

Assayers Foundation of British Columbia



MINUTES

of the

**Advisory Council Meeting of the British Columbia Certified Assayers Program
Room SW9-118, British Columbia Institute of Technology, 3700 Willingdon Ave., Burnaby, BC**

Date: 4-May-2012

Attendees:

Member	Role	Affiliation	Address
Alice Pang	Chair, Advisory Council	ALS Laboratory Group	N. Vancouver, BC.
Scott Daniels	Scribe, Advisory Council	Teck Metals	Trail, BC.
Paul Morrison	Member, Advisory Council	BCIT	Burnaby, BC.
Mac Chaudhry	Examiners Board Chair	BC Gov. (Ret.)	Victoria, BC.
John Gravel	Treasurer, Advisory Council	Acme Laboratory	
Elaine Woo	Member, Advisory Council	BCIT	Burnaby, BC.
Gerald Chik	Membership –Individual	ALS Laboratory Group	N. Vancouver, BC.
Keith Rogers	Board of Examiners	ALS Laboratory Group	N. Vancouver, BC.
Joe Lynch	Member, Advisory Council	Copper Mountain Mining	

Regrets: Steve Rowins, Government Representative

The meeting was called to order by Alice Pang at 13.00 h

1. **Approval of meeting agenda**

Motion by Mac. Seconded by Keith.

2. **Approval of the 14-Oct-2011 meeting minutes**

Motion by Scott. Seconded by Keith.

3. **Report from the Membership-Individual Chair (Gerald Chik)**

Gerald circulated a draft letter to be sent to new Government of BC Certified Assayers. A copy of this letter was in the minutes of the 14-Oct-2011 meeting minutes. A brief discussion ensued regarding a membership fee for Certified Assayers. Scott reminded everyone that we have earlier gone through lengthy debate about fees for certified assayers, and that any membership fee would ultimately be passed along to employers. Because of this, the current Industry-Funded model was pursued in lieu of an individual membership fee.

Gerald gave an excellent PowerPoint presentation that reviewed different features of LinkedIn and made a strong argument for how setting up a LinkedIn BC Assayers "Group" would be of benefit to the BC Certified Assayers Foundation, the Industry and Assayers.

There was unanimous endorsement for Gerald to move ahead with this LinkedIn project. One first activity is to set up "rules" for the LinkedIn Group. Gerald will work with a number of other members of the Foundation to do this.

Assayers Foundation of British Columbia

Gerald noted that 5 new certified assayers have been added to his roster. There is no indication that the Minister has yet sent these new Government of BC Certified Assayers their certificates.

4. **Chair's Report (Alice Pang)**

A copy of the Chair's report is in the AGM minutes.

5. **Treasurer's Report (John Gravel)**

A copy of the Treasurer's report is in the AGM minutes.

Joe Lynch volunteered to work with the Membership-Corporate group to help with fundraising. The idea of a shared "Google Document" was discussed to keep the fundraising team (Alice, Joe & Scott) on the same page. John would also need to have access to their documents.

6. **Secretary's Report**

A copy of the Secretary's report is in the AGM minutes.

7. **Report from the Board of Examiners**

Mac reported that the term for Keith Rogers appointment ends 31-Jan-2014. Keith has been shown all aspects of the BoE Chair responsibilities. Mac's term ends Oct-2012; this will be extended to 31-Jan-2013. When Keith stays on as the chair of the board of examiners, Mac might stay on as an examiner. This was welcomed news.

Disappointment was expressed by all regarding the lack of representation at this meeting by the Government representative or a designate for the Government representative. Scott was asked to follow up to share our concern. Participation by a Government representative is necessary and beneficial to the esteem of this program.

During the December 2011 practical examination five of seven examinees were successful in passing the examination. Certified reference materials were purchased for practical examinations at a cost of \$3,500. At present, there are approximately 7-9 applicants to write the Government written examinations for December 2012.

There was a discussion regarding the high cost for certified reference materials used as a part of the practical examinations. A number of laboratories (SGS, ALS) offered help with the purchasing of certified reference materials. Mac emphasized the importance of high-level traceability of the certified reference materials that should be used during practical examinations. Sponsors who provide CRMs should be recognized.

Mac added clarity regarding materials that are required at the practical examination. "No chemicals or reference materials may be taken to the practical examination." Only beakers, crucibles, pipette and similar may be taken, but these are not required.

8. **BCIT Update (Elaine Woo)**

Enrollment for 2011 saw an overall intake of 86 students. YTD for 2012, 36 new students are in the BCIT Assayer Training Program. Thermo Fisher Scientific donated a FAAS instrument to BCIT; this equipment will also be used during practical examinations. Alice was asked to write a letter of thanks to Thermo Fisher Scientific. The ALS Laboratory Group was thanked for their contribution of materials & supplies to assist with the December 2011 practical examination.

Paul noted that the name of the Chemical Sciences program has changed to "Chemical and Environmental." With this, it has been observed that registration numbers have increased. The program has 2 week of practicum work at the end of the program, during which time students work in commercial laboratories.

Assayers Foundation of British Columbia

- *Next meeting date: 12-Oct-2012*

Follow-Up Action Items

- *Scott will provide John with Society Registration forms including the names and mailing addresses for the updated list of directors.*
- *Scott will follow up with the Ministry to express the Foundation's disappointment regarding delays with new Certified Assayers not yet receiving their certificates.*
- *Scott and Joe will set up a shared "Google Document" to administrate the organization of information regarding corporate sponsorship.*
- *Alice will write and send a letter to thank Thermo Fisher for the donation of a FAAS instrument to BCIT that will be used as a part of the practical, Government certification examinations.*
- *Alice will monitor for when the Minister sends certificates to new Assayers, and then send out the Foundation's welcome letter to those new Certified Assayers.*