensimon

Dr. Perry Gdalevitch Mount Royal, QC Sponsors: Dr. Sandra McGill / Dr. Ezat Hashim

Dr. Lisa Korus Edmonton, AB Sponsors: Dr. Jonathan Toy / Dr. James Wolfli

Dr. Adil Ladak Edmonton, AB Sponsors: Dr. Stan Valnicek / Dr. Brian Peterson

Dr. Mathew Plant Toronto, ON Sponsors: Dr. Cory Goldberg / Dr. Ronald Levine

Dr. Benoit Theriault Montreal, QC Sponsors: Dr. Celine Roberge / Dr. Livia Montalin

Dr. Margaret Wheelock Halifax, NS Sponsors: Dr. Avinash Islur / Dr. Richard Bendor-Samuel

Dr. Colin White Vancouver, BC Sponsors: Dr. Ross Horton / Dr. Nicholas Carr

Dr. Jason Williams Halifax, NS Sponsors: Dr. Phil Barnsley / Dr. Asif Pirani

* 10 full member applications – no objections

**Motion to Approve**

Motion made by Dr. Bendor-Samuel, seconded by Dr. Gelfant. Motion passed.

1. **Treasurer’s Report** – Dr. Mathew Mosher: Year-End Financials attached.

* Lost about $40-50k last year. Some additional costs for Gala, revenues from mix of attendees (nurses pay less, for example), no symposium last year, fees had not been raised in a long time. 3 years ago in Vancouver, meeting was not profitable. Early reports for this year looks like we’ve changed that.
* Current year end is June 30 – looking at financials does not give a good snapshot of meeting. Most revenues come in at time of meeting and expenses come at different times. Suggest to move year end to December 31, small monetary cost to do so (accounting fees). Might make more relevant. Would involve a by-law change. Possibly have to have an interim AGM during the switch over time. Need to clarify need for that.
* Look to track meeting financials separately, aside from regular society matters.
* PR expenses are mainly Tara’s travel to third party meetings (ASAPS, U of T, CSPS). Website serves as some PR. Spend some money on SEO or something on Google? Don’t know traffic on our website. CSAPS does not have the budget or assets to support that. Cannot compare to ASAPS as they have much more competition.
* Suggestion to have Instagram presence. Organically increase followers with very little effort and cost. Easy to set up.

**Motion to approve**

Motion made by Dr. Carr, seconded by Dr. Barr. Motion passed.

**Motion to appoint MNP as Auditors for the coming year**

Motion made by Dr. Shenker, seconded by Dr. Lennox. Motion passed.

1. **Historian’s Report** – Dr. Nancy Van Laeken

* Three individuals passed this year
* Dr. Les Chasmar and Dr. Bruce Connell – spoken to by Dr. Mosher:
  + Both individuals have had great influence on many members in the Society.
  + Dr. Connell – born in Detroit in 1927, grew up in Alabama. Southern influence and gentleman, very formal with patients. After high school he was drafted to US Army, toured in Italy. Honourable discharge and then went to Pharmacy school. Went to Buffalo for med school, surgery training in LA, PS training at Mayo Clinic. Settled in Orange County in 1958. Lived in Laguna for more than 50 years. He loved the Canadian society, he was President in 1991. Perhaps only non-Canadian President. September 16th he passed away, he retired at the age of 85. Will certainly be missed.
  + Dr. Chasmar – born in Saskatchewan, started in retail industry. WWII went into RCAF, no active duty. Went to McGill for his MD in 1951. Training in Montreal and Toronto, graduated in 1956 with fellowship in PS. One of few Canadian born program director founders. CSPS lifetime achievement in 2007, honoured guest in 2016 at the age of 93 in Toronto. He always had something on the go. He will be sadly missed.
* Dr. Winston Parkhill – Dr. Bendor-Samuel spoke:
  + Passed away in January. Professor of PS at Dalhousie, born in 1942, very well respected. He graduated from Dal in 1968, studied at U of T, practiced all his life in Halifax. Amazing career and 5 kids. Secret of his success was you must have ability, availability and affability. He embodied all of those. Great teacher and very dedicated and passionate, touched many people’s lives. Greatly missed.
  + A moment of silence was held in honour of all three individuals.
* Dr. Warren suggested that a letter be sent to Tim Martin with CSAPS’ condolences, pointing out significance that he was the only non-Canadian CSAPS President. Dr. Mosher to draft something.

1. **Parliamentarian’s Report** – Dr. Charles Guertin

* - nothing to report – Dr. Guertin was unable to attend due to some family issues.

11. Committee Reports:

**Ethics /Judicial** – Dr. Scott Barr – no issues this year

**Nominating –** Dr. Peter Lennox (Chair):

Proposed slate for new executive: President Dr. Scott Barr

Vice-President Dr. Mathew Mosher

Secretary/Treasurer Dr. Nancy Van Laeken

Historian Dr. Charles Guertin

Parliamentarian Dr. Jamil Ahmad

**Motion to approve**

Motion made by Dr. Pritchard, seconded by Dr. Shenker. Motion passed.

12. **New Business**

* No vetting process for Candidate members – we rely on sponsors that they have good knowledge of who they are sponsoring. Do we need to have some rules or outlines for sponsors? Sponsors have their name associated with applicants, which indicates they are comfortable putting their name forward.
  + Sponsors may feel pressure to say yes or puts them in an uncomfortable position to decline request. Suggest guidelines – have worked with them clinically, for a certain amount of time, etc.
  + Do we need to remind sponsors of their responsibilities to properly consider sponsorship requests?
  + Suggestion to have east and west person on selection committee who assist with vetting for broader perspective. Historian could have responsibility to contact sponsors and vet as well.
* Should CSAPS vote on Candidate members? Would involve a by-law change.
  + Candidates can market themselves as candidates for CSAPS membership – very few have been denied Full membership
  + Candidate category was established so that Full members could get to know them at meetings, etc. before they applied for full membership.
  + Is 5 years too long to be a Candidate? Would need to be vetted even more if it was less time perhaps.
  + 2-3 years might be enough?

13. **Future Meetings:** 2020 – Toronto, October 2-3, 2020

Oct 1 symposium, Oct 4 sessions

2021 – Montreal, Date TBD

* Need to work 2021 around holidays and meetings

**14**. **Motion for Adjournment**

Motion made by Dr. Nodwell, seconded by Dr. Campbell. Motion approved.