Minutes for Canadian Chapter IECA AGM February 23, 2021

Board members in attendance: Harry Reinders, Mark Myrowich, Brad Fairley, Risa Olekshy, Terry Ross, Trent Hatfield, Elyse MacDonald, Chris Thomson.
Others present: Aileen MacMillan, John Eaton, Monica Stewardson, Christopher Pipher, Rohit Sati, Mohammadreza Mahmoudipour, Rene Barrientos, David Howley, Hilary Evans, Ryan Wonnacott, Corey Mandrusiak, Abigail Gase, Ian Corne, Bahram, Gharabaghi, Dwayne Stenlund

Agenda items:

1) Previous president Glenn MacMillan has stepped down. Harry Reinders is now the interim president.

2) Mark Myrowich raised the motion to approve the 2020 AGM minutes; seconded by Risa Olekshy; none opposed.

3) New Board Members and Openings: Chris Thomson made the motion that Harry Reinders move into the president role permanently, seconded by Abbigail Gase, none opposed. Mark Myrowich made the motion to postpone filling the role of Vice President to allow for a call for nominations and election, seconded by Brad Fairley, none opposed, none abstained. There is also a vacancy for one board member. Tom Hicks has expressed an interest in this position. Nominations to be brought forward to the board.

4) Mark Myrowich provided a financial update and report on the 2020 budget. Board voted to approve the budget at the January meeting. Current amount in the bank is $40,000 with $20,000 earmarked for CSA. Canadian Standards Association initiative set standards for ESC design, maintenance and monitoring standards.

5) The board has voted to contract with Our Executive Director (OED) out of Ottawa for a trial period of one year. The organization can provide a wide array of services, including providing an address, and a person to answer the telephone. They will work on raising membership, finding appropriate grants and increasing sponsorships. The executive assistant will remain in her role for now, and if the contract with OED is extended, tasks will be consolidated with them. The contract will specify data security and access to proprietary information. OED could also help with the organization of a Canadian conference and other educational events. Two references were contacted for OED- please send an email to mark@ecb.ca if you would like to see them. Priority of tasks will be 1) to establish CANIECA laws and procedures, 2) to increase value to members and expand membership and 3) to get sponsorships. The 2021/2022 budget has been amended to expand future revenue sources and allocate 12,000 towards this initiative.

6) TRIECA will not run again. Toronto Region Conservation Authority will run their own event, likely in 2022 and it will be under another name.

7) CANIECA plans to hold 4 webinars for 2021, and perhaps smaller scale in-person events in 2022. We ask members to put forth ideas and help with local arrangements for events.

8) Open Discussion: Discussion of micro-credentials offered in conjunction with post-secondary institutions. These are short courses that provide a professional certificate. Collaborations on testing could also be considered. University of Minnesota coordinates with government
ministries to deliver a third-party approved program that provides certifications that are required in the industry. Dr. John Chapman is the contact. Universities know where the training voids are. There are many opportunities for inter-connection across the country. Other topics discussed, certification for pipeline environmental inspectors, need for more western-focused training, collaboration with ESCA BC and Alberta association. IECA has created a hydraulic steering committee, working towards putting together an international certification.