

Assayers Foundation of British Columbia



MINUTES
of a
Meeting of the British Columbia Assayers Foundation Advisory Council
held at
1486 East Pender Street, Vancouver, BC, November 5th, 2004

Present:

Manzur (Mac) Chaudhry	Victoria, BC
John Gravel (Chairperson)	Vancouver, BC
Ray Lett (Secretary)	Victoria, BC
Jim McLeod	Vancouver, BC
Lloyd Twaites	Vancouver, BC
Elaine Woo	Burnaby, BC
Keith Rogers	Vancouver, BC
Brian Johnson	Trail, BC

1. Welcome and Introductory Remarks (John Gravel)

Meeting called to order at 3.02 p.m.

2. Approval of the Meeting Agenda and Minutes of the Advisory Council Meeting April 23rd, 2004 (John Gravel). Proposed that teleconferencing and discussion on the Assayers Web site be additional Agenda Items.

Proposed (Lloyd Twaites) and seconded (Keith Rogers) that the November 5th 2004 Advisory Council meeting Agenda and the Minutes of the April 23rd, 2004 Advisory Council meeting be approved. Discussion: None. Unanimous acceptance of the Agenda and meeting Minutes.

3. Status of Action Items
 - a. Application of a Foundation scholarship as credit to a student registration (Ray Lett): Presently BCIT awards office cannot apply a scholarship as a registration credit. Action: Ray Lett will continue to work through the Scholarship Committee with BCIT to determine other ways by which credit can be applied.
 - b. Copy of the Chairperson's letter to Foundation members posted on the Assayers Program web page (Ray Lett): The letter has been posted.

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- c. Biographies and photographs for Joseph Lynch, Marcus Lau and Jack Biln posted on the Assayers Program web page (Mac Chaudhry/John Gravel): Collecting information still in progress due to difficulties of contacting some of the people. Action: John Gravel to send bibliographies when available to Mac Chaudhry for compilation and posting.

4. Examination Report (Mac Chaudhry) Three candidates will take the Assayers Certification theory examination at BCIT on November 6-7th. There are presently three candidates who have qualified to take the practical examination. A minimum of 4 candidates are needed to make to examination cost effective.

5. BCIT Training Report (Elaine Woo) Presently there are 40 students in the training program. 28 started in January 2004 and 12 in June 2004. All of the students are in different modules. One student is from Columbia. The last module (No. 5) of the on-line distance practicum series will be finished by February 2005. A minimum of 5 students is needed to make the distance practicum course economical.
(Demonstration of on-line practicum course module presented to members).
John Gravel: Thanks and congratulations to Elaine for her demonstration.
Elaine Woo: The next of the on-line program will be to make the modules interactive. There is also the potential for a refresher course for those unfamiliar with the current analytical technology. Students need to know instrumentation as well as analytical methods.
Mac Chaudry: On-Line modules should also allow students to view internal analytical instrumentation.
Donations to the BCIT Training Course (Elaine Woo): On behalf of BCIT thanks to Acme Analytical for donating 2 ICP Optima instruments and for training in their use; to ALS Chemex for donating 2 ICP/MS and 1 ICP Optima systems and for Jim McLeod for helping with mineral identification in the training module preparation.
John Gravel: Thanks and congratulations to Elaine for her demonstration and for work on the training course

6. Review the BCIT Assayers Web Page (John Gravel) Discussion is needed on Updates to web page such as “What’s New” section. Ideas are invited from Advisory Council members:
Jim McLeod: A commentary from industry about increased demand for assayers.
Mac Chaudry: Invite Joe Lynch to write testimonial about the value of the assayers program.
John Gravel: Posting on assayers seeking work/companies seeking assayers.

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Lloyd Twaites. The addition of a counter to web page would help to establish the level of public interest in the Assayers program.

Mac Chaudhry. Information on assayers seeking work and companies needing assayers should be added to the site.

John Gravel A new group photo of Foundation members is needed for the web page. The BC Cordilleran Roundup may be better to attract larger group.

Mac Chaudry: Commercial Labs should be encouraged to send names/contact for certificated assayers to Secretary so that updated list could be compiled. Also meeting minutes could be posted on web page.

Brian Johnson: Web page needs to be improved with better links and more information about distance education.

Action. Ray Lett to compile list of certified assayers with contact emails where possible and to send copy of recent meeting (AGM) minutes to Mark Glendron for web site posting.

Action. Mac Chaudry to contact Joe Lynch for biographical information and possible program testimonial

Action. Elaine Woo to establish if counter can be added to page.

7. Teleconferencing (Ray Lett): Future meetings could include conference phone links to several remote locations (e.g. Kamloops, Trail). Meeting room with phone jack is needed.

Elaine Woo: BCIT Royal Oak Campus will most likely room with phone conference capabilities.

Action: Elaine Woo to determine if BCIT Royal Oak Campus will most likely room with phone conference capabilities before next meeting

8. Succession (Ray Lett): Group needs to discuss succession of Examining Board members, Advisory Council and in government as retirement approaches.

Mac Chaudhry: Replacement Examining Board members must be found before present Board term expires in 2006.

Action. Ray Lett to solicit interest among Certified Assayers and others to find possible candidates for the examining Board and for the Advisory Council

9. Other Business - None

10. Next Meeting: April 8th, 2005 at BCIT, Royal Oak Campus.

11. Adjournment. *Proposed (Mac Chaudhry), seconded (Elaine Woo) that the meeting be adjourn at 4.16 p.m. Unanimous agreement*

Summary of Action Items

- d. Ray Lett to continue discussion with the BCIT Awards office determines how the proposed credit can be applied to a student registration.
- e. Ray Lett to send a copy of the Chairperson's letter to Foundation members to Mark Glendron, BCIT, for posting on the web page.

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- f. Mac Chaudhry/John Gravel to obtain biographies/photo from Joseph Lynch, Marcus Lau and Jack Biln for posting on the web site.

Chairman, John Gravel

Secretary, Ray Lett

Date: _____