

**MINUTES**  
**of a**  
**Meeting of the BC Assayers Certification Program Council of Advisors**  
**held at the**  
**BCIT Campus, Room 166, South West 2 Building,**  
**3700 Willingdon Ave., Burnaby, B.C.**  
**on**  
**April 27<sup>th</sup>, 2001, 1.40 P.M.**

***Present:***

|                       |  |
|-----------------------|--|
| Manzur (Mac) Chaudhry | Victoria                                     |
| Rob Stevens           | BCIT, Burnaby                                |
| John Gravel           | ACME Analytical Labs, Vancouver              |
| Keith Rogers          | Bondar Clegg Ltd., Vancouver                 |
| Ray Lett (Secretary)  | GSB, BC Ministry of Energy & Mines Victoria. |
| Jim McLeod            | Cominco Research Labs, Vancouver             |
| Lloyd Twaites (Chair) | Bernica Ltd., Vancouver                      |
| Elaine Woo            | BC Institute of Technology, Burnaby          |
| Lawrence Ng           | ALS Chemex Ltd, Vancouver                    |
| Keith Errington       | BCIT, Burnaby                                |
| Ron Smyth             | GSB, BC Ministry of Energy & Mines Victoria  |
| Ms. Terry Suen        | BCIT, Burnaby                                |

**1. Welcome and Introduction Remarks**

Lloyd - Meeting called to order at 1.40 p.m., Welcome to those present. No additions to the Agenda or changes to the October 20<sup>th</sup>, 2000 Assayers Council Meeting Minutes.

**2. Approval of October 20<sup>th</sup>, 2000 Assayers Advisory Council Meeting Minutes and Agenda for the April 27<sup>th</sup> 2001 Meeting:**

*Proposed (Keith Errington) and seconded (Jim McLeod) that the Minutes of the October 20<sup>th</sup>, 2000 Assayers Advisory Council Meeting and the April 27<sup>th</sup>, 2001 Advisory Council Meeting Agenda be accepted. Accepted.*

**3. Status of Action Items from October 20<sup>th</sup>, 2000 Meeting:**

**3.1 Assayers Council Logo Design**

John Gravel - Proposed Council logo design (Assay Scales on B.C. map) distributed to members for comments. Logo design approved and to be added program web page.

*Action: John Gravel to send digital version of logo design to Elaine Woo for addition to the Assayers Program page on the BCIT Web Site.*

**3.2 Introductory article on the Assayers Program and Council for the Assayers Program web site (Lloyd Twaites, Elaine Woo)**

Lloyd - Working with BCIT staff to improve program web page. Members should review improvements including:

- a) Addition of Anachemia logo. Bico, CANMET and new Assayers Program logos to be added soon.

- b) Several member address changes. Future changes should be emailed to Terry Suen
- c) Message from Assayers Council Chair
- d) Links to other relevant sites (e.g. BC Ministry Energy & Mines).

### **3.3 Northern Miner Article (Lloyd Twaites, Elaine Woo)**

Lloyd – Draft of article on the Assayers Program written for publication in the Northern Miner.

Ron Smyth – Group photo of Council members would add benefit to the article (photo taken by BCIT staff during meeting).

Lloyd - Photo could also be used on T-shirt promoting program.

### **3.4 Assayers Examination Test Material Preparation (Mac Chaudhry)**

Lawrence Ng – Preparation of a series of Ca, Mg and Hg-rich test samples is almost complete. Sample consist of 10 lots each 25 kg. Homogeneity of samples could be improved by screening material.

Mac – Advise that size fraction analysis should be made before screening.

Jim McLeod – Will contact Louie DeRosa (Comino, Trail) to find out progress in preparing As-rich test material.

*Action: Lawrence Ng to complete preparation and initial Round Robin analysis of Ca, Mg and Hg-rich test samples. Jim McLeod to contact Louie De Rosa (Comino, Trail) to find out progress in completing As-rich test samples.*

## **4.0 Review of Issues raised at the October 20<sup>th</sup>, 2000 Meeting**

### **4.1 Proposals Accepted (Lloyd)**

Assayers Council Mission Statement approved

Administration expenses for the examiners chairperson increased and photo copier purchased.

Board of Examiners re-appointed for a 3 year term.

### **4.2 Financial Report (Terry Suen):**

Financial report distributed by Terry. Budget surplus is now \$23,815.71.

Lloyd – Funding assistance requested for the Council Chairpersons administration expenses. Members agreed that administration expenses for the Council Chair can be paid by the program.

Ron Smyth – Some of the present budget surplus could be used to fund initiative for strengthening the program (e.g. conference booth fees, publicity). The program operating cost are typically only \$3000/year.

John Gravel – Part of the budget surplus could also be invested to fund an program sponsored scholarship. A spending plan is needed to best utilize the budget surplus

### **4.2 BCIT Assayers training program (Elaine)**

Elaine – Presently there are 23 students in three groups in the training program. One group is finishing the last module of the program and there are 6-8 candidates for the September theory examination. A practical examination is scheduled for December 2001. Module 4 of the training program is being translated into Spanish.

Ron Smyth – BCIT should contact CIDA to see if training program can be better promoted internationally.

John – Assayers program brochures could be translated into Spanish for the 20<sup>th</sup> IGES in Santiago.

Keith Errington – BCIT could arrange for brochure translation.

*Action: Keith Errington to arrange for translation of Assayers Program brochure into Spanish for overseas conferences such as the 20<sup>th</sup> IGES.*

#### **4.3 Assayers Examination Update (Mac Chaudhry)**

Expect to have 8 plus candidates for theory examination in September 2001 and 10 to 12 candidates for the December, 2001 practical examination.

#### **4.4 Dialog/Chat room site Update (Mac Chaudhry)**

Mac – Web dialog/bulletin board site for answering questions and exchanging ideas on assaying problems discussed at the last Council meeting. Site would be a resource center and would also help promote the assayers program. The site would need a coordinator for handling the questions and answers. Other topics such as environmental issues could also be handled through the site.

Ron Smyth – Each Council members should send some question and answers on different assay topics to Mac to start dialog.

Mac – Dialog site should also invite donations out of print assay text books and key articles.

Keith Errington – Set-up costs for site are small. Existing BCIT library catalogue should be reviewed to find out what books are most needed.

Rob Stevens – An advert should be placed on the program web page inviting donations of books. Part of budget surplus could be used for cataloguing and rebinding.

*Action: Members asked to send questions and answers on different assay topics to Mac Chaudhry for review. Elaine Woo will arrange for questions/answers to be added to the dialogue site.*

#### **4.5 Guidelines for companies with candidates writing the assayers examination (John Gravel)**

John – Preparation of guidelines in progress.

#### **4.6 Leco carbon-sulphur analyser**

Elaine Woo – Thanks to Keith Rogers (Bondar, Clegg Ltd.) for donating a Leco carbon-sulphur system for student training.

### **5 New Business**

#### **5.1 Membership Fees (Lloyd Twiates).**

Lloyd – Membership fee renewal notices will need to be sent out soon. Decision needed if the discounted fees for 2000 is still to be offered in 2001.

John – Council should keep the discounted rate for 2001 and invite ideas for adding value to the program using the budget surplus.

Lloyd – Corporate membership fees should be \$500 in 2001/2 to encourage membership growth. Assayers at Kemess and Eskay mines have expressed an interested in becoming members.

Rob Stevens – Smelters (e.g. Hudson Bay) should also be invited.

Ron Smyth – Reduced fees should be extended beyond 2002 in view of present budget surplus.

*Proposed (Jim McLeod) and seconded (John Gravel) that 2001-2002 corporate membership fee is \$500, associate member fee is \$250 and individual fee is \$50. All in favour.*

## 5.2 Quality Control Article in Explore

Keith Rogers – Quality control article in Explore (AEG) distributed for comments.

## 5.3 Training Costs (Mac Chaudhry)

BCIT should have a registration rate for each training module rather than a cost (\$3000) for all modules to be more available to students.

## 5.4 Ideas for Program promotion and utilizing budget surplus

- Web site
- PDAC and Cordilleran Round-Up Booth displays
- Promotion through PDAC
- Share program promotion through BCMEM booth at PDAC & Round-Up
- Meet Ontario labs and explain Assayers program (Elaine Woo Ontario trip partly funded from program budget)
- Sponsor student to attend CMA meeting
- Decrease training module registration fees
- Create award for top student in course

## 6. Next Meeting

The next meeting will be preceded by a tour of the BCIT labs and will be on Friday October 19th, 2001 at 1.30 p.m. at BCIT.

## 7. Adjournment

*Proposed (Ray Lett), Seconded (Mac Chaudhry) that the meeting be adjourned at 3.27 p.m. with thanks to those present for attending. **All in favour***

Chair Person, Lloyd Twaites

---

Secretary, Ray Lett

---

Date: \_\_\_\_\_