

**The Canadian Society of Plant Physiologists Incorporated
La Société Canadienne de Physiologie Végétale Incorporée**

(CSPP/SCPV Incorporated)

MINUTES

Annual Business Meeting

Delta Bessborough Hotel, Saskatoon, SK

4:30 pm Tuesday, June 22, 1999

Call to order

President **Carol Peterson** called the meeting to order at 4:32 pm. She noted that all members, full and student, were free to vote and speak to all motions of the corporation.

Secretary **David Gifford** reported that the notice of the meeting had been sent to all members via the electronic Bulletin on March 29, 1999, and that there was a quorum present of 54 representing 40 members in attendance and 14 by proxy.

Members present

John Greenwood, Carol Peterson, Raymond Cummins, Bernard Grodzinski, Santosh Misra, George Espie, Edwin Cossins, Jas Singh, Barbara Moffatt, Brian Colman, Deep Saini, Pat Covelle, Harold Weger, Jocelyn Ozga, Don Smith, Hank Bestman, Fengshan Ma, Jeff Taylor, Karen Tanino, John Mahon, Joan Krochko, Magid Fallahi, Wilf Keller, Malcolm Devine, Gordon McIntyre, David Pearce, Ning Zhou, Carl Douglas, Norm Huner, Rob Ireland, Rob Guy, George Haughn, Allen Good, Peter Constabel, Peta Bonham-Smith, Gregory Taylor, Eduardo Blumwald, Stuart Rood, Marc Fortin, David Gifford.

Proxies held by Secretary

Mary Spencer, Bruce Buttler, Paul Gorham, Barry Shelp, William Parker, Martin Gibbs, David Gauthier, Ron Poole, Chris Hawkins,

Proxies held by Carol Peterson

Ewa Cholewa, Anthony Little

Proxies held by Barbara Moffatt

Peter Summers, Frederique Guinel, Elizabeth W ereti lnyk

Agenda

*A motion to accept the agenda was proposed by **Singh**, seconded by **Smith**. Carried*

Minutes

*A motion to accept the minutes of the 1998 Annual Business Meeting of CSPP/SCPV Inc. held at Montreal was proposed by **Cummins**, seconded by **Huner**. Carried*

There were no matters arising from the minutes

Reports

a. President

Peterson reported that the Society was in excellent health both mentally and fiscally; she thanked **Cummins** and **Woodrow** on behalf of the Membership for their respective efforts as Treasurer, and Bulletin Editor. She noted that the 1999 Directory would be in the mail soon; it would include the names of the 1999/2000 Executive and those new Society members recruited at this meeting.

Peterson thanked **Iain Taylor** for his efforts in getting the "Plant Canada" initiative off the ground. She asked the Membership to read Taylor's report and to provide feedback to the Executive by September 30, 1999. She said that the Plant Canada committee's goal was to get the Federation in place by the 2000

annual meeting of the Society. She reminded the Membership that at the inaugural meeting of the Federation in 2000, two representatives and two members-at-large would have to be elected from the Society membership. She encourages the Membership to send names of prospective nominees for these positions to her by December 31, 1999. She said there would be a ratifying vote at the inaugural meeting of the Federation to allow the new Directors to begin operations. She also said that while the CSPP and CBA were founder members of the new Federation, she would invite representatives from other Canadian plant societies to observe the proceedings at the London meeting.

b. Treasurer

Cummins echoed **Peterson's** statement that the Society was in good financial shape. He said that current investments were stable but were possibly somewhat committed, the Society may need to rethink its investment portfolio in the near future.

Cummins noted that membership figures were on the rise. He said he had adopted a personalized approach to recruiting potential new members, which had proved successful. As of January 1999 a Visa account had been initiated for dues payment; since that time 47% of renewals had been via Visa.

Cummins said the Society should encourage donations from the Membership. In relation to this, he mentioned an endowment life insurance policy taken out by one of our Members that involves a pledge of monies to the Society in excess of \$500,000. He noted that the Executive had set up a committee of trustees to administer this fund when it become available.

Peterson commended **Cummins** again on an outstanding job as Treasurer.

i. Member Auditors

Gifford thanked **Cummins** on behalf of **Shelp** and **Guinel** for an excellent job preparing the financial statements, which they signed.

c. Eastern Regional Director

Espie reported that the 1998 Eastern Regional Meeting hosted by the University of Toronto was very successful attracting 115 attendees. The 1999 Eastern Regional Meeting would be held at Kingston, ON hosted by Queens University with **Layzell** and **Plaxton** as organizers.

Espie said that despite a vigorous letter campaign he had achieved a less than 1% success rate in getting people to attend the Society meetings as members. Most of his success was in Ontario; he expressed concern that the Society had few Quebec and Maritime members.

Espie reported that 7 travel awards of \$300 each were given to students to attend the Saskatoon meeting. He commented that the response to the award advertisements was poor, only 14 students applied. All successful applicants were from Ontario. He was again concerned at the lack of student applicants from Quebec and the Maritimes.

d. Western Regional Director

Ozga confirmed that there would be a Western Regional Meeting in 2000; it would be held in Edmonton, AB in late April or early May.

e. Meeting Site Committee

Colman thanked his fellow committee members, **Guinel**, **Saini** and **Thompson** for their efforts over the past year. He said the 2000 joint annual meeting with the CBA would be held June 24-27 in London, ON; **Huner** of Univ. of Western Ontario is the CSPP organizing committee chair. **Huner** reported that there would be a joint CSPP/CBA symposia as well as individual symposia for each Society.

Colman said the 2001 joint annual meeting with the ASPP would be held in Providence, RI, July 26-August 1. He said that the 2002 meeting should be held in Western Canada, but that an invitation to meet had not yet been received by the Society. He noted that the next joint meeting of the Society with ASPP will be in 2005, Montreal was a possible site.

f. Nominations Committee

Cossins thanked his fellow committee members, **Colman** and **Weretilnyk**, and all those who provided suggestions for the various positions. He presented the following list of nominations for Society officers:

Position/Committee Membership	Nominee	Term Ends
Vice-President	Fathey Sarhan	2001
Secretary	Deep Saini	2002

Eastem Region Director	George Espie	2001
Senior Director	David Gifford	2001
Science Policy Officer	Marc Fortin	2000
Bulletin Editor	Lorna Woodrow	2001
Auditors	Barry Shelp	2000
	Frederique Guinel	2000
Meeting Site Committee	Brian Colman (Chair)	2000
	Frederique Guinel	2001
Nominating Committee	David Gifford (Chair)	2001
	Lorna Woodrow	2000
Communications Committee	Lorna Woodrow (Chair)	2001
	Mike Stasiak	2001
Medal Committee	Bernie Grodzinski	2002
C.D.Nelson Committee	Kevin Vessey	2001
Tree Physiology Award Committee	Brian Ellis	2001
Education Committee	Doug Bruce	2001

Peterson asked if there were other nominations from the floor. **Blumwald** proposed **Huner** for the position of Vice-President, seconded by **Grodzinski**.

A motion to accept the slate of nominees with the exception of the position of Vice-President was proposed by Greenwood, seconded by Ireland. Carried

A motion to vote on the position of Vice-President was proposed by Blumwald, seconded by Grodzinski

The vote was 31 in favor of **Huner**, 20 in favor of **Sarhan**, 3 abstentions. **Huner** was declared elected as Vice-President.

A new name for the Society

Peterson said the idea of changing the name of the Society has surfaced in past. With the disbanding of the CSPMB this idea has surfaced again. **Fortin** suggested the Society's name be changed to Canadian Society of Plant Physiologists and Molecular Biologists. He felt that this name better reflected the current activities of most CSPP members. **Weger** suggested Canadian Society of Plant Biologists as a possibility. He felt that this name would help promote the field of plant biology in Canada. **Blumwald** agreed with this view, as did **Rood** who felt that more members would be attracted to a society with a broader based name.

Cummins felt that if the Society were to adopt a new name it should be one that would attract the most members. **Taylor** felt that a name based upon Plant Biology was too broad based. **Saini** pointed out that the current membership of the CSPP included many who use plant molecular biology in their research; given this he wondered if there really was a need to change the name of the Society?

At the end of this discussion a straw vote of the Members present was taken; a clear majority favored a name change to Canadian Society of Plant Biologists.

Auditors

A motion to retain the current auditors and to empower Cummins to fix the auditors' remuneration was proposed by Greenwood, seconded by Good. Carried.

The following motion, previously passed by the Executive, that *the Society Auditors are permitted to seek professional help, should the need arise during their tenure*, was endorsed by the Membership:

Emeritus Membership

A motion to elect Professor Ken Kasha as an emeritus member of CSPP/SCPV was proposed by Cummins, seconded by Rood. Carried.

Other Business

Blumwald felt that the Society should strike a committee to deal with political and lobbying issues concerning plant biology and biotechnology. Taylor thought this a good idea and felt that the Executive should look in to this.

A motion to empower the Executive to establish a committee to deal with political and lobbying issues concerning plant biology and biotechnology was proposed by Taylor, seconded by Ellis. Carried.

Adjournment

A motion to adjourn the meeting was proposed by Singh, seconded by Espie. Carried

The meeting was adjourned at 6:00 pm.

Carol A. Peterson
President

David J. Gifford
Secretary

**The Canadian Society of Plant Physiologists Incorporated
La Société Canadienne de Physiologie Végétale Incorporée**

(CSPP/SCPV Charity)

MINUTES

Annual Business Meeting

Delta Bessborough Hotel, Saskatoon, SK

6:00 pm Tuesday, June 22, 1999

Call to order

President **Carol Peterson** called the meeting to order at 6:05 pm. She noted that all members, full and student, were free to vote and speak to all motions of the corporation.

Secretary **David Gifford** reported that the notice of the meeting had been sent to all members via the electronic Bulletin on March 29, 1999, and that there was a quorum present of 54 representing 40 members in attendance and 14 by proxy.

Members present

John Greenwood, Carol Peterson, Raymond Cummins, Bernard Grodzinski, Santosh Misra, George Espie, Edw in Cossins, Jas Singh, Barbara Moffatt, Brian Colman, Deep Saini, Pat C ovelle, Harold Weger, Jocelyn Ozga, Don Smith, Hank Bestman, Fengshan Ma, Jeff Taylor, Karen Tanino, John Mahon, Joan Krochko, Magid Fallahi, Wilf Keller, Malcome Devine, Gordon McIntyre, David Pearce, Ning Zhou, Carl Douglas, Norm Huner, Rob Ireland, Rob Guy, George Haughn, Allen Good, Peter Constabel, Peta Bonham-Smith, Gregory Taylor, Eduardo Blumwald, Stuart Rood, Marc Fortin, David Gifford.

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Proxies held by Carol Peterson

Ewa Cholewa, Anthony Little

Proxies held by Barbara Moffatt

Peter Summers, Frederique Guinel, Elizabeth W ereti lnyk

Agenda

*A motion to accept the agenda was proposed by **Blumwald**, seconded by **Smith**. **Cummins***

Minutes

*A motion to accept the minutes of the 1998 Annual Business Meeting of CSPP/SCPV Charity. held at Montreal was proposed by **Cummins**, seconded by **Greenwood**. **Carried***

There were no matters arising from the minutes

Change of By-Law 2: Membership

Re: notice of motion to add a new section, designated (i) that deals with life membership in the Society. This section shall read as follows:

- i) By a majority vote at an annual meeting, the members may name a life member.

Such a member will henceforth no longer be required to pay annual membership dues and will stay on the rolls during his or her natural lifetime or until the member resigns. It is expected that this great honour will be bestowed on very few individuals.

*Motion for the change moved by **Cummins**; Seconded by **Greenwood**. **Carried***

*A motion to accept the current Directors of CSPP/SCPV Incorporated as Directors of CSPP/SCPV Charity was proposed by **Cummins**, seconded by **Blumwald**. **Carried***

Passing the gavel

In recognition to his election as the new Society President, Past President **Peterson** passed the gavel on to President **Taylor**

*A motion to thank the outgoing Officers and Directors of the Society was proposed by **Taylor**, seconded by **Greenwood**. **Carried***

*A motion to thank the **Keller** and his organization committee for their efforts in putting on a very successful 1999 annual meeting was proposed by **Taylor**, seconded by **Peterson**. **Carried***

Adjournment

*A motion to adjourn the meeting was proposed by **Rood**, seconded by **Smith**. **Carried***

The meeting was adjourned at 6:35 p.m.

Gregory J. Taylor
President

David J. Gifford
Secretary